

# **SPRING-BENNER-WALKER JOINT AUTHORITY**

## **REGULAR MEETING**

**September 11, 2023**

### **ATTENDANCE:**

<b>AUTHORITY MEMBERS:</b>	<b>Spring</b>	Joseph Galbraith Rodney Maney Christie McMurtrie
	<b>Benner</b>	Willis Houser, Jr. William Hughes
	<b>Walker</b>	Dennis Brown Dennis McDowell

**GUESTS:** None present

**CONSULTING ENGINEER:** Andrew Johnson, P.E.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** N. Warren Miller

**EMPLOYEES:** Will Barton, Tasha Dutton & Kelly Gill

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The September 11, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Dennis McDowell, Chairman. Mr. McDowell thanked everyone for attending and stated that the meeting would be recorded for transcription purposes.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Willis Houser, Jr., Secretary, took Roll Call, recording seven members present. Mr. Book and Mr. Kuzemchak were excused from the meeting. Mr. McDowell, Chairman, noted that with a quorum present, the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority was permitted to conduct business under the laws of Pennsylvania.

### **PLEGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Mr. McDowell, Chairman, led the Board members and Employees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:**

Mr. McDowell asked the Board if there were any questions and/or changes to the August 28, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. **Mr. McMurtrie moved, seconded by Mr. Maney to approve the Minutes of the August 28, 2023 Regular Meeting as presented.** 7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. **The motion carried.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:** There was no Correspondence presented for discussion.

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:**

Approval of Requisitions:

**Revenue Fund Requisition 2020-81**– Mr. McMurtrie presented the Board with Revenue Requisition #2020-81 in the amount of \$49,010.62. Mr. McDowell asked if there were any questions regarding the presentation of Revenue Fund Requisition 2020-81. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. Maney to approve Revenue Requisition 2020-81 payable to SBWJA in the amount of \$49,010.62.** 7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. **The motion carried.**

**GUESTS:** There were no Guests present for the meeting.

**SYSTEM OVERVIEW REPORT:**

Will Barton, Maintenance Crew Leader, provided an overview of the work completed on the sanitary sewer system for the month of August 2023.

**In-Home Inspections** - There were 29 in-home inspections completed in the month of August.

**Sewer Permits and/or Lateral Inspections** - Our maintenance department completed 14 sewer lateral inspections. The office staff received 14 new sewer permit applications in the amount of 14.00 EDUs and issued the permits.

**System Maintenance:**

We attended a pre-construction meeting at the new Dollar General location in Pleasant Gap to discuss boring under E. College Avenue to make the connection to our sewer mainline. Mr. Miller and Mr. Barton also had a meeting with representatives from Berks Homes to discuss future projects and outstanding issues.

A new SCADA RTU was installed at Pump Station #4 (Pleasant View) and Pump Station #9 (Penn Eagle). Mr. Barton indicated we required programming assistance from Keystone Engineering to complete this task.

Our employees excavated and repaired 6" X 4" reducers at 225 N. Vanessa Drive and 730 W. Water Street. The maintenance department will also be repairing an additional 6" X 4" reducer at 137 Noll Street this week. Mr. Barton indicated all of the 6" X 4" reducers, which were broken or offset have caused problems.

The pumps at Beaver Farm Apartments were repaired due to worn impellers and lower end pump issues. Mr. Barton indicated the repairs were made due to significantly declining pump drawdowns. We also repaired the generator at Pump Station #8 (Zion Stover).

The well has been drilled/connected at Pump Station #7 (Zion Ridge) and we were disconnected from Walker Township Water Association on August 8, 2023.

We started introducing sodium hypochlorite to Pump Station #9 (Penn Eagle) due to hydrogen sulfide gas being noticed in the system. Mr. Barton stated the sodium hypochlorite has corrected the problem.

**Video Truck** – The Authority staff completed 673 feet of video work to evaluate the condition of a cracked sewer mainline in Pleasant View.

**Vector Truck** –The maintenance department jetted 385 feet of sewer mainline in Deerhaven Phase 2B due to an expiring maintenance bond.

**Sewer Extensions** –Our staff started project inspections at the Village of Nittany Glen Phase 7 in Benner Township and Deerhaven Phase 3B in Walker Township. We continued project inspections at Logan Greene Phase 1B.

**Inter Municipal Work** – We vacuumed six (6) storm drains for Benner Township on St. Paul Circle and videoed 182 feet of sewer mainline for Mid-Centre County Authority to verify where a sewer lateral entered their mainline. Our staff also assisted in vacuuming out a storm drain for Spring Township on Willowbank Street.

**Benner Township Water Authority** – We obtained two (2) final water meter readings and flushed the water mainline going towards the Benner Elementary School to retain a good chlorine residual. The annual fire hydrant flushing and testing was completed along with exercising valves. Our staff read meters in Hampton Hills, Opequon and Peru. Mr. Barton completed five (5) Service Line Inventory Surveys in Peru. We also responded to seven (7) PA One Calls in August.

**Call Outs/ PA One Calls** – There were four (4) call outs for the month of August. We had a sewer backup at 225 N. Vanessa Drive due to roots in the 6” X 4” reducer and sewer was coming out of the grinder tank at 151 Confer Drive due a tripped breaker. A pump failure was noted at Pump Station #6 (Rockview), which was due to a faulty three-phase breaker in the motor control cabinet. The final call out was at Pump Station #7 (Zion Ridge). SCADA had indicated “backup floats in control” which was due to the PLC not working correctly. Mr. Barton indicated the PLC was removed and sent back to Radwell for an evaluation; however, there were not issues noted and it was reinstalled with no issues. Mr. Barton ended the report with a total of 103 PA One Calls being located in August.

**Workplace Recognition** – Mr. McDowell stated former Board member, Joseph Swanderski, approached him indicating he was very pleased with the Spring Benner Walker Joint Authority’s employees that completed his in-home inspection.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:**

**Rockview Forestry Pump Station #6A Upgrades** – Mr. Miller stated that he received an email from the Correction Utility Supervisor, Tim Clouser, at Rockview and it indicated Rockview’s engineer is continuing to investigate upgrade options for their Forestry Pump Station.

**Shiloh Road Sewer Extension/Extension to PA Game Commission Property** – The PA Game Commission (PAGC) spoke with their attorneys regarding the conservation easement that is required for the installation of public sewer to their proposed facility on Shiloh Road. Mr. Miller indicated the PAGC’s attorneys are advising against obtaining an easement from Penn State University (PSU) and are suggesting they utilize their own property which is located around the PSU parcel on Shiloh Road. The alternative route would add an additional 1,000 to 1,200 feet to their sewer extension project. Mr. Miller indicated this alternative route may cause maintenance challenges in the future for the Authority due to its’ steep terrain, as this extension would be dedicated to SBWJA.

Mr. Gibson from Gwin Dobson & Foreman attempted to contact Mr. Kieffer to discuss the PAGC’s decision; however, he was not available.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT:** Mr. Mix was excused from the meeting.

**ENGINEER’ S REPORT:**

**Walker Township Act 537 Plan Update** – Ms. Weitzel attempted to contact Mr. Everett from PA DEP to schedule a meeting regarding Walker Township’s Act 537 Plan Update; however, he has not responded.

**OLD BUSINESS:** There was no Old Business presented for discussion.

**NEW BUSINESS:** There was no New Business presented for discussion.

**QUESTIONS FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** There were no questions asked of the Executive Director.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Personnel & Community Relations Committee:** Mr. Galbraith stated he had nothing to report yet.

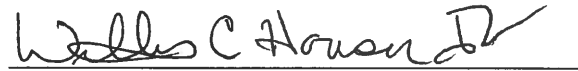
**Facilities Committee:** Mr. Houser had nothing to report.

**Financial Committee:** Mr. McMurtrie had nothing to report.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Mr. Houser moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. The motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



Willis Houser Jr., Secretary

  
Tasha L. Dutton, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township \_\_\_\_\_  
Spring Township \_\_\_\_\_  
Walker Township \_\_\_\_\_