

SPRING-BENNER-WALKER JOINT AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

September 25, 2023

ATTENDANCE:

AUTHORITY MEMBERS:	Spring	Joseph Galbraith Rodney Maney Chris McMurtrie
	Benner	Brian Book Willis Houser, Jr. William Hughes
	Walker	Dennis Brown Dennis McDowell

GUESTS: None Present

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: N. Warren Miller

EMPLOYEES: Will Barton & Kelly Gill

CALL TO ORDER:

The September 25, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority was called to order at 6:56 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 entered the meeting at 6:59 p.m. Mr. Kuzemchak was 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.

PLEDGE 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 September 11, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. Hughes to approve the Minutes of the September 11, 2023 Regular Meeting as presented. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. The motion carried.**

Mr. Book entered the meeting at 6:59 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Dominick Romanini/131 Confer Drive – We received a letter from Dominick Romanini, owner of 131 Confer Drive, requesting the Authority grant the personal hardship policy for his property. Mr. Romanini indicated his residence was destroyed by fire on September 13, 2023. **Mr. McDowell moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to grant Dominick Romanini the Personal Hardship User Fee Structure for up to six months for his property located at 131 Confer Drive, Bellefonte. 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. The motion carried.**

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: Mr. McMurtrie reviewed the financial reports for the period ending 08/31/2023. Mr. McDowell asked if there were any questions regarding the Treasurer's Report. **Mr. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Hughes to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. The motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:

Approval of Requisitions:

Revenue Fund Requisition 2020-82– Mr. McMurtrie presented the Board with Revenue Requisition #2020-82 in the amount of \$48,350.62. Mr. McDowell asked if there were any questions regarding the presentation of Revenue Fund Requisition 2020-82. **Mr. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Hughes to approve Revenue Requisition 2020-82 payable to SBWJA in the amount of \$48,350.62. 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. The motion carried.**

GUESTS: There were no Guests present for the meeting.

SYSTEM OVERVIEW:

Mr. McDowell asked Mr. Barton if he had anything to report. Mr. Barton stated he didn't have a system overview to report for this meeting, but had a couple of items to mention.

2023 Capital Improvement Projects – Mr. Barton indicated that over the next two months the staff will be finishing up some of the smaller capital improvement projects that were scheduled for 2023. Those include repairing/epoxying the wet wells at Pump Station #16 (Benner Commerce), Pump Station #2 (Jacksonville) and Pump Station #3 (Musser). Next week the front parking lot at the office building will be patched with base material in preparation for Eby Paving to complete the overlay in mid-October.

Rockview Forestry Pump Station #6A Upgrades – Mr. Barton indicated he spoke with Tim Clouser at SCI Rockview earlier today about the status of discussions with Central Office about upgrading Rockview Forestry Pump Station #6A. At the direction of their engineer, the Department of Corrections (DOC) are going to try using a pinch valve to resolve the issue, which they hope to have installed by the end of this year. Further discussion was then held with the Authority Board about the history surrounding Rockview installing a system wide water softener unit that has caused issues at our Forestry Pump Station (#6A).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Shiloh Road Sewer Extension Project/Extension to PA Game Commission Property – Mr. Miller informed the Board that the PA Game Commission (PAGC) met last week and have decided to utilize their own property, which is located around the PSU parcel on Shiloh Road. This will allow them to avoid the PSU property due to the restrictions associated with the conservation easement. Later this week, an onsite meeting will be held to walk the potential path of the PAGC's sewer extension. The next step would involve moving forward with having the Phase I Archaeological Survey completed by Heberling Associates.

Nittany Valley Joint Planning Commission Population Statistics – Mr. Miller stated he was looking over data compiled by the Centre County Planning Office in connection with a Nittany Valley Joint Planning Commission meeting and he came across some interesting facts that he would like to share with the Board. From the year 2000 to 2020 the population in Spring, Benner and Walker Townships doubled. It went from 7,000 to 14,500 and they are projecting that the population in those three townships will increase by another 50% in the next five to eight years. In the 20-year period from 2000 – 2020 Benner Township had the highest percentage of growth at 71% (increased by 3750 people). Walker Township was next with growth of 39% (1300 people) and Spring Township followed with growth at 30% (1850 people). The Authority's sewer system continues to grow rapidly.

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 had nothing to discuss this evening, but indicated he will soon be having a meeting with the committee. Mr. Galbraith indicated he spoke with Mrs. Gill, Human Resources representative, earlier tonight and requested wage/benefit information, which she will be providing. Mrs. Gill will be meeting with the insurance broker next week to review health insurance renewals and quotes for other plans. Mr. Galbraith indicated he will then meet with Mrs. Gill to review everything, which will likely be bad news and then he'll meet with Mr. McDowell and the Personnel committee.

Facilities Committee: Mr. Houser had nothing to report.

Financial Committee: Mr. McMurtrie had nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Hughes moved, seconded by Mr. Galbraith to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m. 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Willis Houser, Jr., Secretary



Kelly J. Gill, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township _____
Spring Township _____
Walker Township _____