

SPRING-BENNER-WALKER JOINT AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

May 13, 2024

ATTENDANCE:

AUTHORITY MEMBERS:

Spring	Joseph Galbraith Rodney Maney Douglas McKee Christie McMurtrie
Benner	Willis Houser, Jr.
Walker	Dennis Brown Dennis McDowell

GUESTS: None present

CONSULTING SOLICITOR: Robert Mix, Esq.

CONSULTING ENGINEERS: Andrew Johnson, P.E. & Steven Gibson, P.E.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: N. Warren Miller

EMPLOYEES: Will Barton, Tasha Dutton & Kelly Gill

CALL TO ORDER:

The May 13, 2024, 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. Hughes 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.

Thank You – Mr. McDowell read a thank you card from Mrs. Gill for the vegetable platter provided by the Authority for the recent passing of her mother-in-law.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. McDowell asked the Board if there were any questions and/or changes to the April 22, 2024 meeting minutes as presented. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. Houser to approve the Minutes of the April 22, 2024 Regular Meeting as presented.** 7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. **The motion carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

ELA Group, Inc. - We received a letter from Matthew R. Harlow, ELA Group, Inc., requesting a letter of intent to provide sewer service for the proposed Logan Greene Residential Community, Phases 2A and 2B. ***Mr. Harlow was provided with a letter of intent for 47.00 EDUs for the proposed subdivision in Spring Township on May 8, 2024.***

PennTerra Engineering, Inc. - We received an email from John Sepp, PennTerra Engineering, Inc., requesting a letter of intent to provide sewer service for the proposed Village of Nittany Glen, Phase III-A. ***Mr. Sepp was provided with a letter of intent for 24.00 EDUs for the proposed subdivision in Benner Township on April 30, 2024.***

Langan Engineering & Environmental Services - We received an email from Rachel McCune, P.E., requesting a revised letter of intent to provide sewer service for the Bellefonte Warehouse located within the Benner Commerce Park in Benner Township. Ms. McCune indicated the warehouse was being redesigned and the projected number of employees would be decreasing. (EDUs decreased from 176.52 to 58.04). ***Ms. McCune was provided with a letter of intent for 58.04 EDUs for the proposed project within the Benner Commerce Park on May 8, 2024.***

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:

Approval of Requisitions:

Revenue Fund Requisition 2020-96– Mr. McMurtrie presented the Board with Revenue Requisition #2020-96 in the amount of \$533,472.54. Mr. McDowell asked if there were any questions regarding the presentation of Revenue Fund Requisition 2020-96. **Mr. Brown moved, seconded by Mr. Houser to approve Revenue Requisition 2020-96 payable to SBWJA in the amount of \$533,472.54.** 7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. **The motion carried.**

GUESTS: There were no Guests present.

SYSTEM OVERVIEW REPORT:

Will Barton, Maintenance Crew Leader, provided an overview of the work completed on the sanitary sewer system for the month of April 2024.

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

Sewer Permits and/or Lateral Inspections - Our maintenance department completed 17 sewer lateral inspections. The office staff received 10 new sewer permit applications in the amount of 10.00 EDUs and issued the permits.

System Maintenance:

The maintenance department installed a new sump pump in the drywell at Pump Station #8 (Zion Stover). We also replaced the UPS at Pump Station #6 (Rockview) and a phase monitor at Pump Station #7 (Zion Ridgecrest).

Our staff repaired the sewer mainline near 100 Cobblestone Road as a result of America Directional Boring drilling through our line while installing CATV lines. Pump Station #2 (Jacksonville Road) and Pump Station #3 (Musser Lane) were painted.

We installed a new transfer switch at Pump Station #14 (Litke) and a representative from Breon's completed the programming.

The maintenance department assisted with a septic backup issue at Rockview's Human Resources Building along the Benner Pike. Our maintenance department also applied topsoil and seed to repairs that were made last year around the system.

Vector Truck – We completed 32,500 feet of routine jetting and vacuum work in the Zion area.

Video Truck – We completed 32,500 feet of routine video work in the Zion area and completed 620 feet of speedball work during rain events in Pleasant Gap. The Authority staff also accessed backlots along Fishburn Hill Road to complete 818 feet of routine video work in that area.

Sewer Extensions – We started project inspections for Elizabeth Dale Townhomes on Blanchard Street, which is now completed. Once the 30 day waiting period is over, we can begin flushing, videoing and mandrel testing.

Inter Municipal Work – We jetted 250 feet and videoed 100 feet of storm pipe for Benner Township.

Benner Township Water Authority – Our staff collected samples for bacteria testing at both systems. We also collected samples for PFAS testing at Hampton Hills and nitrite and nitrate testing at Grove Park. The meters were read in Peru and we completed a site visit at 203 Arrowhead Way due to a water pressure issue. We prepped and stained the Opequon and Grove Park wellhouses. Mr. Barton completed 19 Service Line Inventory Surveys. There were three (3) PA One Calls located in April.

Call Outs/ PA One Calls – There were three (3) call outs for the month of April. We responded to a high wet well alarm at Pump Station #7 (Zion Ridgecrest) and a phase failure at Pump Station #18 (Village of Nittany Glen). There was also a generator fail at Pump Station #5 (Mingoville), which was a result of a bad water pump on the generator. Mr. Barton ended the report with a total of 237 PA One Calls being located in April.

SCADA – Last week Keystone Engineering received the new RTU (Remote Terminal Unit) we are considering changing our system to and they are hoping to have it up and running in a test environment by the end of May or beginning of June.

Pump Station #18 (Village of Nittany Glen) – Mr. Barton informed the Board of an ongoing problem with flushable wipes plugging the pumps at Pump Station #18 (Village of Nittany Glen). The Authority sent out multiple notices to the customers regarding this issue and requesting the flushable wipes not be used; however, the problem continues. Mr. Barton stated the pumps are cleaned at least once every two (2) weeks due to the wipes plugging the pumps. Envirep suggested the Authority install different wear plates that have grooves on them, which will assist in shredding the wipes and to increase the speed of the pumps. Mr. Barton stated Envirep provided the Authority with a quote for parts and labor in the amount of \$6,041.00. Mr. McKee asked if this has been a problem with any of the other pump stations on our system. Mr. Miller indicated there was a similar problem at Pump Station #1 (Springfield) and it was resolved by the Authority sending out notices to the customers. **Mr. Houser moved, seconded by Mr. Brown to approve the purchase of wear plates for the required upgrades to Pump Station #18 (Village of Nittany Glen) in the amount of \$6,041.00.** 7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. **The motion carried.**

Walker Township Water Association – Mr. McDowell stated that a representative from Walker Township Water Association contacted him requesting we periodically provide them with the amount of water we withdraw from the fire hydrant when using our Vactor Truck. Mr. Barton stated that he spoke to Mr. Roan regarding this request.

2725 Zion Road – The maintenance department located a large leak while jetting and videoing the Zion area. Mr. Barton stated the sewer lateral at 2725 Zion Road was broken which allowed 10 to 15 gallons per minute to enter our sewer system. The lateral has been repaired temporarily and will be fixed permanently in the summer once the water table decreases due to the sewer lateral being located in Nittany Creek.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Vactor Truck Repairs – Mr. Miller stated the Vactor Truck has been repaired and the second oil change was required due to the metal shavings being found in the oil pan. The Vactor Truck appears to be working as it should.

Exit Interview – The Authority's newest hire resigned and the exit interview was included in the board packets for the Board's review. Mr. Miller stated this was unfortunate; however, we will begin advertising once again for the Maintenance Laborer position.

May 28, 2024 Board Meeting – Mr. Miller informed the Board that he will not be attending the May 28, 2024 Board meeting.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. Mix had nothing to report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Shiloh Road Sewer Extension Project – Gwin Dobson & Foreman (GD&F) received notification from PA DEP that they would not accept the PA Game Commission's (PAGC) Component III Planning Module at this time because the Shiloh Road project has not been permitted. Mr. Johnson stated that Mr. Miller, Mr. Gibson and Ms. Weitzel previously attended a meeting with the PA DEP and at that time the PA DEP instructed the Authority and GD&F to have PAGC's sewer extension approved prior to SBWJA obtaining permits for the Shiloh Road project. Mr. Johnson stated the PAGC's sewer extension will be placed on hold and GD&F will work on submitting the permits for the original Shiloh Road job. It was noted that a conference call will be held on May 14, 2024 to discuss the process of resubmitting the PAGC's component III planning module. Mr. Miller believes the PA DEP will require proof of funding documentation to accompany the permits at the time of submission. Mr. Miller stated the Authority may be bidding the project without PAGC's planning module being approved, but he does not believe this will be a problem. Mr. Johnson indicated the PAGC could be set up as an

alternate bid. GD&F's goal is to have all the permits ready for submission by the end of June.

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 report.

Facilities Committee: Mr. Houser had nothing to report.

Financial Committee: Mr. McMurtrie had nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Houser moved, seconded by Mr. Brown to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 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 _____