

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

## **REGULAR MEETING**

**May 26, 2026**

### **ATTENDANCE:**

**AUTHORITY MEMBERS:**

<b>Spring</b>	Joseph Galbraith Rodney Maney Christie McMurtrie
<b>Benner</b>	Brian Book Willis Houser, Jr
<b>Walker</b>	Dennis Brown Thomas Richards

**GUESTS:** See Attached Guest List

**CONSULTING SOLICITOR:** Michael Levandoski, Esq.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** Will L. Barton

**EMPLOYEES:** Kelly Gill & Tasha Dutton

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The May 26, 2026, Regular Meeting of the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority was called to order at 4:00 P.M. by Joseph Galbraith, Chairman. Mr. Galbraith 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. Hughes and Mr. McKee were excused from the meeting. Mr. Galbraith, 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. Galbraith, Chairman, led the Board members, Professional Services, Guest and Employees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:**

Mr. Galbraith asked the Board if there were any questions and/or changes to the May 11, 2026 meeting minutes as presented. **Mr. McMurtrie moved, seconded by Mr. Book to approve the Minutes of the May 11, 2026 Regular Meeting as presented.** 7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. **The motion carried.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Kathy Evey/Right-to-Know Request** – We received a Right-to-Know Request from Kathy Evey of 604 Buffalo Run Road, Bellefonte on May 11, 2026 requesting a copy of an audio and/or video recording of the May 11, 2026 Spring Benner Walker Joint Authority Board Meeting. *The requested information was provided to Mrs. Evey on May 12, 2026.*

**TMG Builders, Inc.** – We received an email from Linda Mundy Boone of TMG Builders, Inc. requesting the Authority's reduced user fee be granted for her recently purchased property at 113 Bilberry Circle, Bellefonte. The home is currently incomplete and is expected to be finished by July 31, 2026. Our office contacted the Spring Township Water Authority to verify there is no water service to the property as of 05/26/2026. Mr. Barton stated the property does not meet the Authority's established criteria for a Reduced User Fee adjustment; therefore, he will send Ms. Boone a letter informing her of the request being denied.

**Walker Township** – We received a letter from Angel Emery indicating that at the May 6, 2026 meeting of the Walker Township Board of Supervisors, Thomas Richards was appointed to serve as their representative on the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority (SBWJA) Board. Mr. Richards will be replacing Dennis McDowell. The Walker Township Supervisors also thanked Mr. McDowell for his years of service and dedication during his time on the SBWJA Board.

**State Representative Kerry Benninghoff** – We received a letter from State Representative, Kerry A. Benninghoff, acknowledging Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority's interest in obtaining land from the Rockview property for a future facility.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

**Treasurer's Report:** Mr. McMurtrie reviewed the financial reports for the sewer and water funds for the period ending 04/30/2026. Mr. Galbraith asked if there were any questions regarding the Treasurer's Report. **Mr. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Brown to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.** 7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. **The motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:**

Approval of Payments:

**Sewer Revenue Fund Requisition 2020-144** – Mr. McMurtrie presented the Board with Sewer Revenue Requisition #2020-144 in the amount of \$457,600.72. Mr. Galbraith asked if there were any questions regarding the presentation of Sewer Revenue Fund Requisition 2020-144. **Mr. Brown moved, seconded by Mr. Book to approve Sewer Revenue Requisition 2020-144 payable to SBWJA in the amount of \$457,600.72. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. The motion carried.**

**Bills by Vendor – Water Fund-** Mr. Brown moved, seconded by Mr. Book to **approve Bills by Vendor for the Water Fund in the amount of \$1,748.92 as presented. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. The motion carried.**

**GUESTS:**

**John Elnitski/Proposed RV Park** – Mr. Elnitski presented the Board with an update of the current court case he has with the Benner Township Supervisors regarding his proposed RV Park. Mr. Elnitski indicated he would like to get the ball rolling and would like to know what his next step will be to acquire public water at his proposed RV Park near the Bellefonte Airport. Mr. Book asked Mr. Elnitski when he anticipates submitting design documents for review and approval. Mr. Elnitski stated he would require confirmation that public water could be supplied by SBWJA before he could begin the planning process. Mr. Elnitski indicated once the source of water is determined it would then take approximately six (6) months to provide plans. Mr. Galbraith stated that the Board would discuss this and be in contact with him at a later date.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

**PFAS Soil Sampling Plan** – Mr. Barton stated that DMS Environmental was to begin soil sampling for the Shiloh Road Sewer Extension Project today; however, they were late submitting their PA One Call ticket and did not give sufficient notice to the surrounding utilities to mark their facilities. DMS Environmental is now scheduled to start sampling on 05/28/2026.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Mr. Galbraith recessed the Board for an Executive Session at 4:06 p.m. to discuss legal matters. The meeting reconvened at 4:30 p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**John Elnitski/Proposed RV Park** – Mr. Galbraith stated that Mr. Elnitski has not provided the Authority with a formal request for public water or any type of planning related to the RV Park; however, he would like to take a moment to discuss Mr. Elnitski's verbal request for public water. Mr. Barton informed the Board of past discussions the Benner Township Water Authority (BTWA) had regarding the possibility of an interconnection of the two distribution systems or a booster station being installed on the Hampton Hills water system to serve the RV Park; however, due to Benner Township Supervisors not approving a mandatory connection ordinance this would not have been in the BTWA's best interest financially. The Board discussed options for providing water to the proposed RV Park and they determined SBWJA should not be financially responsible for extending water to the RV Park; however, they would consider Mr. Elnitski extending a service line to SBWJA services. Mr. Barton will provide Mr. Elnitski with a letter explaining the Board's decision.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Thank You** – Mr. Galbraith read a thank you card forwarded by our employee, Eric Rogers, for the hoagie platter given by the Authority for his father-in-law's death.

**Thank You** – Mr. Galbraith also read a thank you card forwarded by Paula Royer and her family for the flowers given by the Authority for Gary Royer's death.

**Hampton Hills Water Storage Tank** – Mr. Barton received an email from a former BTWA Board member, Tim Edkin, regarding the fence surrounding the Hampton Hills Water Storage Tank being removed. Mr. Edkin wanted to know why the fence was removed and if there were plans to install a new fence. Mr. Barton informed Mr. Edkin that the fence was removed due to its poor condition and that there were no future plans to install new fencing. Mr. Edkin expressed his concern with a new fence not being installed and the possibility of his water source being tampered with. Mr. Book stated that PA DEP will dictate if fencing is a requirement at the time of permitting. Mr. Barton stated that fencing is not referenced in our special conditions but he is unsure if it was in the construction permitting. It was noted that all access points are locked and are not easily accessible.

**Agreement of Dedication – Benner Mills Townhomes (23 EDUs) - Mr. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Brown to approve the Agreement of Dedication for Benner Mills Townhomes (23 EDUs). 7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. The motion carried.**

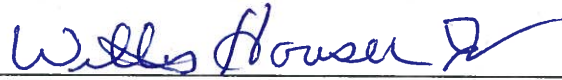
**SBWJA Draft Meeting Minutes** – The office staff currently emails the draft minutes to the Board for review and/or comments. Mr. Barton asked if it would be okay to stop providing the draft minutes due to the draft minutes being included in the Board Packets prior to each meeting. The Board did not see a problem with stopping the early distribution of the minutes.

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

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Mr. Brown moved, seconded by Mr. Maney to adjourn the meeting at 4:51 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 \_\_\_\_\_

SPRING-BENNER-WALKER JOINT AUTHORITY  
170 IRISH HOLLOW ROAD  
BELLEFONTE, PA 16823  
(814) 355-4778

REGULAR MEETING  
May 26, 2026

GUEST LIST

**\*Please be sure to print your name and address on the lines below.**

1. John Elms & Co
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