

BENNER TOWNSHIP WATER AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

April 17, 2018

ATTENDANCE:

AUTHORITY MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Eby
Tim Edkin
Steve Lanich
Jerry May
Andy Swales

OTHER ATTENDEES: Warren Miller – SBWJA
Kelly Gill – SBWJA
See Attached Guest List

CALL TO ORDER:

The April 17, 2018, Regular Meeting of the Benner Township Water Authority was called to order at 6:34 P.M. by Tom Eby, Chairman.

ROLL CALL:

Tim Edkin, Secretary, took Roll Call, recording five members present. Mr. Eby, Chairman, noted that with a quorum present, the Benner Township Water Authority was permitted to conduct business under the laws of Pennsylvania.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

The Minutes of the March 20, 2018 regular meeting were presented for review. **Mr. Eby moved, seconded by Mr. Swales to approve the Minutes of the March 20, 2018 Regular Meeting as presented. 5 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.**

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Lanich reviewed the Treasurer's Report as presented. Mr. Eby asked the Board if there were any questions regarding the Paid Checks or Bills by Vendor submitted for approval. **Mr. Eby moved, seconded by Mr. May to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, the Paid Checks in the amount of \$513.70 and Bills by Vendor in the amount of \$38,631.76. 5 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.** Mr. Lanich stated that the bills reflected a \$32,165.00 invoice for the generator at the Grove Park water system.

SBWJA REPORT:

Bio-solids Legal Fees Expense – Mr. Miller reported that the legal fees expense associated with the bio-solids appeal incurred to date is \$99,992.48.

Opequon Well Phase Converter – On Good Friday the Opequon well phase converter failed which caused capacitors and fuses to burn up immediately. The capacitors and fuses needed to make the repair were unavailable until the following Monday. Fortunately, the Hampton well was able to keep up with the system's demand in the meantime. Mr. Miller indicated the phase converter tripped again this past weekend and was able to be reset.

Mr. Eby asked if there was a plan to replace the phase converter and Mr. Miller stated yes, the Authority has applied for a small water system grant and is waiting for a decision. Mrs. Gill reminded the Board that the 2018 budget reflected the purchase of a VFD for the Opequon well, which was estimated at \$5,000.

Grove Park Well Nitrate Levels – The second quarter 2018 nitrate testing for the Grove Park well was completed on April 5, 2018 and the result was 8.42 mg/L. The result was a little lower than the previous quarter.

Grove Park Generator – The generator was delivered to the SBWJA's office on March 29, 2018 and the concrete pad will be installed in the near future. The Authority will be contracting with Strouse Electric to complete the wiring for the unit. Mr. Miller informed the Board that a rollback will need rented to haul the generator to the site due to the size of the unit.

Surge Protection – Mr. Miller suggested the Board approve the installation of surge protection at the Grove Park well due to the VFD and the solid state circuitry involved in those units. The Authority personnel have recently learned that VFDs also generate transient electrical currents that may bleed back into the electrical distribution system that will be eliminated with a surge protection unit on the main electrical feed. The Hampton well house currently has surge protection which was recently replaced due to the system being burned out. The Board agreed with Mr. Miller's recommendation for the installation of surge protection equipment at the Water Authority's wells.

Source Water Protection (SWP) Plan – Mark Stephens, PA DEP, stopped by the SBWJA office after the last meeting to discuss the SWP plan and recommended having a fracture trace analysis completed for the Hampton/Opequon wells as was completed for the Grove park well. Mr. Miller contacted Dr. Parizek and he has agreed to complete the work later this summer.

Feasibility Study – Mr. Miller indicated he was looking into some options to replace/supplement the Grove Park well due to the high nitrate levels, which was also discussed with the Authority's engineer, Brian Shura. The options consist of:

1. Obtaining water from the State College Borough Water Authority's (SCBWA) Alexander well, dependent upon their Nitrate levels.
2. Treating the current system with an ionic exchange—very expensive.
3. Locating another source East of Grove Park (possibly an interconnect between the Hampton Hills/Opequon Hills systems); mandatory connection ordinance.

Mr. Lanich mentioned the possibility of drilling a deeper well to surpass the high Nitrate level concerns. Mr. Miller stated he will contact the SCBWA to inquire about the nitrate levels in the Alexander well for discussion at a future meeting. Mr. Edkin inquired about the best way to evaluate the options and Mr. Miller stated having the engineer complete a feasibility study would be a good starting point.

Mr. Eby indicated he recently met with two of the Centre County Commissioners on separate occasions to discuss the bio-solids appeal through the Environmental Hearing Board and the impact it has had on the Authority.

Grove Park Homeowner's Association (HOA) – Mr. Miller informed the Board that the president of the Grove Park HOA recently stopped by the office to discuss complaints he has been receiving regarding repairs to the pavement on Teasel Way from the water break in January. Mr. Miller informed him that when the asphalt plants open later this month, the area will be corrected.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. Campbell was absent from the meeting.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Mr. Shura was excused from the meeting.

GUESTS: There were no Guests wishing to address the Board.

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no Correspondence presented for discussion.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

PA Small Water & Sewer Program Grant - The Board was provided with a payment request form through the Commonwealth Financing Authority for reimbursement of the Grove Park well generator package, Contract# C000065079. **Mr. Eby moved, seconded by Mr. Lanich to approve Payment Request Reimbursement #1 in the amount of \$27,340.25 for 85% of the Total Cost for the purchase of the Kohler Generator Package. 5 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.**

Benner Township Newsletter – Mr. Edkin suggested contacting Benner Township to inquire about placing an article in their newsletter discussing the issues the Authority is facing with the land application of bio-solids and the high nitrate levels in the Grove Park well. Mr. Eby stated he will make contact with Sharon Royer of Benner Township.

Wellhead Protection (WHP) Zones – Mr. Swales took a moment to discuss a project that he was working on where a municipality was proactive in protecting a water supply. The municipality enacted an ordinance to limit specific activities from occurring within a wellhead protection zone through a permitting process, which is a goal of our Authority. Discussion was held regarding Benner Township's zoning ordinance that is currently under review and the impact it could have on the Authority's well head protection areas. Mr. Swales indicated he will contact the Chairman of the Benner Township Planning Commission to discuss the draft zoning ordinance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Mr. Eby recessed the Board for an Executive Session at 7:42 p.m. to discuss Litigation. The meeting reconvened at 7:58 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Mr. Miller to contact SCBWA to inquire about nitrate levels in Alexander well.
- Mr. Eby to contact Benner Township about placing an article in the Township's newsletter.
- Mr. Swales to contact Benner Township Planning Commission Chairman about draft zoning ordinance.

Next regular scheduled meeting is May 15th at 6:30 p.m. and will be held at the SBWJA Office due to the Primary Election.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Lanich moved, seconded by Mr. May to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m. 5 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelly J. Gill, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township 05/16/18

BENNER TOWNSHIP WATER AUTHORITY
1224 BUFFALO RUN ROAD
BELLEFONTE, PA 16823
(814) 355-4778

REGULAR MEETING
April 17, 2018

GUEST LIST

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