

# BENNER TOWNSHIP WATER AUTHORITY

## REGULAR MEETING

March 20, 2018

### ATTENDANCE:

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

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Warren Miller – SBWJA  
Kelly Gill – SBWJA  
Brian Shura, P.E. – Stiffler McGraw  
See Attached Guest List

### CALL TO ORDER:

The March 20, 2018, Regular Meeting of the Benner Township Water Authority was called to order at 6:31 P.M. by Tom Eby, Chairman.

### ROLL CALL:

Jerry May, Assistant Secretary, took Roll Call, recording three members present. Mr. Edkin was excused from the meeting and Mr. Swales entered the meeting at 6:36 p.m. 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 January 16, 2018 regular meeting were presented for review. **Mr. Lanich moved, seconded by Mr. Eby to approve the Minutes of the January 16, 2018 Regular Meeting as presented. 3 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. 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. May moved, seconded by Mr. Eby to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, the Paid Checks in the amount of \$41,610.88 and Bills by Vendor in the amount of \$10,113.76. 3 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. The motion carried.** Mr. Lanich stated that most of the expenses for the past couple of months reflect legal fees associated with the bio-solids appeal.

**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 \$96,767.48.

**Mr. Swales entered the meeting at 6:36 p.m.**

**Grove Park Well Nitrate Levels** – Our Authority was contacted by Benner Township indicating that several Grove Park residents were in attendance at their last Supervisor's meeting expressing their concerns with the high Nitrate levels in their drinking water. In preparation for the meeting the Board was provided with a spreadsheet and chart of the Nitrate levels from 2011 to current. The Authority is required to complete Nitrate/Nitrite testing of the Grove Park well on a quarterly basis. The last two quarterly tests have resulted in the highest level of Nitrate since we began testing in 2011 with the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2017 sample being at 8.8 mg/L. The maximum contaminant level for Nitrate is 10 mg/L.

The Authority Board discussed options if the Nitrate levels in the Grove Park well meet or exceed the maximum contaminant level, which could include the possibility of an interconnect between the Hampton Hills/Opequon Hills and the Grove Park water systems, looking for another source or an Ionic exchange.

**Grove Park Well High Service Pump** – Mr. Miller informed the Board that the bearings in the high service pump at the Grove Park water system went bad and a new pump was purchased since that style of pump was not designed for easy repair.

**Opequon Water System Main Break on 01/21/2018** – On January 21, 2018 we were made aware of a possible water leak along Meadow Flower Circle in the Opequon Hill Subdivision. Mr. Miller indicated the plastic water main cracked at the bell and a section of mainline was replaced.

**PA DCED Grant Program** – The Pennsylvania small system grant was submitted by the February 28, 2018 deadline and we are currently waiting for a decision to be made. This grant would include replacing the high service pumps at the Grove Park Water system, replacing the phase converter and transformer at the Opequon well house with a variable frequency drive and the installation of radio telemetry for both systems.

**Grove Park Water Generator/Transfer Switch** – Mr. Eby asked for an update on the status of the generator/transfer switch for the Grove Park Water system. Mr. Miller stated that it has been ordered.

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

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

**Engineering Services Agreement** – Mr. Shura worked with Mr. Edkin to prepare a mutually agreed upon Engineering Services Agreement for the 2018 calendar year, which was provided to the Board for approval/signature. **Mr. Eby moved, seconded by Mr. Swales to approve the Engineering Services Agreement with Stiffler McGraw as revised contingent upon Mr. Edkin's final approval of the agreement.** 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. **The motion carried.**

**GUESTS:**

**John Kostas** – Mr. Kostas asked the Board what its plans were if the appeal to the Environmental Hearing Board was not ruled in our favor or if the Bellefonte Borough Authority continued with the appeal process. The Board indicated a decision will not be made until the ruling is announced.

**Wesley Astore** – Mrs. Astore thanked the Authority Board for their efforts in trying to protect her family's drinking water from being contaminated by outside sources of potential contamination.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Bio-Solids Appeal** – The Authority Board was provided with a copy of the Post-Hearing Brief in which Bellefonte Borough Authority and the PA Department of Environmental Protection will have until April 11, 2018 to file a response.

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

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Nestle Bottling Plant** – Mr. Lanich requested the Nestle Bottling Plant be added to the agenda to have a general discussion pertaining to the project. The proposed Nestle bottling plant doesn't directly impact our Authority, but does affect many Centre County residents. Mr. Lanich indicated he attended both meetings held at CPI and has learned that the Spring Township Water Authority (STWA) will provide water service (300 GPM) to Nestle through their backup well and that Nestle will pay the STWA to develop a third well to be used as their backup well. The opposition to the project is mostly due to environmental concerns. Mr. Lanich wanted to make the Board aware of everything that was going on.

**Feasibility Study** – The Board asked Mr. Miller to prepare some options for a feasibility study to identify options if the Grove Park well meets or exceeds the maximum contaminant level for nitrates. Mr. Shura will look into the possibility of obtaining grant monies for a feasibility study.

Ms. Gryczuk indicated the Spring Creek Watershed Association completed a Water Resources Monitoring Project in 2013, which involved the monitoring of Nitrate levels in the Spring Creek Watershed. This study may be useful to the Authority and can be obtained on-line.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

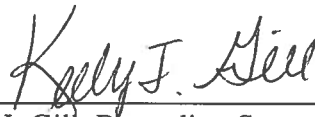
- Mr. Edkin to review revised Engineering Services Agreement
- Mr. Miller to prepare options for a Feasibility Study to replace/supplement the Grove Park well
- Mr. Shura to research availability of grant monies for Feasibility Study

**Next regular scheduled meeting is April 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Mr. Lanich moved, seconded by Mr. May to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. The motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



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Kelly J. Gill, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township 04/18/18

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

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**March 20, 2018**

**GUEST LIST**

1. Wesley Astone
2. Shirley GRYZUK, 111 ASTER AVE Benner Twp
3. John Kostas
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