

BENNER TOWNSHIP WATER AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

June 19, 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 June 19, 2018, Regular Meeting of the Benner Township Water Authority was called to order at 6:38 P.M. by Tom Eby, Chairman.

ROLL CALL:

Tim Edkin, Secretary, took Roll Call, recording three members present. Mr. Swales entered the meeting at 6:45 p.m. and Mr. May entered the meeting at 7:06 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 May 15, 2018 regular meeting were presented for review. **Mr. Eby moved, seconded by Mr. Edkin to approve the Minutes of the May 15, 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. Eby moved, seconded by Mr. Edkin to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, the Paid Checks in the amount of \$9,343.51 and Bills by Vendor in the amount of \$8,395.07. 3 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. The motion carried.**

SBWJA REPORT:

Bio-solids Legal Fees Expense – Mr. Miller reported that the legal fees expense associated with the bio-solids appeal incurred to date are \$104,612.48.

Grove Park Generator – Mr. Miller provided the Board with an update on the status of the installation of the generator at the Grove Park Water system. Due to the size of the generator and the amount of gas needed for operation, it has been recommended that the Authority install two (2) 1000 gallon propane tanks to properly operate the unit. The amount of gas needed to operate is based on square surface footage inside the tanks and should amount to a three to four day supply. Mr. Miller reported the only remaining items at this time are the delivery of the propane tanks and the start up. Discussion was held about security measures and potential liability as they relate to the propane tanks. Mr. Miller will contact the Authority's insurance company to inquire about liability issues and to also add the generator to the Authority's policy. He encouraged the Board members to stop at the well house and review the work that has been completed. Mr. Miller commended the SBWJA staff for their outstanding work associated with the project.

Mr. Swales entered the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Opequon Water System Main Break on 05/24/2018 –Around May 13, 2018 we started to notice an increase in water usage at the Hampton/Opequon Water System. The SBWJA staff spent several days searching for the water leak with leak detection equipment borrowed from Pennsylvania Rural Water Association (PRWA) and also the assistance of Bellefonte Borough's crew. The water leak was located and repaired on May 24, 2018, which resulted in some overtime being paid the day of repair. The plastic main line didn't have any bedding or cover stone to protect it. The SBWJA staff also noted they could see the plastic line in both directions, which was also lacking bedding and cover stone. Mr. Miller indicated this will be an ongoing issue due to the lack of stone bedding.

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 present for the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no Correspondence presented for discussion.

OLD BUSINESS:

Administrative Procedures Manual – The Board was provided with a copy the final draft of the Administrative Procedures Manual which was prepared by the SBWJA staff and reviewed with Mr. Edkin. **Mr. Edkin moved, seconded by Mr. Lanich to approve the Administrative Procedures Manual as presented.** 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. **The motion carried.** Mr. Edkin thanked the SBWJA staff for its time associated with the preparation of the procedures manual and indicated the manual will be of use for the Authority's 2018 audit.

NEW BUSINESS:

Letter to Benner Township Planning Commission – Mr. Swales indicated that he spoke with the Benner Township Planning Commission's Chairman, Nate Campbell, to make him aware of this Authority's interest in being involved with re-zoning to enable well head protection within the Township. Mr. Campbell welcomes this Authority's input and Mr. Swales suggested this Authority send a letter to the Benner Township Planning Commission to formalize our request with involvement in zoning. Mr. Miller will draft a letter and email it to the Authority Board members for comment and/or changes.

Mr. May entered the meeting at 7:06 p.m

Benner Township Supervisor's June 2018 Meeting – Mr. Eby and Mr. Swales informed the Board that they attended the Benner Township Supervisor's meeting on June 4, 2018 to discuss the timeline of events associated with the appeal to the Environmental Hearing Board for the land application of bio-solids to the Spicer Family Farm. The timeline was provided to the Township Secretary earlier in the day of June 4, 2018 so it could be provided to the Supervisors for review prior to the evening meeting. Mr. Eby indicated the Benner Township Supervisors asked about the status of the appeal and wanted to know what this Authority intends to do with the high nitrate levels in the Grove Park well. Mr. Eby stated that a decision on the appeal may be made later this month. Mr. Swales informed the Board of Supervisors that this Authority is in the process of looking into a feasibility study for the Grove Park well.

East College Avenue Sinkhole (Nittany Mall) – Discussion was held about the sinkhole that opened at the intersection of East College Avenue and Shiloh Road, near the Nittany Mall last week, which validates this Authority's concerns with the geology in the area and the overall impact on drinking water.

Water Quality Improves; Impacts Rare Near Shale Gas Wells – Mr. Edkin referenced the release of a study of groundwater in Bradford County, Pennsylvania, completed by Pennsylvania State University, that identified little to no impact of local water supplies in connection with the Marcellus Shale development (Fracking).

Website Design – The Board suggested adding pictures of the Grove Park generator to the website along with the articles in the Centre Daily Times about the fracking results and sinkholes in the surrounding area. Mr. Lanich also suggested adding more keywords through Search Engine Optimization to aid in ease of accessing the website.

Benner Township Water Main Extension – Mrs. Gill informed the Board that Benner Township Supervisors provided an easement agreement for the water main line extension across their property; however, it was lacking the required notarization. An Agreement for Transferring Water Mains was also provided, but it can't be finalized until the Authority has all of the required recorded easements.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Mr. Miller to contact St. Mary's Insurance Agency to add the generator to the policy and also inquire about liability as it relates to the propane cylinders.
- Ms. Cain to update website to add pictures of Grove Park generator, two CDT articles and search engine optimization.
- Mr. Miller to draft letter to Benner Township Planning Commission about incorporating well head protection into draft zoning.

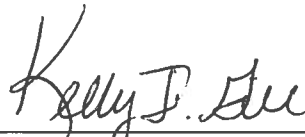
Next regular scheduled meeting is July 17th at the Benner Township Municipal Building.

Mr. Miller will be absent from the next meeting due to vacation plans.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Edkin moved, seconded by Mr. Swales to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m. 5 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelly J. Gill, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township 7/18/2018

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

**REGULAR MEETING
June 19, 2018**

GUEST LIST

1. Renée Swanson
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____