

# **BENNER TOWNSHIP WATER AUTHORITY**

## **REGULAR MEETING**

**February 18, 2020**

### **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 February 18, 2020, Regular Meeting of the Benner Township Water Authority was called to order at 6:38 P.M. by Tom Eby, Chairman.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Jerry May, Assistant Secretary, took Roll Call, recording four members present. Mr. Edkin was excused from the meeting. Mr. Eby, Chairman, noted that with a quorum present, the Benner Township Water Authority was permitted to conduct business under the laws of Pennsylvania.

### **ELECTION OF 2020 OFFICERS:**

Mr. Eby opened the nominations.

**Mr. Lanich made a motion to retain the same officers from the previous year and Mr. May seconded Mr. Lanich's motion. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. The motion carried.**

Mr. Eby closed the nominations.

Attached to these meeting minutes is a listing of the 2020 Officers and Members.

**APPOINTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:**

**Retaining of Professional Services for 2020: Mr. Swales moved, seconded by Mr. Lanich to retain the same professional services as the previous year which are:**

**Consulting Engineer – Stiffler McGraw  
Solicitor – Miller, Kistler & Campbell (Richard Campbell)  
Auditor – Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP**

4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. **The motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the December 17, 2019 regular meeting were presented for review. **Mr. Lanich moved, seconded by Mr. May to approve the Minutes of the December 17, 2019 Regular Meeting as presented.** 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. **The motion carried.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Mr. Lanich reviewed the Treasurer's Report as presented and indicated the accounts remain in good standing and the balances are stable. Mr. Lanich stated the reason for the accounts being stable and in good shape is due in large part of the services provided by the Spring Benner Walker Joint Authority's personnel. These services are very much appreciated by the Treasurer who certainly couldn't do it by himself.

Mr. Eby asked the Board if there were any questions regarding the Paid Checks or Bills by Vendor submitted for approval.

Mr. Swales referenced the Public Officials Liability Insurance and wanted to know the limits per claim and aggregate. Mrs. Gill stated she believed it was a \$1,000,000 per claim policy, but would verify this and email the Board members with the requested information.

**Mr. Eby moved, seconded by Mr. May to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, the Paid Checks in the amount of \$13,175.30 and Bills by Vendor in the amount of \$7,809.84.** 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. **The motion carried.**

**SBWJA REPORT:**

**Hampton Hills Generator**– The automatic transfer switch and the propane tank was installed for the Hampton Hills generator and it is now functioning as intended. A red-light visual alarm was installed on the outside of the well house and the Hampton Hills Homeowner’s Association was provided with a memo to distribute among the residents about contacting our Authority if the red-light is illuminated. The Authority now has uninterrupted power for our water supply at both water systems. Mr. Miller commended the SBWJA maintenance staff on their mechanical abilities and workmanship, which saves both Authorities a remarkable amount of money due to not having to outsource the work.

**Source Water Protection Plan (Monitoring of Private Wells)** – The Board discussed developing a monitoring plan for testing private wells in the area surrounding the Spicer Family Farm due to the spreading of bio-solids within the recharge area of the Grove Park well. The Authority will also need to determine the contaminants to be tested for.

**Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)** - Discussion was held about the Commonwealth’s first round of statewide sampling results to address the PFAS contamination and the local site (State of the Art) testing above the EPA’s health advisory level of 70 parts per trillion (ppt). This facility is connected to the sanitary sewer which discharges to the Bellefonte Borough Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Swales asked if the PA DEP would be interested in testing the Grove Park well.

**Grove Park Nitrate Levels** – Mr. Miller provided the Board with the results of the nitrate level in the Grove Park well on January 3, 2020, which was 8.23 mg/l. Mr. Swales indicated that after reviewing the usage charts, static well levels, the amount of precipitation and comparing that to the nitrate levels in the Grove Park well that it is clear that the nitrate results are impacted by precipitation.

**Resolution #2019-01 Revision for PA DCED Grant** – The PA DCED office contacted the Authority regarding our PA Small Water and Sewer System Grant application we submitted and asked us to make a few modifications to our application. The revisions were with prevailing wages; therefore, we were required to submit a new quote for the labor associated with the installation of the new VFD at Opequon. We were then required to make a revision to Resolution #2019-01 to reflect the revised amount of grant money we are requesting which increased from \$100,941.75 to \$103,894.65. Mr. Edkin signed the revised resolution so it could be submitted to the PA DCED by the February 7, 2020 deadline. **Mr. Swales moved, seconded by Mr. Eby to revise Resolution #2019-01 to reflect the Benner Township Water Authority’s request for a PA Small Water and Sewer Program grant of \$103,894.65 as presented. 4 ayes, 0 nays. 1 absent. The motion carried.**

**Kamstrup Smart Water Meters** – Mr. Miller provided the Board with a brochure for a new line of Kamstrup composite smart water meters provided by Core & Main. The ultrasonic meter technology has no moveable parts and works on sensors. They have a 20-year battery life and meter accuracy doesn't change because there are no moving parts. These are radio read meters, which the Authority may consider purchasing when it is time to start replacing water meters.

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

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

**New Source Development** – Mr. Shura stated that he recently emailed Rob Cooper of Pennsylvania State University to follow-up on the submission from last October regarding the Benner Township Water Authority's water exploration efforts on PSU property along Barns Lane.

**GUESTS:**

**John Kostas** – Mr. Kostas discussed his concerns with the PFAS level found in State of the Art's well and the impact this could have on the Grove Park well due to Bellefonte Borough land applying biosolids to both the Spicer and Shaffer farms in Benner Township. Mr. Kostas indicated the Commonwealth opened their own lab in Harrisburg to conduct testing of PFAS in private wells, but he is unsure of what wells in the area are being tested.

Discussion was held about contacting Mark Stephens, PA DEP, to inquire about wells being tested in the area for PFAS and to see if the Grove Park well may be considered when testing for these contaminants, since it's within close proximity of the State of the Art's well. Mr. Stephens may also be able to provide a list of contaminants to test for associated with the land application of bio-solids being applied within the aquifer recharge area of the Grove Park well. Mr. Miller will email Mark Stephens to inquire about options.

Mr. Kostas provided the Board with a copy of an article from 1989 about pesticide containers found scattered around a sinkhole on SCI Rockview property along Barns Lane which prompted an investigation. The article gave very little details on the exact location of the contamination site; however, Mr. Kostas wanted to make the Authority aware since it is considering drilling a new water source in the vicinity of Barns Lane.

Mr. Swales stated that he will review some aerial maps and provide some suggested sites for the testing.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** There was no correspondence presented for discussion.

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

**NEW BUSINESS:** There was no New Business presented for discussion.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

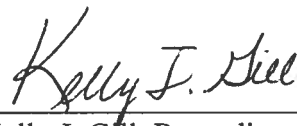
1. Continue to work on monitoring plan for testing of private wells surrounding Spicer Family Farm.
2. Warren Miller to contact Mark Stephens, PA DEP
3. Key Points of BTWA 02/18/20 meeting to be submitted to Benner Township Supervisors.
  - a. The BTWA will be developing a monitoring plan for testing of private wells surrounding the Spicer Family Farm due to the land application of bio-solids within the aquifer recharge area of the Grove Park well.

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

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Mr. Lanich moved, seconded by Mr. Eby to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 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 05/20/2020

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

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**February 18, 2020**

**GUEST LIST**

1. JOHN KOSTIS      GROVE PARK
2. TIM ROBINSON      SCWA
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**Benner Township  
Water Authority**

**2020 OFFICERS & MEMBERS**

Thomas Eby, Chairman  
Andrew Swales, Vice Chairman  
Steve Lanich, Treasurer  
Timothy Edkin, Secretary  
Jerry May, Asst. Secretary/Asst. Treasurer