

DATE: Wednesday, December 17, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the Womelsdorf-Robeson Joint Authority was held Wednesday, December 17, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Womelsdorf Borough Hall.

It was noted that in order to assist in the preparation of the meeting minutes, the Secretary records the meeting. The recording is deleted following the approval by the Board of the minutes and no permanent recording is kept by the Secretary.

The following members were present:

Steve Bright Ralph Honigmann Matthew Miller Rod Lebo Mark Spotts
Jack Morris Barbara Orth

Engineer, Fred Ebert, Solicitor Jestyn Payne, Dennis Miller and Jacob Sonnen (Authority Operators) were also in attendance.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge to the Flag of the USA.

Visitors: JC Hoffa, Kory Koehler, Will Hawke

Kory requested to be added as an official part of the agenda at our next meeting in January 2026. He will follow through with Jestyn on details about biking.

Will attending for biking and general land use. Pointed out he has been attending WRJA meeting for over 1 year and nothing has been done with other groups who had violations, particularly tree stands. This is killing the trees. Serious things are happening on the property, mainly tree stands, impersonating a board member. Doesn't feel bikers did anything worse than these other groups. How can we support all user groups? The bikers would be willing to help hunters with trees stands, etc. Chairman noted the board and employees will be addressing the tree stands over the winter.

Secretary's Report:

The minutes of the meeting held Tuesday, November 25, 2025 were reviewed and approved on a motion by Rod Lebo, seconded by Jack Morris. Motion carried.

Correspondence: The Authorities 2025 Impact Report and upcoming 2026 events, The Authorities Board Member Training, 2026 PMAA Win Conference in State College, 2 letters regarding purchasing our property, 2 Deer Country brochures (to Dennis), Penn Forestry Company – free timber evaluation for gypsy moth and fall canker worm, Keystone Tap magazine.

Treasurer's Report:

1. No report. Treasurer will forward reports via email. One note was an invoice received from Neal Systems for \$5,200. for chlorinators. Contingent upon review, the Treasurer's Report is approved on a motion by Jack Morris, seconded by Rod Lebo. Unanimously approved. (Email received showing a balance of \$1,878,769.80).

Also contingent upon review are bills presented for payment, which will be ratified or approved on motion by Jack Morris, seconded by Rod Lebo. Motion was unanimous. (Email received showing bills for the month of December in the amount of \$30,805.37).

2. Edward Jones statements are available upon request.

3. William Koch & Associates: Heard nothing.

Engineer's Report:

- 1. Update of Furnace Tank Penn VEST Loan Application:** EE, Inc. has reached out to Penn VEST to set up a preapplication meeting and we are waiting for available dates for the virtual meeting. EE, Inc. has also provided the Co-Stars contract to Penn VEST, and it meets their requirements. They suggested that it also be reviewed by the PA DEP. EE, Inc. has provided the contract to the PA DEP but has not received any feedback from them to date. Fred came up with a list and will ask the board and committee to assist with gathering information. Will send out an email this weekend. Deadline is around February 7. Chairman will also send out an email to set a meeting date. EE, Inc. has already started the approval process through the submission of the project to the Berks County Farmland Preservation board for their review.
- 2. Update on High Street Paving Project:** EE, Inc. is following up with Penn DOT on the status of their paving project. C2C is also updating their survey proposal, and they are also coordinating with Penn DOT. Should get to Engineer in January. According to Chairman, Womelsdorf Borough is unaware of this project. Engineer has not received a confirmation on when this project will be done. EE, Inc. is scheduling a preapplication meeting with Penn VEST for both this loan and the Furnace Tank Painting loan. EE, Inc. has also provided a summary of the project to the PA DEP reviewer for Penn VEST. The PA DEP is changing personnel that will be reviewing the projects in January to one person to cover the entire state rather than a person for each of the six regions.
- 3. Update on 2025 LSA Grant Submission:** The 2025 Local Shares Statewide Grant was submitted on November 26, 2025. EE, Inc. will provide a talking point memo for the Authority to reach out to the local politicians prior to their award of the grants. This is normally two-three months prior to the award of the grant. Extension of High Street project.
- 4. SSM File Transfer:** SSM has gone through some leadership transitions that has delayed getting the files together. They now have them together and are providing EE, Inc. with dates for next week. Hopefully before year end.
- 5. Other Items:** No updates.

Chairman asked about Furnace Hill. Dennis said they poured curbs and are talking about blacktopping.

Solicitor's Report:

1. **Resolution extending the term of the Authority.** Motion by Ralph Honigmann, seconded by Mark Spotts. Motion carried.
2. **Tank #1 and Tank #2:** Nothing to add. Chairman confirmed that all is finalized on Tank 1. We need to get board approval for contract with Kappe on Tank 2. Will bid metals work out. All is similar to Tank 1. Motion to approve made by Steve Bright to start COSTARS to perform work on Tank 2, seconded by Jack Morris. Also, motion to start process for bidding out metals work made by Rod Lebo, seconded by Ralph Honigmann. Both motions carried. Chairman will contact Kappe.
2. **2026 Insurance Renewal:** Treasurer and Marcie working with Courtney. Renewal should be ready by January meeting.
3. **Robesonia Fish and Game - Review revised Lease Agreement:** Packet distributed showing a drawing. A ground lease agreement was received. Solicitor revised. Chairman will be liaison with Solicitor. Engineer recommends showing location of our well and Zone 1 well head protection area and make sure it is controlled. Must be maintained and the Fish & Game must have the same obligation. Minimum of 100 feet. There is a chart...it is defined in the DRCB docket. C2C should identify the well head. Engineer will contact C2C and will also work with Dennis on the DRCB information.
4. **John Sagner - Shared Driveway:**
Review revised Easement Agreement. Packet distributed. Solicitor requested someone from the board to be a liaison to guide him. Mark Spotts will assist. It is an easement between the Bashore Family Trust and Sagner. We will concede who owns which property. All need insurance requirements. We have not addressed 2 other property owners that will utilize this easement. Will continue to research.
5. **Burkholder/686 Hill Road Timber:** All finished. Solicitor asked Dennis to find out from Mr. Burkholder how long this project will take? Solicitor said he sent a letter to the township and engineer telling them the Authority has no objections to issuing a permit. Township said they will issue a permit.
6. **Berks Nature Potential Conservation Easement:** Have been in contact with Andrew Fetterman. Scheduled to talk December 19. Berks Nature has a commitment for the money. Solicitor and Mr. Fetterman will talk about the documents we drafted.
7. **Compensation Matters:** Will vote on after Executive Session. No ethics lessons needed at this time.
8. **Meeting Dates for 2026:** WRJA meetings to be held the 4th Wednesday of each month except November meeting to be held, Tuesday, November 24, 2026 and the December meeting to be held Wednesday, December 16, 2026. Motion made by Rod Lebo, seconded by Mark Spotts. Motion carried.
9. **Message from Marcie** wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. She is hoping to come to a meeting sometime in 2026!
10. **Bethany Road Deed of Condemnation:** Declaration of termination received from Stewart Abstract. Will distribute. Project is finished.

Operator's Report:

1. Freeman Strret – Grande Project – Loop completed. Letter of credit ACNB Bank extended expiration date to November 27, 2026, given to Solicitor. Mike Gombar represented the Authority in this due to conflict of interest. Dennis said the project is 90% completed. Will put meters in and some work with hydrants.
2. Maple Avenue Apartments – Designed meter pit – will order.
3. Meter reading –first week in January. LB Water helping – i-Perls will drop off. About 2 more years with LR's. Maybe can get a grant. Glenn will check out meters at the conference.
4. Grosfillex Fire line – meter pit installed
5. Fixing problem meters
6. Flushed hydrants

Other Board Member Comments:

None

Chairman's Report:

Board reappointments: Thank you Jack for your service of 15 years! Barbara Orth has been reappointed to another 5-year term to the WRJA Authority.

Received call from Womelsdorf Borough President stating that at the January council meeting, Rod Lebo will be reappointed to another 5-year term to the WRJA Authority and that Dan Dierolf will be appointed to replace Jack Morris. This will be a 5-year term.

Entered into Executive session at 7:54 on motion by Steve Bright, seconded Barbara Orth. Motion carried. Executive session to discuss personnel issues and possible litigation.

Came out of executive session at 8:46 PM.

Steve Bright made a motion for resolution that Glenn Eberly's compensation remains the same. Dennis Miller and Jacob Sonnen will receive a 3.5% increase. Ralph Honigmann and Barbara Orth's salary will increase by \$150 each quarter.

Motion to Adjourn at 8:48 PM. by Steve Bright, seconded by Barbara Orth. Motion carried.

Next meeting: *Wednesday, January 28, 2026, at 7PM at the Womelsdorf Borough Hall.*

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Orth

Barbara Orth
Secretary

Womelsdorf - Robesonia Joint Authority

A WATER AUTHORITY — SUPPLYING WOMELSDORF, ROBESONIA AND SHERIDAN, PA.

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Treasurer's Report NOVEMBER 2025

Balance October 31: \$361,377.90

Water revenue	\$86,946.85
Certs	\$330.00
Meter Data Fee	\$2,001.00
New Service Connections	\$15,000.00
Other Income	<u>+\$1,446.74</u>
	\$105,724.59

Total Income

+\$105,724.59

\$467,102.49

November Disbursements \$176,791.37

-\$176,791.37

\$290,311.12

Treasury Notes

Expires 02.15.27	2.250%	\$100,000.00
Expires 08.15.28	2.875%	\$140,000.00
Expires 05.15.29	2.375%	<u>+\$105,000.00</u>
		\$345,000.00

+\$345,000.00

\$635,311.12

PLGIT \$423,090.57

Interest	4.06%	<u>+\$1,410.54</u>
		\$424,501.11

+\$424,501.11

\$1,059,812.23

Edward Jones account value of NOV 1- NOV 30, 2025

+\$818,957.57

\$1,878,769.80