

DATE: Tuesday, November 25, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the Womelsdorf-Robeson Joint Authority was held Tuesday, November 25, 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, Jacob Sonnen and Glenn Eberly (Authority Operators) were also in attendance.

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

Visitors: Kory Koehler, Will Hawke, J.C. Hoffa, Alex Burkholder

Kory Koehler: Asking again for permission to access property. Would like to meet with board members to give bikers access seasonally.

Will Hawke: Speaking as a hunter he commented that DCNR is putting up signs which he brought to meeting. They are regarding tree stands and they should not be left up for more than a season as they damage trees and are safety concerns. Fairness in hunting – leaving tree stand out is not fair to others. He is disappointed nothing has been done. Chairman acknowledged and commented that we need to address this.

J.C. Hoffa: Spoke on hunting. This is the first time he set up on WRJA property. He volunteers with the fish hatchery and comes 3 times per week to feed and attend to the fish. He put up a tree stand, following all the guidelines, including posting his name, etc on the tree stand. He also checked the website and was 300 feet (should be 300 yards) from any structures. On November 25 when he was feeding fish, he saw a gentleman walk over to his (J.C.'s) tree stand then left. J.C. noticed the truck he left in (burgundy, Chevy Colorado). Then, a few days later, J.C. received a phone call from a person impersonating Mark Spotts telling him to take his tree stand down among other comments. He has the recording and played the voicemail to the board. He found this very upsetting. This act is serious and is concerned a misdemeanor up to 2 years prison time. J.C. called the water authority and got to speak to the real Mark Spotts which is how he determined the other caller was an imposter. Chairman Bright and Mark Spotts agreed we should move forward and contact the proper authorities. Mark will contact J.C. and they will work out a time to meet.

Secretary's Report:

The minutes of the meeting held Wednesday, October 22, 2025, were reviewed and approved on a motion by Rod Lebo, seconded by Ralph Honigmann. Motion carried.

Correspondence: 2 Arc News magazines (gave to Dennis), Eblings postcard – Commercial Day 3/04/26 at Lebanon Valley Expo, PA Rural Water Assoc. – January courses.

Treasurer's Report:

1. The Treasurer's Report showing a balance of \$1,948,169.49 was approved on a motion by Jack Morris, seconded by Mark Spotts. Unanimously approved.
2. Bills in the amount of \$28,131.14 were presented for payment, which were ratified or approved on motion by Jack Morris, seconded by Mark Spotts. Motion was unanimous.
3. Ralph distributed copies of the budget for fiscal year ending May 31, 2026. Approximately a 5% increase. Barbara Orth made a motion to accept the budget. Jack Morris seconded. Motion carried.

4. Edward Jones statements are available upon request.
5. Treasurer stopped by William Koch & Associates to inquire if they will be doing our audit. Turns out, they had us confused with the COG. Straightened out the confusion and they will have a proposal till next month. If accepted, will be able to complete the fiscal year audit by April 2026. Treasurer wondered how this would affect the loan, etc. Engineer will inquire with Penn Vest. Every year we must submit audit with Penn Vest for just that account. Treasurer noted that the cost of having Koch & Associates conduct the audit will be double what we paid to Akins.

Engineer's Report:

1. **Gold Spring Tank** EE, Inc. received the coating installation certification stating that the coating system met all of the requirements from the manufacturer's representative Wally Bates of Atlantic Coating Consultants by letter dated October 28, 2025.
I.K. Stoltzfus Service Corporation issued a letter dated October 28, 2025 certifying that all work was completed in accordance with the technical specifications and issued the extended five-year warranty. The tank will need to be video inspected prior to the end of the five-year warranty and any corrosion or peeling paint repaired. If the tank does need to be drained and taken offline the costs for draining the tank will be an Authority cost with the costs of the repairs covered under the extended warranty.
EE, Inc. prepared the PA DEP Cost Construction Certification on October 30, 2025 and it will be submitted to the PA DEP after authorization at the Authority meeting.
This will close out the contract for the painting of the Gold Springs Tank. Engineer is satisfied. Will submit post construction certification to DEP. Wanted to be sure board had no questions and want to close out the contract. We owe approximately \$100,000. Engineer recommends we pay the final bill. Motion to make final payment by Matthew Miller, seconded by Jack Morris. Unanimously approved.
2. **Commercial Meter Policy:** Done – we adopted.
3. **SSM File Transfer:** Scott Miller will be handling the transfer. Chairman thinks Jamie Lorah has been promoted.
4. **Womelsdorf High Street Paving Project:** EE, Inc. spoke with Penn DOT on the paving requirements. They are discussing the matter internally as well as working on the updated schedule and budgeting for the project. They asked EE, Inc. to follow up during the first week of December.
EE, Inc. will be contacting the PA DEP Penn VEST representative to confirm what permits must be issued prior to being able to apply for the Penn VEST loan. This will allow EE, Inc. to develop a design and Penn VEST loan application schedule.
5. **2026 Penn Vest Loan One – Furnace Tank Painting:** EE, Inc. and the solicitor's office worked with Kappe Associates, Inc. on updating the COSTARS proposal to meet all of the Authority requirements including providing unit prices for any welding or spot repairs on the existing tank.
The proposal includes an alternate to upgrade the second coat of Series 1095 with Series 700 Fluoropolymer for an additional \$21,200 gpd. The base bid price which includes the material, installation utilizing prevailing rates, insurance and bonding is \$865,750.00. The alternative bid with upgraded exterior coating is \$887,230.00.
The COSTARS proposal does not include the metals work on the tanks as it does not involve the application of the coating system directly. The scope of work of the metals would include the installation of a new vent, removal and replacement of the existing ladder and the modification to the overflow pipe. This is basically the same scope of work that was performed on the Gold Springs Tank. We should include the metals work with the Penn VEST Loan. This would have to be publicly bid. Should use a third-party inspector. Will share this with Penn VEST to be sure we have everything included. Goal to apply to Penn VEST is February. Board needs to vote on Tank 2 contract at next meeting.
6. **2025 Local Shares Grant Application:** The Authority will be applying for a 2025 Local Share (Statewide) Grant. The grant is a continuation of the proposed High Street Water Main Replacement project. This would

include the extension of the replacement of the existing water main on High Street from 3rd Street to 4th Street. There will be approximately 975 linear feet of existing six inch to twelve-inch water main and the replacement of approximately 20 water services. The construction cost estimate is \$748,995.50.

EE, Inc. has prepared a resolution authorizing the submission of the grant to the Department of the Community and Economic Development. The grant application is due on November 30, 2025. EE, Inc. intends to submit the grant application on November 25, 2025, due to the Thanksgiving Holiday. A motion to adopt the submission of the grant was made by Rod Lebo, seconded by Matt Miller. Motion carried. EE, Inc. will also need the Authority to sign a letter certifying that the Authority will own and operate all of facilities that will be installed as part of the grant project. A motion on this was made by Matt Miller, seconded by Ralph Honigmann. Unanimously approved.

Improvements agreement: Chairman talked about reserving land for well(s) when there are new projects. Engineer said if a developer is doing a project, it would be good to get on during land development process through an easement.

Solicitor's Report:

1. **AH Moyer Proposal:** Dennis said they are looking for small projects and reported there is 100-year-old pipe on Meadow Avenue/Freeman Street. It is approximately 350 feet. We would provide the pipe and fittings. Moyer would provide labor and final restoration. AH Moyer would do under COSTARS. Brian Boland of Kozloff Stoudt looked at this and determined it does not qualify for COSTARS. On recommendation by Engineer and Chairman we should bid this project. Do as an add on base bid and alternate. Have other projects too. Dennis will contact Engineer.
2. **Bethany Road Project (CMJM, LLC):** Done. Had closing this morning.
3. **2026 Insurance Renewal:** Ralph and Marcie are working with Courtney. Will be resolved in January.
4. **Robesonia Fish & Game:** Received a draft lease. Did not have a chance to look at it.
5. **John Sagner - Shared Driveway:** Must complete.
6. **Burkholder/686 Hill Road Timber:** Alex Burkholder bought property. Would like to remove some big oak trees. Concern with easement. Talked to a logger. Will use some wood in his house. Need to use easement to remove trees and would also like to remove some WRJA trees. Asking for letter from WRJA. Mark Spotts does not see a problem. Dennis should advise which trees. Need to get insurance certification from Mr. Burkholder. Logger should have an insurance certificate too. He is using Hickory Run Logging. Approximately \$500,000 suggested by Solicitor for insurance purposes. Motion by Mark Spotts, seconded by Jack Morris to provide letter contingent on insurance. Motion carried.
7. **Berks Nature Potential Conservation Easement:** Will be meeting with Andrew Fetterman on December 2, 2025. We want to use the 452 acres. Included in the document are all the things we want to focus on, mainly water.

Operator's Report:

1. Freeman Street (Grande Project): Loop completed.
2. Maple Avenue Apartments - design meter pit. Got prices. Will give to builder next week.
3. Grosfillex Fire line meter pit installed.
4. Fixing problem meters.
5. Flushing hydrants
6. Next meter pit - Ken Gehris.

Other Board Member Comments:

Barbara Orth: Reminder – next meeting is Wednesday, December 17, 2025 at 7 PM.

Chairman's Report:

1. Will be going to borough meetings to give support on board member reappointments.

Entered into Executive Session at 8:10 PM to discuss personnel matters, possible litigation on a motion by Steve Bright, seconded by Barbara Orth. Motion carried.
Came out of Executive Session at 8:55 PM.

Motion to Adjourn at 8:56 PM. by Steve Bright, seconded by Barbara Orth. Motion carried.

Next meeting: Wednesday, *December 17, 2025*, 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 OCTOBER 2025

Balance Sept 30 \$273,801.22

Customer Collections

\$ 110,480.86

Cert. Fees

\$ 455.00

Interest Income

\$ 176.20

Other income Grande

\$ 3,000.00

Timber deposit

\$ 42,780.75

Shut Offs

\$ 900.00

Total Receipts

+\$ 158,669.41
\$432,470.63

Disburements for October

\$71,092.73

Total Disburements

-\$71,092.73
\$361,377.90

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%

\$105,000.00

\$345,000.00

+\$345,000.00
\$851,503.93

PLGIT

\$ 421,576.16

Interest

4.23%

+\$1,514.41

+\$423,090.57
\$1,129,468.47

Edward Jones account value of Sept 27-October 31, 2025

Cash \$14.26

+818,701.02
\$1,948,169.49