

DATE: Wednesday, March 24, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Womelsdorf-Robeson Joint Authority was held Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Womelsdorf Borough Hall.

Please be advised that to assist the Secretary in the preparation of minutes, the Secretary records the meeting. The recording is deleted after the minutes are prepared and no permanent recording is kept by the Secretary.

The following members were present:

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

Randy Gartner was absent.

Engineer David Bright, Solicitor Jestyn Payne, Bruce Weaver and Dennis Miller (Authority Operators) were also in attendance.

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

**Visitors:** None

### **Secretary's Report:**

The minutes of the meeting held Wednesday, February 24, 2021 were reviewed and approved on a motion by Mark Spotts, seconded by Rod Lebo. Motion carried.

Read Correspondence: PMAA 79<sup>th</sup> Conference & Trade Show to be held 8/29 to 9/01/2021

Sent Correspondence:

- a. Change WRJA address: Carol Keppley, Tax Collector and Marshall Reynolds, Tax Collector
- b. Update tax exemption status with Staples and also updated address
- c. GM Financial: received letters addressed to Michael and Angelique Montgomery using our PO Box. Returned the letters to originator and requested they get correct address for them.

Discussed why Steve Bright is getting phone calls for the Authority? Secretary will check website. Mark Spotts will check with Robeson Borough.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

1. The Treasurer's Report showing a balance of \$2,029,335.63 was approved on a motion by Steve Bright, seconded by Barbara Orth. Unanimously approved.
2. Bills in the amount of \$28,420.28 were presented for payment, which was approved on motion by Steve Bright, seconded by Barbara Orth. Motion was unanimous.
3. United Site Service is issuing a modest increase for porta potties.
4. NRG - Electric supplier going up 1.378/kwh. Does anyone know if we have a contract? No one knows. There are 5 accounts. It was 6.5 cents and going up to a little over 8 cents per kilowatt.
5. Property Tax bills - zero amount owed on all received.
6. House at 318 S Sheridan Rd: We might lose the exemption when Glenn moves if we rent it out. Would we want to use for water authority purposes? Or rental potential? Jack spoke to realtors. Thought we could get approximately \$1,000/month. Needs work - has some knob & tube wiring. 1-1/2 baths.

## Engineer's Report:

1. Consumer Confidence Report: When DEP gives the ok, will give to Tony Wirebach for website.
2. Website: Should be updated. Secretary will contact Tony.
3. Sheridan land: Auction held for 90+ acres, and farmer purchased the property for \$2.75 million. Engineer was told it will continue to be farmed. Industrial zoned site still progressing. If this project goes through there could be potential for WRJA to be involved.
4. High Street/Water Main Project: DEP has nothing on their list for repaving. UGI work summer of 2022. Will have to do ½ mill overlay.
5. P&J Pizza: Engineer was contacted by mechanic contractor regarding sprinkler system. Currently ¾" pipe. Need larger service to supply sprinkler system. Need to get highway occupancy. Contractor needs help with application. May post escrow for the Authority/Engineer to do.
6. Mill Road Development: Should be receiving check for plan review deposit. Zimmerman/Martin.
7. Backflow Prevention Program: Tabled until next month.
8. EPA Risk & Resilience Plan: The Authority needs to have a plan. EPA sent a list (40+ pages) of risks for the Authority. Someone has to submit a certification. Bruce and Engineer will review. Board recommends not spending a lot of time. Due June 30.
9. Water Main Project: Womelsdorf Borough got back to Engineer providing us with requirements. Waiting for State to issue highway occupancy permit for crossing down on Mill Road.
10. One of the roads where the loop is proposed is a paper street. Turning this discussion over to Solicitor.

## Solicitor's Report:

1. One property is owned by LAO. Will get an easement from them. Getting a title search. The other property was part of a subdivision at Penn Hill Park by Voght. The paper road was West Road. Mr. Voght passed away. The subdivision was in the 1930's, the resubdivision was in the 1970's. It was 45 years ago and may be hard to determine who owns the property to get an easement. May file eminent domain action which is \$5,000 to \$10,000. Not listed on county parcel map as owned by anyone. Still researching. Another option would be getting permission from adjoining property owners.
2. Trespassers: Have not received any reply from teenagers or their parents from letters sent February 20.
3. Water shed use rules and tree stands: Tree stands – per Solicitors email it was suggested to mandate that tree stands be temporary and commercially manufactured. Final regulations should state that "Anyone using the Authority's lands for recreational purposes does so solely at his or her own risk and that the Authority assumes no legal responsibility in the event of injury or death." Bridges/ramps – nothing can be built without the prior approval of the Authority. If we let groups on will need certificate of insurance. Solicitor is checking our liability insurance. Possibility of forcing things down including tree stands, ramps, bridges. Tag tree stands and have them removed with 30 days or we will remove. We are allowing bikers but no bridges/ramps. Will continue this discussion next month after Solicitor talks to Ruth.
4. Rep Heffley Reintroduces his Municipal Authority Package: We oppose HB795, HB796, HB797 & HB798. Motion made by Mark Spotts to have Solicitor write letter to representatives opposing these bills. Ralph Honigmann seconded and board unanimously approved. This bill would require, among other things, the Auditor General perform an audit of the authority's management to be done every five years to determine if authority is operating in most effective fashion.

## **Operator's Report:**

1. Fixed leak on Second Street. Could have been electrolysis.
2. Received check for a hydrant to be installed on Harry Avenue.
3. Larry Burt got the post in at the barn and the gate should be here next week.
4. Turned water off to house at 903 William Penn Blvd. House was vacant and was leaking 611,000 gallons.
5. Started on North Robeson Street service lines.
6. Have been using Glenn & my deck over trailer to haul mini excavators. Looking to have the Authority purchase a lower tilt deck trailer. Got 4 quotes. Two were too high. Kauffman in NC was \$5990 and the Appalachian in Manheim, PA for \$5824. After discussion motion was made by Steve Bright to purchase the Appalachian. Seconded by Ralph Honigmann. Motion carried.
7. 232 late letters were sent out last week.
8. Maple Avenue: Moyer working on sewer line. They replaced 40 feet of 4" water line when they damaged it.

## **Chairman's Report:**

Chairman absent. No comments from Vice Chairman.

## **Other Board Member Comments:**

Glenn's retirement. Settled on Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 5:30. Having steak fry at the barn. Will ask Glenn to give us a list of who he would like to invite.

Glenn's annuity check should be here soon.

Bought Chestnut trees to plant at reservoir.

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 7PM at the Womelsdorf Borough Hall.

Motion to Adjourn at 8:33 p.m. by Barbara Orth, seconded by Ralph Honigmann. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Barbara Orth*

Barbara Orth  
Secretary

# Womelsdorf-Robesonía Joint Authority

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

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## Treasurer's Report February 2021

<b>Balance January 31</b>			<b>\$301,687.54</b>
Customer Collections		\$53,548.05	
Cert. Fees		\$320.00	
T-Notes Interest		\$3,137.50	
Tower Health Escrow		\$25,708.00	
<b>Total Income</b>			<b><u>+ \$82,713.55</u></b>
			<b>\$384,401.09</b>
<b>Disbursements for February</b>		\$64,231.67	
<b>Total Disbursements</b>			<b><u>- \$64,231.67</u></b>
			<b>\$320,169.42</b>
<b>Treasury Notes</b>			
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	
			<b><u>+ \$345,000.00</u></b>
			<b>\$665,169.42</b>
PLGIT		\$1,364,101.50	
Interest	0.06%	\$64.71	
			<b><u>+ \$1,364,166.21</u></b>
			<b>\$2,029,335.63</b>