

DATE: Wednesday, October 22, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the Womelsdorf-Robeson Joint Authority was held Wednesday, October 22, 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      Mark Spotts      Jack Morris      Barbara Orth

Matthew Miller and Rod Lebo were absent.

Engineer, Fred Ebert, Solicitor Jesty Payne, and Jacob Sonnen (Authority Operator) were also in attendance.

Dennis Miller was absent.

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

**Visitors:** Kory Koehler: Still looking for direction and hoping to form a committee. Would like to get together.

Will Hawke – Sent email alerting WRJA to parking at gates. Chairman and Operator said they will address when they see anyone parking there. Also, he addressed a tree stand which is located near water tower – a maroon Jeep. Operator will check it out.

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

The minutes of the meeting held Wednesday, September 24, 2025 were reviewed and approved on a motion by Ralph Honigmann, seconded by Jack Morris. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Revocation of permit from Technicon (Chairman understands it is now redesigned and outside of the WRJA easement. Jake said they were out today for PA One Call), Certificate of Insurance from Diversified Technology, Notice of Municipal Law Forum on October 29, 2025, Correspondence from Acela Architects and Engineers regarding consideration as engineer/consultant, and PA Rural Water brochure offering December courses.

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

1. The Treasurer's Report showing a balance of \$1,856,171.60 was approved on a motion by Jack Morris, seconded by Mark Spotts. Unanimously approved.
2. Bills in the amount of \$58,262.52 were presented for payment, which were ratified or approved on motion by Jack Morris, seconded by Mark Spotts. Motion was unanimous.
3. Edward Jones statements are available upon request.
4. Auditor update – Koch Associates are working on a proposal.

## **Engineer's Report:**

### **1. Gold Springs Tank:**

They came out and did any inspection of the tank about a week ago. They were there for 2 days and took videos and did not see any delamination. Expects the final report by the end of the month. The contractor wanted to complete the inspection of the tank prior to issuing the report. Waiting for final report before releasing payment.

Tank 2: Want to get 3 independent names for inspections for the second tank. Talked about various tests. Kappe requested signature of contract for tank 2 however, we want to have tank 1 completed. Chairman will contact Kappe. Engineer would like to share contract with DEP Liason, Julia Miller. Ask her to review contract to see if would comply with Penn Vest requirements. Should likely do two Penn Vest applications. One for tank painting, one for High Street main replacement. Another task to do is meet with the Country Farm Preservation Board. They do not meet often so need to be ready for that if want to pursue. Chairman recommends the board to be ready to approve conditionally at November meeting. Urging board to look over quote.

### **2. Womelsdorf – High Street Paving:**

Pipe replacement from 422 to 3<sup>rd</sup> Street which is the scope of the Penn DOT paving area. EE, Inc. is requesting direction on the final scope of work and direction on the Penn VEST loan. Will need to talk with C2C to do surveys. The estimated cost is \$2.7 million which includes 10% contingency with design and inspections. Does not include soft digs. Motion to approve design process by Ralph Honigmann, seconded by Mark Spotts. Unanimously approved.

### **3. LSA Grant:**

Engineer spoke with Dennis Miller and thought this grant would be useful to continue the High Street line. Go as far west as \$200,000 will take us. The deadline to apply is November 30.

### **4. Alden on Sixth:**

Glenn spoke to developer. Developer must resolve some issues. Board of supervisors tabled it so waiting to hear.

### **5. Charter with incorporating municipalities :**

Chairman reminded Engineer...must be up to date for the Penn Vest loan. It is currently valid up to 2042. It needs to be 2045 – the extent of the loan. Must be renewed. Solicitor will look into it. Engineer said it will be needed for the closing of the loan.

## **Solicitor's Report:**

### **1. Timber at 686 Hill Rd:**

Burkholder timber harvest application at 686 Hill Road. Mr. Burkholder purchased land. Per Mark Spotts, he contacted Dennis, and he believes there are dead trees that need to be cut down so they don't potentially fall and block the road. Mark went up and looked at the trees that were marked to be cut down. Mr. Burkholder does not yet own the property. He should contact Dennis when he owns the land. We need a definitive proposal from Mr. Burkholder.

### **2. Timber Project:**

The bid for the latest timber project was from Wagner Hardwoods in the amount of \$171,123. Marcie provided a check from Wagner in the amount of \$42,780.75 to secretary for deposit. Received insurance certificates from Wagner and Joe Brackman. Wagner must pay balance of purchase price at least 5 days prior to beginning as well as performance bond or security deposit.

### **3. Maple Avenue Apartments:**

Improvements agreement has been executed. Have letter of credit from Fulton Bank for \$98,708. Expires October 24, 2026. Calls for initial deposit but we do not have yet. Ralph will check with Dennis for amount and let Solicitor know.

### **4. Berks Nature Potential Conservation Easement:**

No letter yet. Will reach out to contact, Andrew Fetterman.

##### **5. Robesonia Fish and Game:**

Did not receive anything. Dennis will verify measurements. Chairman Bright and Mark Spotts would like to go along to site.

##### **6. John Sagner - Shared Driveway:**

In process of preparing easement agreement. Will then send to their engineer.

##### **7. Bethany Road:**

Distributed documentation. They were annexing a parcel to us. Fulton Bank must release us. We want a clear title. Should be all their cost. Would like copies of environmental reports. We need someone (a title company) to hold closing with title insurance - approximately \$500. Will do deed in lieu of condemnation with transfer. Motion to proceed by Steve Bright, seconded by Ralph Honigmann. Motion carried.

#### **Operator's Report:**

**1. Freeman Street - Grande Project:** No report.

**2. Maple Avenue Apartments:** Waiting on plan review fees to design meter pit.

**3. WAWA leak:** Substantial leak repaired. Also, small leak on South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street at hydrant.

**4. Hydrant on Mill Road:** Replaced

**5. Grosfillex Fire Line meter:** Installing in a few weeks.

**6. Meters are read and bills are out.**

**7. Picnic:** Went well! Great weather! Thank you Jesty and Fred!

#### **Other Board Member Comments:**

None

#### **Chairman's Report:**

1. Rate increases: Will drop letter with Robesonia Borough, Womelsdorf Borough, Millcreek and Heidelberg Township. Will also prepare a letter for Diversified to send out.
2. Personnel committee to meet.
3. Reappointment Letters: Barbara Orth/Robesonia and Jack Morris and Rod Lebo/Womelsdorf. Steve will write letter and he and Barb will attend Robesonia Borough Council meetings to ask for reappointment. Jack stated he does not want to serve another term. He recommended Dan Dierolf. Jack will advise Womelsdorf Borough. Steve will write letter and attend Womelsdorf Borough meeting(s) to support Rod Lebo and recommend Dan Dierolf (if he agrees to serve).

Motion to enter into Executive Session at 8:05 PM to discuss Personnel issues on a motion by Barbara Orth, seconded by Steve Bright. Motion carried.

Came out of Executive Session at 8:26 PM and motion to Adjourn at 8:26 PM. by Steve Bright, seconded by Jack Morris. Motion carried.

**Next meeting: Tuesday, November 25, 2025 at 7PM at the Womelsdorf Borough Hall.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Barbara Orth*

Barbara Orth

Secretary

Womelsdorf - Robeson - Sheridan - Tschirhart  
A WATER AUTHORITY — SUPPLYING WOMELSDORF, ROBESONIA AND SHERIDAN, PA.

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## Treasurer's Report SEPTEMBER 2025

Balance AUG 31 \$506,503.20

Customer Collections

Cert. Fees	\$ 42,338.20
Interest Income	\$ 270.00
Grande Tapping fee	\$ 206.59
Meter data fee	\$ 19,500.00
	\$ 1,125.00

Total Receipts

+\$ 63,439.79  
\$569,943.72

Disbursements for September

\$296,142.50

Total Disbursements

-\$296,142.50  
\$273,801.22

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	<u>+\$345,000.00</u>
PLGIT			\$618,801.22
Interest	4.32%	<u>\$ 420,084.70</u>	
		+\$1,491.46	<u>+\$421,576.16</u>
			\$1,040,377.38

Edward Jones account value of August 30-September 26, 2025

+\$815,794.22  
\$1,856,171.60