

DATE: Wednesday, September 27, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Womelsdorf-Robesonia Joint Authority was held Wednesday, September 27, 2023 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:

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

Engineer, Jason Coyle, Solicitor Jestyn Payne, Dennis Miller, Dustin Miller and Glenn Eberly (Authority Operators) were also in attendance.

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

Visitors: Joe Brackman – handed out map regarding recommended timber sales. Talked about areas proposed for timbering. Time frame for bids to be open at next meeting. Motion to proceed and advertise made by Rod Lebo, seconded by Matthew Miller. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report:

The minutes of the meeting held Wednesday, August 23, 2023 were reviewed and approved on a motion by Ralph Honigmann, seconded by Jack Morris. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Certificate of Insurance – Kopyy's Plumbing, Diversified Technology, Arc News Magazine – gave to Dennis, Colonial Surety Company – Contract Status Inquiry for AH Moyer regarding Elm, Ruth & Old Penn water replacement. I emailed to engineer who completed and sent to Colonial.

Treasurer's Report:

1. The Treasurer's Report showing a balance of \$2,099,753.65 was approved on a motion by Jack Morris, seconded by Barbara Orth. Unanimously approved.
2. Bills in the amount of \$90,192.92 were presented for payment, which were ratified or approved on motion by Jack Morris, seconded by Barbara Orth. Motion was unanimous. This included payment number 3 to AH Moyer in the amount of \$52,145.50.
3. Edward Jones statements are available upon request.
4. Treasurers bond was included with the Treasurers report.
5. Treasurer completed the Minimum Municipal Obligation Worksheet plan for 2024. The annual report was presented to the board.

Engineer's Report:

1. Review and take action on AH Moyer Payment Application No. 3: Motion by Barbara Orth, seconded by Ralph Honigmann to pay. Motion carried.
2. Update on 2023 Water Main Replacement Project: All pipes in ground and everything done. Will do some touch ups where needed.
3. Status of back flow prevention program: Letters are all written. Operators to review and October 15th is date letters will be sent.

Solicitor's Report:

1.

Agreement with Lower Heidelberg Township: LHT approached WRJA to purchase water. LHT has access to grant money available from Berks County and must use money by end of September. An Ad Hoc Committee consisting of Steve Bright, Ralph Honigmann, Mark Spotts, Darryl Jenkins and Jestyn Payne met. The Committee instructed Solicitor Payne to get an agreement from LHT that would state LHT would reimburse the Authority for all legal and engineering expenses incurred with respect to the negotiation and preparation of the Agreement between the Authority and LHT. Solicitor Payne received the signed reimbursement agreement last Friday, September 22, 2023. Now Kozloff Stoudt can produce paperwork. Chairman stated that this has nothing to do with Doug Pugh and Big Spring Farm but rather providing water to LHT and installing the extension and the loop which LHT would pay for with the grant money. Solicitor said the Agreement would set forth details extending the line from CW School to Big Spring Road and putting a meter pit in and meter for selling water in bulk to LHT. The project also includes going under Route 422. That is the extent of the project. Any work done on Old 422 would be the responsibility of WRJA. LHT is requesting 15,000 gallons/day. Mark Spotts noted LHT in essence is starting their own water company. LHT is going to develop its own piping and infrastructure within its industrial zone. WRJA is just selling LHT water.

Solicitor Payne told the Board that the Ad Hoc Committee is adamant that the Agreement to be prepared will not permit interconnection with other water systems. The Agreement must include a statement that the ARP/County agreement is not binding on the Authority. Solicitor distributed the current draft of the Agreement as well as an email with additional bullet points. After reviewing the Agreement and bullet points of the email and much discussion, it was agreed there should be no time limit to the Agreement. Design of the meter pit will be done by SSM. WRJA will do inspections. The Authority (or its Solicitor and Engineer) will bill for work on a monthly basis.

A motion authorizing Solicitor Payne to complete revisions to the Agreement and authorizing the Authority's officers to execute the Agreement (subject to approval by the Engineer and Solicitor) was made by Steve Bright, seconded by Mark Spotts. Unanimously approved. Engineer, Solicitor and staff and Ad Hoc Committee spent much time on this and have done a great job.

2. 457(b) Plan: Chairman Bright stated the cost will be approximately \$2500/year for cost and management plan. It is more than initially thought. Will push to have in place by end of year.

3. Annual Pig Roast to be held Thursday, October 26, 2023, at 5pm at the Barn.

Operator's Report:

1. Meters are read and bills are out.

2. Replaced hydrants in front of Womelsdorf Borough Hall.

3. Maintenance on Well 1 pump: Kohl Brothers fixed the pressure switches and operators had them look at a leak. Need to pull pump and fix. May be down for 1 week. Can be done under maintenance with no bidding. Kohl will get back with a price. Will check if they are Co-Stars. Solicitor will check regarding preventative maintenance statutes or legitimate emergency.

4. New wells for future? Will check for possible well sites. Possibly above Well #8.

Chairman's Report:

None

Other Board Member Comments:

Rod Lebo

Friends of the Robesonia Furnace: Memorandum of Understanding – report on meeting 9/26/23. Barbara Orth attending in place of Rod since he had another commitment. I read summary of our meeting stating Friends and other adjoining groups would like to form a relationship. Would like to include WRJA in the MOU which could be helpful in obtaining grants. Steve Bright reiterated that WRJA did not purchase property to preserve historical but rather to preserve the watershed. He is concerned about liability. Mark Spotts also noted concern regarding liability. Neither are opposed to concept but not ready to commit.

Mark Spotts...

Metering recovery starts this quarter. Will give numbers to Ralph who is ready to do invoicing. Secretary should receive payments. 3 of the Sewer Authorities we do business with are customers of Diversified. Millcreek Township is not a Diversified customer so Mark will work that out with the operators.

Motion to Adjourn at 8:58 p.m. by Jack Morris, seconded by Barbara Orth. Motion carried.

Next meeting: **Tuesday, November 21, 2023** 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 AUGUST 2023

Balance JULY 31 \$136,204.47

Customer Collections

\$63,330.11

Cert. Fees

\$ 300.00

Reconnection Fee

\$ 50.00

New Service 449+451 Smokering Dr.

\$ 5,200.00

Other income: Wawa EDU & Escrow

\$ 46,650.00

Total Income

+\$115,530.11

\$251,734.58

Disburements for August

\$220,274.76

Total Disburements

-\$220,274.76

\$31,459.82

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

\$376,459.82

PLGIT

\$ 787,241.51

Interest

5.48%

+\$3,661.46

+\$790,902.97

\$1,167,362.79

Edward Jones account value; July 29-August 25, 2023

+\$932,390.86

Amount in cash \$ 706.96

\$2,099,753.65