

DATE: Wednesday, March 25, 2026

The regular monthly meeting of the Womelsdorf-Robeson Joint Authority was held Wednesday, March 25, 2026 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	Rod Lebo	Mark Spotts
Dan Dierolf	Barbara Orth		

Matthew Miller was absent.

Engineer, Fred Ebert, Solicitor Jestyn 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: Peter Schaeffer attended talking about the Chestnut Tree Foundation and the possibility of planting American Chestnut seedlings on our property. He spoke with our Forester, Joe Brackman. They came up with two possible places for planting. It could be anywhere from 200 to 1000 seedlings spaced 5' to 10' apart. Would need at least 1 acre. Need to do soil samples and would also need plastic sleeves. Engineer has sleeves if we decide to do this. We should call Peter if we are interested and want to move forward.

Secretary's Report:

The minutes of the meeting held Wednesday, February 25, 2026 were reviewed and approved on a motion by Rod Lebo, seconded by Dan Dierolf. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Insurance policy document for Alex Burkholder (forwarded to Solicitor), Certificates of insurance – AH Moyer (2), Wagner Hardwoods, The Authorities Management Workshop notification April 22, 2026 and also Annual Conference and Trade Show September 13-16, 2026, Email from Diversified regarding important update for pay by phone service upgrade - 2 choices (email sent to Steve, Ralph and Barb). Can go with standard which is \$300/year or Enhanced at \$800/year. This is used to notify customers of boil water, etc. Previously used Swift. If no response to Diversified, it automatically defaults to standard. Board agreed to let it default to standard. Other correspondence included email from Katie/All-American Publishing for CW High School asking us to be showcased as a sponsor on t-shirts for Girls Field Hockey, 2026 PMAA directory, The Authorities – Spring Meeting May 21, PMAA Golf Classic June 2, PA Rural Water May courses, Excavation Safety magazine (gave to Dennis), Diversified Technologies System Update.

Treasurer's Report:

1. The Treasurer's Report showing a balance of \$2,124,575.03 was approved on a motion by Mark Spotts, seconded by Barbara Orth. Unanimously approved.
2. Bills in the amount of \$32,565.22 were presented for payment, which were ratified or approved on motion by Mark Spotts, seconded by Barbara Orth. Motion was unanimous.
3. Edward Jones statements are available upon request.
4. Voided the check to Zigmund from December. It was reissued.
5. Dropped off information to new auditor, William Koch Associates. Went over our info with Lisa Sanelli. Gave info to Engineer, regarding auditor to be in direct contact regarding PennVEST. Treasurer distributed a packet from auditor to be aware of certain principles, values, commitments, monitoring, etc. Ralph reviewed specific guidelines for the board. Lisa wondered if there were any leases or contracts. Other than the Bethany Children's Home to rent Well #9, no.
6. Act 205, Pension Plan was approved.

Engineer's Report:

1. SSM FILE TRANSFER

The Authority has received a proposal from SSM for the file transfer in the amount of \$13,500.00. Engineer got them down to \$3,900. EE, Inc. asked for the following files from SSM for the Authority:

- All Design Plans, technical documents and permits (applications and approved permits) for the two tanks and any water main extensions
- Bid Documents including technical specifications and that have been prepared in the last ten years
- All General Water Plans in CAD and PDF and GIS files
- Standard details provided to developer to include in land development plans
- Standard Specifications
- As-built Drawings (Developer and Authority)
- Status of all developments that have not been dedicated
 - Copies of all review letters
 - Identification of all outstanding items required for approval or dedication
- List of all Permits that Require either renewal or compliance reporting
 - List of when all renewals are due
 - List of all compliance reporting due dates

SSM has stated that they have never created any standard specifications or details for the Authority. Motion by Dan Dierolf and seconded by Steve Bright, to proceed to get files as noted. Motion carried. When completed, will decide how to move forward.

2. WOMELSDORF – HIGH STREET PAVING

Western Berks Grant. Will apply but consortium is falling apart.

3. 2026 PENN VEST LOAN ONE – FURNACE TANK PAINTING

The following is a list of the items that have been accomplished since the last Authority meeting:

- Land Use Acknowledgement Letters
 - Berks County Planning Commission received 2/2/26
 - Heidelberg Township received 1/14/26
- Farmland Preservation Board Consistency Letter
 - Berks County Farm Preservation received 1/29/26
- Last Three Years of Audited Financial Statements
 - Auditor proposal received and authorized 2/19/26
 - Need Authority to categorize Authority Financial Statements per Penn VEST requirements
- Tank Pictures Received
 - Received from Authority 1/28/26
- Metals Contract
 - Under review by Solicitor's Office
- PA DEP Public Water Supply Permit
 - Submitted to PA DEP 2/11/26
 - Review Letter Received 3/17/26
 - Response to PA DEP 3/23/26
- Categorical Exclusion
 - Application approved by the PA DEP 2/10/26
 - Public Notice (30 days) published in Reading Eagle 2/18/26
 - Public Notice Period Expired 3/18/26
- Letter of Responsibility
 - Signed 2/25/26
- Resolution to Submit Loan Application
 - Adopted 2/25/26

The following items are currently in process:

- Authority Charter Extension
 - Womelsdorf and Robesonía will adopt the ordinance in March
 - Advertising in March
 - Filing with PA Department of State in late March
- Construction Cost Estimate
 - Draft completed
- Construction Schedule
 - Dependent on Penn VEST application

The next Penn VEST application deadline is April 29, 2026. The Authority may need an interim meeting depending on the timing of receipt of information and Penn VEST requirements. The Audit and the PA DEP Public Water Supply permit are the two major outstanding items.

EE, Inc. received minor review comments from the PA DEP on their review of both the Public Water Supply Permit application and the review of the technical specifications for Penn VEST requirements on March 17, 2026. EE, Inc. responded to the comments on March 23, 2026.

Working on metals bid work.

4. ALDEN ON SIXTH

The developer's engineer has reached out requesting the Authority's standard details. EE, Inc. has reached out for this information from and was informed that SSM does not have any Authority standard details. EE, Inc has standard details from another entity. Will meet with Dennis to review and update to our needs. Will then ask board to formally adopt this standard.

5. Consumer Confidence Report: Completed. Will ask 3 municipalities to post on their website. Can also post on our website, wrja.info.

6. DEVELOPMENTS:

Bethany Road, Maple Avenue Apartments, East High Street

Solicitor's Report:

1. Committee Assignments: Execution of Resolution memorializing Committee assignments and Auditor appointment. Chairman and Secretary signed.
2. Robesonía Fish and Game: Motion to authorize Chairman, Steve Bright to sign lease agreement by Rod Lebo, seconded by Ralph Honigman. Unanimously approved. Mark Spotts talked about the liability insurance policy. He suggested a minimum of \$100 million with 20 days to show proof. Solicitor suggested \$100-\$200 million. Also reminder that improvements need to be approved. Legal bills will be paid by RFG.
3. Tank #1 and Tank #2: Brian and Aiden will be working on Tank #2.
4. Berks Nature Potential Conservation Easement: Andrew Fetterman is trying to salvage but as far as the board is concerned, we are done since the Commonwealth/PA Bureau of Forestry was not pleased with our proposal. Barbara Orth questioned legal bills? We will likely have to pay.
5. East High Street: C2C – Check on what's owed. Solicitor should write a letter.
6. Furnace Hill: Solicitor will also write a letter to them.

Operator's Report:

1. Fixing meters
2. Doing leak detection on Sheridan line. Still have not found.
3. Logging project: Should be done by next meeting. Steve read comments by Forester, Joe Brackman.
4. Fixed Chlorine Regulator at Well 9.
5. Tree stand removal: Removed quite a few. Would like to get out again.
6. Backflow Prevention: National Water Specialties would like to do a presentation. They make sure everyone is in compliance. They do all the work. Board would like them to come to our May 27th meeting.

Other Board Member Comments:

Steve Bright and Mark Spotts commented on the Peter Schaeffer/American Chestnut Foundation program. Should check on introducing to our forest. Per Engineer, to be affective will have to put up fencing to keep deer from eating. Will research and discuss later. Per Fred, it is a good thing to do.

Ralph Honigmann: Ever since the tank painting has been developing, Treasurer has been putting short-term moving to money market. PennVEST materializing. Ralph is noticing the interest rates are coming up. Should we proceed for another 2 years? Will keep in mutual fund until after PennVEST. Will know by May.

Motion to Adjourn at 8:10 PM. by Steve Bright, seconded by Barbara Orth. Motion carried.

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 22, 2026 at 7PM at the Womelsdorf Borough Hall.

Note Jestyn will be away. Brian Boland will be attending in his absence.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Orth

Barbara Orth
Secretary

Womelsdorf - Robesonia Joint Authority

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

P.O. Box 94 Womelsdorf, PA 19567 • Phone: 610-589-2740 • Fax: 610-589-1340

Treasurer's Report FEBRUARY 2026

Balance January 31:	\$461,889.81	+#11286	\$1,500.00 VOIDED	\$463,389.81
Water revenue			\$105,043.57	
Certs			\$210.00	
Investment Income			\$3,137.50	
Other Income			<u>+\$1,559.87</u>	
			\$109,950.94	
Total Income				<u>+\$109,950.94</u>
				\$573,340.75
February Disbursements			\$56,287.38	
				<u>-\$56,287.38</u>
				\$517,053.37
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>
				\$862,053.37
PLGIT			\$427,290.45	
Interest	3.78%		<u>+\$1,239.36</u>	
			\$428,529.81	
				<u>+\$428,529.81</u>
				\$1,290,583.18
Edward Jones account value as of Jan. 31-Feb. 27				
				<u>+\$833,991.85</u>
				\$2,124,575.03