

DATE: Wednesday, May 24, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Womelsdorf-Robeson Joint Authority was held Wednesday, May 24, 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
Mark Spotts	Jack Morris	Barbara Orth

Rod Lebo was absent.

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

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

Visitors:

Tim Harnly regarding firewood on WRJA property. Mark Spotts had talked to Tim previously in the woods. Mark recommended he attend our meeting. Tim said a tree came down on WRJA property. Is he allowed to walk on WRJA property to get that wood and other dead limbs/trees? Chairman and other board members agreed he could but no vehicles on our property and at his own risk.

Mike Sadowski: Complaint regarding mountain biker's event (4/22/23). Mike mentioned that the day of the event was Youth Turkey Day. Are these things taken into consideration? He noted that a trail was 20 feet off his property line. He said bikers were loud. What is his liability if someone gets hurt? When Berks Trail Works cut trails are there any limitations? Yes, no cutting live trees, no building bridges, ramps, etc. Mike also mentioned they should clean up trash. Mark explained it's a water shed property and we like to share land with the community and others for recreational use but we do have rules and regulations. This land is not supported by taxpayers, rather, by local WRJA customers. Chairman thanked Mike for bringing these comments to us and we will talk to Berks Trail Works to ask them to keep to the main trails, check hunting schedules, and be more respectful of neighbors if they have another event on WRJA property. We do have them sign a contract for usage. In the future, there will be a fee to obtain a contract for event usage which covers costs.

David Randler - came to observe.

Secretary's Report:

The minutes of the meeting held Wednesday, April 26, 2023, were reviewed and approved on a motion by Mark Spotts, seconded by Ralph Honigmann. Motion carried.

Correspondence: The Authorities: Share your story for Communications Award, The Authorities: Spring Meeting June 8, Postcard from Southern Corrosion, DEP water supply inspection report, \$2,000 escrow payment received from Wawa, PMAA Community Engagement – Annual Conference & Trade Show Sept 17 to 20, 2023 schedule of events (all board members should have received).

Treasurer's Report:

1. The Treasurer's Report showing a balance of \$2,295,703.29 was approved on a motion by Jack Morris, seconded by Barbara Orth. Unanimously approved.
2. Bills in the amount of \$65,771.67 were presented for payment, which were ratified or approved on motion by Ralph Honigmann, seconded by Matt Miller. Motion was unanimous.
3. Edward Jones statements are available upon request.

Engineer's Report:

1. PA DEP Inspection of Water System on May 1, 2023: Spectacular report from DEP. Darryl has never seen a report with zero violations and DEP paying a compliment. Great job guys!
2. Gold Spring and Furnace Creek tank inspection reports. Received reports from MBA. This was 4 years after previous report. It is advised to take tanks down to bare metal and repaint. Provided estimates for cost of this work to be \$1.2 million for each tank. This would cost approximately \$170,000 per year. Engineer will give more numbers to Ralph. Engineer recommends get power washed every couple of years after the repaint. There is a company in Lancaster for maintenance. Engineer will find out with them if they are with costars. Will bid both tanks at the same time.
3. 2023 Water Main Replacement Project:
Low bid came in at \$369,905 by A.H. Moyer. This includes pipes. Recommend that we do not get pipes. Motion to award project to A.H. Moyer and have Chairman sign documents when they come back was made by Mark Spotts, seconded by Matt Miller. Motion carried.
Consider adding two additional items to project:
Replacing 2 additional hydrants and water main near Snap On of 350 feet old cast iron pipe to be replaced. If A.H. Moyer is willing to do that, will extend a change order of approximately \$50,000 - \$60,000 (The total budget was \$500,000). Will talk to Moyer and send email to board. If board agrees, will tell Moyer to proceed. At June meeting can issue, sign and authorize official change order.
4. Land Development Project Updates:
 - a. East High Street Subdivision, Womelsdorf: Nothing new. Did receive and reviewed revised plans.
 - b. Maple Avenue Apartments, Robesonia (new): New plans received this month. Will be a large water service and meter pit. No water main extension needed there. Will issue a letter.
 - c. Wawa: Moving forward. They supplied escrow funding.
 - d. Big Spring Farms: Haven't heard anything recently. Engineer will reach out soon. Chairman inquired about a breakdown of our invoice. Sent letter to Chip Bilger with the amount of \$5,500. Chip feels it should be split between Lower Heidelberg Township and the developer. He will address this. Also need the \$2,000 plan review fee and plan from developer.

Reminder regarding backflow prevention. We have addresses, letter head and will start sending letters soon.

Solicitor's Report:

1. Budget: Ralph prepared. Expenses are up 10%. No change to income. Motion by Jack Morris to accept the budget, seconded by Ralph Honigmann. Motion carried.
2. 401K: Counsel in Pittsburgh states it has to be a 457B. Waiting for documents from Brad Small.

Operator's Report:

1. Flushed hydrants
2. Painted hydrants
3. Fixed meters
4. DEP Inspection
5. Fixed hydrant on 4th Street
6. Ordered computer. Should receive in about 2 weeks. It is a rough duty computer which we purchased for approximately \$1,700.
7. Truck computer unit was sent out for repairs at a cost of approx. \$1200.

Chairman's Report:

None

Other Board Member Comments:

Robeson/Wernersville/Womelsdorf Counsel of Government (COG): They have a contractor for their website. Mark offered can host their webpage on Robesonia Boroughs website so they would no longer have a cost. The employees at Robesonia now take care of this. Mark is asking that WRJA host Robesonia/Wernersville trash COG on our website at WRJA.info. It does not cost us anything, it would be an independent static page and you would not see it on our website. It saves the COG money thereby saving taxpayers. Motion to allow made by Matt Miller, seconded by Ralph Honigmann. Motion carried.

Trails: Mark spends much time in woods. He did not see what Mr. Sadowski was talking about. He has some photos from trail cameras on WRJA land. He will make them available to the board. Mr. Harnly said he sees the jumps and destruction. There is danger with some of them. Operator, Dustin Miller was at the event. Many times, the riders hoot/holler at bikers in front and back of each biker to communicate about the trails. Bikers are doing this event for endurance. Mark was there also and checked in throughout the day. He finds the riders to be very respectful and take the sport very seriously. Solicitor thought we might consider limiting number of attendees. Mark thinks they do cap the number.

Ralph Honigmann: Distributed a rate increase proposal thinking we will need to increase rates due to the cost to repair tanks (50% higher than what we thought) and upcoming capital improvement project. Mark stated worth considering due to our income being stagnant. The number Ralph proposed is a double on the minimum but based on prices and upcoming capital improvement project with what we have coming in at the end of the year and what we have loose in investments we would be good to do one tank by Spring without having to cash bonds and receive penalties. With rate increase in place we could recoup this in 5 years and then if end up to get loan (or partial loan) for second tank would be in a better position. Darryl talked about starting one tank next Spring/April and bid both. Would not be paying out for the second one until the end of 2024. Ralph stated it did not figure in any logging projects. We just had a logging project, and we are potentially 2 years out from another project. Gold Spring should be done first. Chairman said we need to play with this a little more. Ralph stated this was just a starting point.

Steve Bright: Mark, Ralph, Daryll and I will set a time to meet to study the expense projections vs the expected income. Would like to meet within a month or two at SSM.

Motion to Adjourn at 8:03 p.m. by Barbara Orth, seconded by Jack Morris . Motion carried.

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 28, 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 APRIL 2023

Balance MARCH 31	\$588,818.42		
Customer Collections		\$76,800.14	
Cert. Fees		\$ 270.00	
New Service 149 E High Rear		\$ 2,250.00	
Sewer shut offs		\$ 750.00	
Other Receipts		\$ 376.78	
Total Income			<u>+\$80,446.92</u>
			\$669,265.34
Disburements for April		\$429,926.42	
Total Disburements			<u>-\$429,926.42</u>
			\$239,338.92
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>
			\$584,338.92
PLGIT		\$ 375,206.29	
Interest	Tranfer from checking 4/26/23	\$ 400,000.00	
	4.95%	+\$1,799.03	
			<u>+\$777,005.32</u>
			\$1,361,344.24
Edward Jones account value; April 1-April 28, 2023			<u>+934,359.05</u>
Amount in cash \$ 1201.06			\$2,295,703.29