

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
STATE COLLEGE BOROUGH WATER AUTHORITY
December 15, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 P.M., prevailing time, Thursday, December 15, 2022 with Chair Person Jeffrey Kern presiding.

Special note: This meeting was conducted as a virtual meeting.

PRESENT

Board Members: Chair Person Jeffrey Kern, Rachel Brennan, Nathaniel Warner, Gary Petersen, Emory Ensore, Jason Grottini, Lauren McPhillips; Solicitor, Robert Mix; Treasurer, Dennis Hampton; Engineer, Mark Glenn; CRPC Liaison, Mark Boeckel; College Township Water Authority Liaison, Richard Harris; Ferguson Township Liaison, Ford Stryker; Harris Township Liaison, Mike Smith; Executive Director, Brian Heiser; Assistant Executive Director, Katie McCaulley; Director of Finance, Denise Smith; Communications and Projects Coordinator, Julia Shaffer; C-Net.

Chair Person Kern introduced Lauren McPhillips as the new Authority Board member. Each Board member gave a brief back ground of their education and how they contribute to the Authority Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Ensore, seconded by Petersen that the minutes of the November 17, 2022 meeting be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

HEARING OF CITIZENS

No comments were presented.

RATIFICATION OF PAYMENTS

It was moved by Grottini, seconded by Brennan that bill payments in the amount of \$1,684,735.30 be ratified as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOARD FUND REQUISITIONS

It was moved by Petersen, seconded by Warner that the Board Reserve Fund requisitions in the amount of \$2,556.44 be approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF PENNVEST LOAN FUND DISTRIBUTION

It was moved by Ensore seconded by Brennan that the PennVest Loan Fund distributions in the amount of \$24,634.96 be approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Person Kern asked when the plant will be up and running. Mr. Glenn stated sometime after the first of the year, the systems are almost ready to go. Executive Director Heiser stated there was a progress meeting yesterday. The tentative schedule presented by the contractor anticipates receiving a DEP preliminary operating permit by mid-January. There is about three weeks of work to be able to tie the plant into the distribution system which should start the week of January 2nd. We hope to be producing water out of it by the end of January. The final completion date remains July 13, 2023.

WATER CONNECTION APPLICATIONS

Chair Person Kern reported that there are seven new water connection application for approval this month. The applications are as follows:

Village at Canterbury LP	Bldg 23, Unit 236, 542 Brandywine Dr	College	1"
Village at Canterbury LP	Bldg 23, Unit 235, 544 Brandywine Dr	College	1"

Village at Canterbury LP	Bldg 23, Unit 234, 546 Brandywine Dr	College	1"
Village at Canterbury LP	Bldg 23, Unit 233, 548 Brandywine Dr	College	1"
Village at Canterbury LP	Bldg 23, Unit 232, 550 Brandywine Dr	College	1"
Village at Canterbury LP	Bldg 23, Unit 231, 552 Brandywine Dr	College	1"
Michael and Mal Strauss	Lot 25, 120 Scarlet Oak Circle	Patton	1"

It was moved by Grottini, seconded by Petersen that these connections be approved subject to the Authority’s Rules & Regulations. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF KEYSTONE WATER RESOURCES CENTER DONATION AND DATA PURCHASE

It was moved by Petersen, seconded by Ensore that the Keystone Water Resources Center donation in the amount of \$1,000 and data purchase in the amount of \$9,000 be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF 2023 BOARD MEETING CALENDAR

It was moved by Grottini, seconded by Brennan that the 2023 Board meeting calendar be adopted. Motion carried unanimously.

The dates of the meeting for the 2023 calendar year are as follows:

January 19	April 20	July 20	October 19
February 16	May 18	August 17	November 16
March 16	June 15	September 21	December 21

ADOPTION OF 2023 OPERATING AND BOARD RESERVE BUDGET

The Finance Committee made the motion to adopt the 2023 Operating and Board Reserve budget was presented last month. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF DECLARATION OF TAKING RESOLUTION (Kennard Road)

Mr. Mix reported of the 25 easements needed, 19 have been received. We expect to receive a few more. This resolution will authorize the Authority to move forward with the Declaration Of Taking for those that do not grant the easements.

It was moved by Ensore, seconded by Warner to approve the Declaration of Taking if needed. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF H2O GRANT SUBMISSION

Executive Director Heiser reported the resolution will permit the Authority to enter into an agreement to apply for a COVID 19 ARPA Water Grant. The grant is for the three future phases scheduled to begin in 2024. The phase planned for this year will not be covered under the grant. The total estimated cost for the three phases is \$4,031,000.00. The grant is a 50/50 cost share grant making the application in the amount of \$2,015,750. The Borough is applying for the same grant covering the same three phases for sanitary sewer and storm sewer replacement.

It was moved by Brennan, seconded by Warner to approve the resolution to allow the H2O grant application submission. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee – No report.

Facilities, Operations and Planning Committee – Mr. Grottini reported he was expecting to make a presentation from the Solar Power Purchasing working group but the work with the consultant is running a week or two behind schedule.

Chair Person Kern stated this is Mr. Grottini's last Board meeting, he has resigned due to relocating out of the area.

Appeals – Executive Director Heiser reported there was a request for an appeal. The Board has to appoint an interim Board member to serve on the appeals committee. Mr. Warner will be the interim member on the appeals committee.

Public Relations – No report.

Source Water Protection – Mr. Petersen stated that work has begun at the Whitehall Regional Park. Executive Director Heiser stated the monitoring well that was installed by Toll Brothers, continues to be sampled. The most recent round of sample results are posted on the website along with the previous results.

HR Evaluation – No report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Heiser welcomed Lauren McPhillips to the Authority Board. Heiser also thanked Jason Grottini who has served on the Board since 2009.

DISTRIBUTION- We have had 31 leaks since last year at this time. Crews repaired a very large leak that occurred on November 18th in Ferguson Township. The sanitary sewer main was also damaged. We worked in conjunction with UAJA to make the repairs. Work started just after 2:00 a.m. and residents were back in water by 5:00 p.m. that same day. It took approximately 400 tons of stone to fill the hole. We are preparing to replace the entire length of pipe along this street. The work is tentatively planned for this winter. The day prior to this leak, crews fixed a smaller leak uphill from the big hole. This occurred one week to the day after receiving more than three inches of rain in State College. We believe this created the sink hole under the road bed causing the small leak and the subsequent failure of the 8-inch water line.

PRODUCTION- The telemetry system upgrade that was planned for this year has started. Computers that were to be delivered in approximately eight weeks, took twenty weeks to arrive. The integrator is preparing to make the software updates and replace the two main computers of the telemetry system. The crash of the telemetry system has been fixed since the last Board meeting, there are a few remaining glitches that need addressed.

METER SHOP- Crews have replaced 830 meters year to date. Material deliveries continue to be a problem, we should have replaced 2,500-3,000 this year.

BILLING AND CUSTOMER SERVICE- Preparing to transition to a new service order processing system which will occur after the New Year.

ADMINISTRATION- The drought watch was lifted for all but five counties in Pennsylvania, Centre County was one that it was lifted. For this time of year, wells are at normal levels.

MAJOR PROJECTS- Kennard Road – A residents meeting was held last month, most residents that are involved with the project are very pleased and excited for the prospect of a new water line, service line and repairs to the private road. A planning meeting with MBA Consultants for the tank 7 rehabilitation project is planned for early January. The project will involve metal update work, painting and installation of a tank mixing system. GD&F will be submitting the construction permit application to DEP for the project. Work is tentatively scheduled to start in April or May and take about four months to complete.

LIASON'S REPORT

State College Borough Staff Liaison – Not present.

Benner Township Water Authority Liaison– Not present.

Centre Regional Planning Commission- No report.

College Township Water Authority Liaison – Mr. Harris reported College Township adopted their budget last night with a slight rate increase. No approval yet for the third source well.

Ferguson Township Liaison – No report.

Halfmoon Township – Not present.

Harris Township Liaison – No report.

Patton Township Water Authority Liaison – Not present.

University Area Joint Authority Liaison – Not present.

CONSULTANTS REPORT

Solicitor – No report.

Engineer – No further report. Mr. Glenn thanked Mr. Grottini for the years he has provided, professionalism and technical insight, those were very valued.

Treasurer – No report.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:41 p.m., it was moved by Ensore that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.