

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
STATE COLLEGE BOROUGH WATER AUTHORITY  
May 16, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:02P.M., prevailing time, Thursday, May 16, 2019 with Chairman Jeffrey Kern presiding.

**PRESENT**

Board Members: Chairman Jeffrey Kern, Vice-Chair Rachel Brennan, Jason Grottini, Bernard Hoffnar, Emory Enscoe, Gary Petersen; Solicitor, Robert Mix; Engineer, Mark Glenn; Treasurer, Dennis Hampton; State College Borough Liaison, Deb Hoag; Harris Township Liaison, Charles Graham; Patton Township Liaison, Patricia Monteith; Executive Director, Brian Heiser; Assistant Executive Director, Katie McCaulley; Director of Finance, Susan Runk; Communications and Projects Coordinator, Julia Shaffer.

Also, in attendance were C-Net personnel; Front Office Supervisor, Sherry Fetzer; Customer Accounts Representative, Jenn Palmer. An audience attendance list is available upon request.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Hoffnar, seconded by Petersen that the minutes of the April 18, 2019 meeting be approved as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

**HEARING OF CITIZENS**

No comments were presented.

**RATIFICATION OF PAYMENTS**

It was moved by Enscoe, seconded by Petersen that bill payments in the amount of \$793,409.94 be ratified as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD FUND REQUISITIONS**

It was moved by Hoffnar, seconded by Grottini that the Board Reserve Fund requisitions in the amount of \$320,617.87 be approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**WATER CONNECTION APPLICATIONS**

Executive Director Heiser reported that there are six new water connection applications for approval this month. The applications are as follows:

<b>Calder Joint Venture</b>	<b>122 W. College Avenue</b>	<b>Borough</b>	<b>2"</b>
<b>Brookside Property Holdings LLC</b>	<b>115 Woodside Drive</b>	<b>Harris</b>	<b>1"</b>
<b>Rockey Ridge Partnership</b>	<b>Lot 306, 215 Derek Drive</b>	<b>Harris</b>	<b>1"</b>
<b>Berks At Kaywood LLC</b>	<b>Lot 36, 1034 Andrea Way</b>	<b>Harris</b>	<b>1"</b>

<b>Glenn &amp; Kimberly Dove</b>	<b>Lot 406, 311 Derek Drive</b>	<b>Harris</b>	<b>1”</b>
<b>William &amp; Leslie Syrett</b>	<b>Lot 408, 394 Jensen Drive</b>	<b>Harris</b>	<b>1”</b>

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

**DISCUSSION ON FLUORIDATION IN OUR WATER**

Mr. Petersen requested that Board discuss the topic of fluoridation and if we should continue to add fluoride into the water. He stated he has done a lot of research and there is no clear evidence that fluoridation is good or bad. Ms. Brennan stated she has observed a similar trend mostly with her contacts in other countries. Ms. Brennan reported that there is little evidence to support that fluoride in water prevents cavities. Ms. Brennan suggested that the Authority collect data and show evidence on both sides to discuss the data knowing there are other municipalities that have stopped fluoridating. Mr. Hoffnar has researched the issue as well and thinks continuing to fluoridate is the proper thing to do. Mr. Kern appointed an Ad Hoc committee of Peterson, Brennan and Hoffnar to further research fluoridation and present their findings to the rest of the Board.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance Committee** – Mr. Kern reported that the Committee met with David Killick of Conrad Siegel. Mr. Killick recommended a change to the mortality rate of our current plan and options for increased funding in future pension funding.

**Facilities, Operations and Planning Committee** – No report.

**Appeals** – Mr. Hoffnar reported that an appeal had been heard. Mr. Heiser reported that the customer was notified by letter informing him of the committee’s decision.

**Public Relations** – No report.

**Source Water Protection** – Mr. Petersen reported there will be a committee meeting in June.

**HR Evaluation** – No report.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

**PERSONNEL HIGHLIGHTS**

Executive Director Heiser reported that the Lead Customer Accounts Representative Sheryl Crafts is retiring after 34 years of service and the Authority was honoring her years of service.

**DISTRIBUTION** – Flushing in Zone 8, Boalsburg; is completed and crews have started to flush in Zone 2, Pine Grove Mills. Restoration work from main breaks during the winter months continues, but is hampered by rain.

**WATER PRODUCTION** – The department is working on a comprehensive monitoring plan which is required by DEP and due August of this year. The plan is to ensure proper source compliance monitoring, for the Authority it will result in a potential for repetitive sampling. This could cost more over time and effect the budget amount for sampling. Two employees have been sent to training to ensure the plan has been done correctly. Water meters have been replaced at wells 41 and 57 as part of the facilities updates.

**METER SHOP/BILLING/ ADMINISTRATION** – Water Quality Report also known as the Consumer Confidence Report is complete and available on the Authority website. The URL has been placed on the bills and paper copies available in the office. Copies will be distributed to public locations in the month of June as required by DEP. An issue with billing has been found in that the graphs that are shown on the bill are not always the graphs the customer service reps have at their fingertips. The department is working through the issue with the billing software provider to get it resolved. To date the Authority

has replaced 791 meters since January 1<sup>st</sup> in the meter upgrade to the Flexnet system. Coopers Pond complex located on Cricklewood Drive is part of the Cricklewood Drive main replacement project. It is a private townhouse complex that was absorbed through the Patton Township water system and it was two consecutive townhouse complexes that were served through private mains. The existing line was severed to the townhouse complexes and a new service line was laid into Coopers Pond. That work has been completed as part of the Cricklewood Drive Phase II which occurred last year. The Authority has received a draft of the 2018 annual report, staff is reviewing it and will get any comments back to GD&F in hopes to have it completed by June. The audit has been received, the draft has been reviewed and Finance committee has that for presentation and the rest of the Board will receive one prior to June's Board meeting for a June acceptance.

**MAJOR PROJECTS** – Toftrees Avenue waterline work is done, restoration continues. From a budget standpoint, the Authority is at 45% of the budget, once the project is done it should be well under budget. Onieda Street has officially been postponed, in replacement of that the Authority is looking at replacing approximately 1,400 ft. of 8" on Ishler Street in Boalsburg as well as replacing a street crossing at Onieda and Westerly Parkway. This will be a joint project along with a couple crossings on Waupelani as part of the overall joint project with the Borough. The Boalsburg Pike, Spring Creek directional bore crossing is out for bid and hope to award at the June meeting. The Reservoir project, concrete removal and sandblasting is complete and the concrete repair work is underway.

**OTHER-** The Cottages at State College, there has been three meter vaults set, the public water main is underway and the main under Whitehall Road that will serve the whole complex has been pressure tested. The Spring Creek Watershed Commission is working on a One Water Plan which the Source Water Protection committee has received a draft of Phase II of that plan. Executive Director Heiser stated he attended the Spring Creek Watershed Commission meeting last evening and during the meeting the technical team which he is a part of, was made available for questioning to try and get the draft for Phase II report forward. The idea of the One Water Report plan is to facilitate the integrated management of water resources by creating collaboration among the local parties in the Spring Creek area. A set of draft FAQ's has been made available to address some of these questions. Once the Phase II draft has been refined from last night's comments, Executive Director Heiser will make it available to the Board and it will also be made available on the Spring Creek Watershed website. Anticipation is, sometime this year have the commission accept the draft report and that should give the commission the ability to start with Phase III which would be finding a company to actually start to write the plan. In July the commission is going to try and have a representative from another watershed that already has a One Water Plan and using it to give a presentation on how it works.

## **LIASON'S REPORT**

**State College Borough Staff Liaison** – Ms. Hoag thanked Julia for the coordination efforts she has put into Pugh Street. The resurfacing contract involving utilities has been awarded to HRI and they plan to start work very shortly and want to move through it quickly. The second resurfacing contract will be advertised in early June.

**Benner Township Water Authority Liaison**– Not present.

**Centre Regional Planning Commission**- Not present.

**College Township Water Authority Liaison** – Not present.

**Ferguson Township Liaison** – Not present.

**Halfmoon Township** – Not present.

**Harris Township Liaison** – No report.

**Patton Township Water Authority Liaison** – No report.

**University Area Joint Authority Liaison** – Not present.

## **CONSULTANTS REPORT**

**Solicitor** – Mr. Mix reported for the Nixon / Kocher plant the Authority has a signed Agreement of Sale for the property and two signed easements, one for the temporary construction easement and one for the permanent access easement. There are two property owners the Authority is speaking with for the permanent easements.

**Engineer** – Mr. Glenn reported the Authority received the NPDES permit for the plant, the Authority can now resubmit the funding application, it has been accepted by PennVest and should be accepted at the July board meeting for funding.

**Treasurer** – No report.

Mr. Hoffnar asked for clarification on the Well report for the Harter well #25 water levels. Mr. Heiser explained the well level fluctuation compared to the amount of precipitation received.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 4:41 P.M. Chairman Kern called for the suspension of the regular Authority meeting to go into Executive Session.

At 5:02 P.M. the Board returned to its regular meeting.

It was moved by Hoffnar, seconded by Enscoe to earmark funds based on the recommendation of the financial consultant to meet future pension obligations. Motion carried unanimously.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 5:05 P.M., it was moved by Enscoe, seconded by Brennan that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.