

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
STATE COLLEGE BOROUGH WATER AUTHORITY  
May 19, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 P.M., prevailing time, Thursday, May 19, 2022 with Chair Person Jeffrey Kern presiding.

Special note: Due to the CoVID-19 pandemic this meeting was conducted via Zoom and met all open meeting requirements.

**PRESENT**

Board Members: Chair Person Jeffrey Kern, Rachel Brennan, Jason Grottini, Emory Enscoe, Bernard Hoffnar, Nathaniel Warner, Gary Petersen; Solicitor, Robert Mix; Treasurer, Dennis Hampton; State College Borough Liaison, Brian Robbins; CRPC, Corey Rilk; College Township Water Authority, Richard Harris; 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.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Enscoe, seconded by Warner that the minutes of the April 21, 2022 meeting be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

**HEARING OF CITIZENS**

No comments were presented.

Special note: There was a designated area provided for public access to provide public comment and listen to the proceedings of the meeting.

**RATIFICATION OF PAYMENTS**

It was moved by Grottini, seconded by Hoffnar that bill payments in the amount of \$1,018,419.84 be ratified as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD FUND REQUISITIONS**

It was moved by Hoffnar, seconded by Enscoe that the Board Reserve Fund requisitions in the amount of \$13,475.13 be approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF PENNVEST LOAN FUND DISTRIBUTION**

Executive Director Heiser reported there are delays on two of the electrical panels. One of them is in production, it may arrive in the near future and the other is tentatively scheduled for production in June. It was moved by Warner, seconded by Grottini that the PennVest Loan Fund distributions in the amount of \$245,812.04 be approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**WATER CONNECTION APPLICATIONS**

Chairman Kern reported that there are six new water connection applications for approval this month. The applications are as follows:

Berks Homes	Lot 2, 145 Emma Court	Harris	1"
S&A Homes	Lot 190, 104 Phoebe Road	Patton	1"
S&A Homes	Lot 192, 114 Phoebe Road	Patton	1"
S&A Homes	Lot 201, 178 Phoebe Road	Patton	1"
S&A Homes	Lot 193, 120 Phoebe Road	Patton	1"

S&A Homes	Lot 191, 108 Phoebe Road	Patton	1"
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It was moved by Hoffnar, seconded by Warner that these connections be approved subject to the Authority's Rules & Regulations. Motion carried unanimously.

**C-NET PRESENTATION**

C-Net Executive Director, Cynthia Hahn presented an overview of the C-Net 2021 annual report. She also presented general highlights from 2021.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance Committee** – Chairman Kern reported the committee will meet with auditors on May 24<sup>th</sup> to review the draft annual audit.

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

**Appeals** – No report.

**Public Relations** – No report.

**Source Water Protection** – No report.

**HR Evaluation** – No report.

**Fluoride (AD HOC)** – Chairman Kern introduced the topic by requesting that Board members limit their comments to procedural comments. After having the opportunity to review the presentation, the Board will have a discussion at the June meeting. Dr. Brennan updated the Board with a presentation on the committee's work. The presentation provided an overview of research on fluoridating public drinking water and a brief history of fluoridation at the Authority. The Board members discussed whether to write an op-ed piece to help make the public aware of the topic being discussed. Executive Director Heiser stated the steps the Authority could have to make as described in the DEP regulations pending the outcome of the discussions. The fluoride presentation slides can be found on the Authority website. Chairman Kern will draft an op-ed article and circulate it to the Board for their input.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**DISTRIBUTION-** Restoration work required as a result of winter main breaks is completed. The annual flushing program is progressing very well. We are trying to expedite the flushing in an effort to have more time to paint and rebuild hydrants.

**PRODUCTION-** The well field designation plan for well field 3 was resubmitted to DEP for review. If approved it will give greater operational flexibility because it will then be considered one source instead of separate wells. Second quarter sampling has been completed. During the second quarter the department sampled for nitrates, SOC's and disinfection by products.

**METER SHOP-** The department is continuing to update meters to the radio read system and will be sending out several hundred letters for maintenance appointments. Private fire hydrant flushing will be completed by the end of the month. They will transition to painting the private hydrants.

**BILLING AND CUSTOMER SERVICE-** The fire service termination form has been updated and is now available online. This document is completed when a request to have fire service terminated is made by the owner.

**ADMINISTRATION-** A plant operator position was posted this week. PennDot will be opening bids next week for Phase III of Atherton Street. The first phase of Harvest Meadows, around well field 6, water line plans have been submitted for review. There have been several proposed projects submitted for review. We have committed to participating in three games at the State College Spikes this year, this is the first time since 2019. The focus of the table display is water conservation. The consumer confidence report will be distributed to the public in early June. We have received baseline drawings for the Kennard Road project and have started to prepare bid documents for the first phase of this project. The first phase will relocate back lot services of the houses located along Atherton Street to the Atherton Street water main. The work is planned for later this year. Last month the Beneficial Reuse Source Water Protection group met. We discussed the failed attempt to have a water shed assessment conducted. The group is moving past that by still looking to conduct some research in the water shed. There was a presentation by JHA

Company, focused on their environmental services division. The group is considering conducting more baseline monitoring of the ground and surface water in the Centre region.

**MAJOR PROJECTS-** The first section of the final phase of Boalsburg Pike is complete. The final section will start after Memorial Day. Kemmerer Road project started this week and will take approximately one month to complete. Staff is meeting next week with the project engineer from GD&F to work on the Calder Way waterline design. Crews are preparing to start service line inspections and verifications in Calder Way. The data will be added to the baseline drawings. The Authority has provided a letter of support to the Borough for their grant application for the Calder Way project. The main office site plan, Variance Hearing is scheduled for early June. At the Nixon-Kocher plant, all of the Kocher wells have been reinstalled and waiting for some electrical equipment at the Kocher well field. Once all the electrical equipment is in, the new pumps and motors can be tested. The solar panel installation is complete.

#### **LIASON'S REPORT**

**State College Borough Staff Liaison** – No report.

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

**Centre Regional Planning Commission-** Mr. Rilk reported they are in the process of reviewing the Meeks Lane Act 537 Special Study. It has been presented to the Land Use Community Infrastructure committee. They did not reach a consensus on how to move forward with the project. The plan talks about oversizing a pump station for future use in Halfmoon Township. They asked to have the plan revised.

**College Township Water Authority Liaison** – Mr. Harris reported that College Township Water Authority does not fluoridate the water.

**Ferguson Township Liaison** – Not present.

**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** – Not present but a written report was included in the Board packet.

**Treasurer** –No report.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION-**

At 5:16 p.m. Chairman Kern called for the suspension of the regular meeting to go into Executive Session to discuss legal matters.

At 5:18 p.m. the Board returned to its regular meeting,

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 5:18 p.m., it was moved by Grottini, seconded by Petersen that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.