

SPRING CREEK WATERSHED COMMISSION

Regular Meeting and Annual Reorganization Agenda



Wednesday, January 15, 2025

6:30 PM to 8:30 pm

224 East Main Street Boalsburg, PA 16827

Zoom Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89272152245?pwd=fUevNZ5Tg0y0frnPbDx2A74fflyG7j.1>

Meeting ID: 892 7215 2245

Passcode: 117650

1) Call to Order: Chair Brachbill will call the meeting to order

Randy explained that the business portion of Regular Meetings will run 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm, and that the educational meeting will be 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm (rather than to have them at separate times). The reason is to efficiently provide C-NET recordings.

2) Roll Call and Introductions: Establish which Municipalities are present and recognize their representatives (Elected/Alternate). Attendees include:

Randy Brachbill – Chairperson/Bellefonte Borough

Bob Igo–Vice-Chair/Harris Township

Dave Roberts – Benner Township

Kevin Abbey – Treasurer/Ferguson Township (Zoom)

Lee Murphy – Secretary/College Township

Elyse Johnson – AmeriCorps Member

Josh Portney – State College Borough

Lisa Strickland – Ferguson Township

Douglas Mason – Potter Township (Zoom)

Ralph Stewart – Bellefonte Borough Manager

Jeff Duerr – Harris Township Planning Commission

3) Review Minutes of Previous Meeting: November 20, 2024 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

<https://www.springcreekwatershedcommission.org/meeting-minutes>

4) Organizational:

a. Election of 2025 Officers:

Randy presided over the election for a new Chair. He was nominated by Ralph Stewart for 2025 Chair, seconded by Bob Igo, and voted to be the Chair for 2025. Similarly, Bob Igo, Kevin Abbey and Lee Murphy were nominated and voted to continue in their 2024 roles, as Vice Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary, respectively.

b. Establishment of Committees for 2025:

The appointment of an At-Large member, and creation of an Educational Committee, were put on hold until a later meeting when Jasmine Fields is present. Existing Atlas and Coordinating Committees will be continued in 2025 under direction of Jon Eaton and Bob Igo, respectively.

5) Public Comment & Written Correspondence:

Jeff Duerr observed that developer-owned-but-abandoned BMPs are a problem in Harris Township. There were no other questions from the public.

6) New Agenda Items:

Potter and Walker have chosen not to appoint members to the SCWC in 2025. All will however continue to be kept informed, and it is hoped they will at some point renew their active participation.

7) Report on Officers and Committees:

a. Vice-Chair Standing Committee Reports – Bob Igo

Bob described the recent and upcoming meetings (see event calendar on our website), and explained that stormwater was expected to be the primary topic for 2025. The Centre County Planning Office will be presenting population growth forecasts to the Authorities Committee on 2/27. He shared that Elyse is helping the Governments Committee finish up the GIS mapping project by the State of the Watershed Event.

b. Finance Reports – Approval of Bills – Kevin Abbey

Kevin provided a review of accounts receivable and payable. The current cash balance in the General Administrative account remains \$48,676, and the Phase III account is \$2,150. All bills are paid. Invoices have been sent to municipal members for 2025. The amount requested is the same as 2024.

c. Atlas Report – Jon Eaton

Jon shared that Elyse made a presentation about Atlas to the middle Susquehanna Riverkeeper Association's Roundtable Webinar Series. There is now a webpage on the Atlas to sign up for the Atlas committee.

d. Educational Report – Doug Mason

The education committee is meeting regularly to plan future presentations and in-field tours. Jasmine Fields is hosting a Walnut Springs Tour with USFWS on 1/20 at 10:00 AM.

e. AmeriCorps – Elyse Johnson & Caitlin Dooley

Elyse shared photos of the 11/25/24 Spring Creek Cleanup in partnership with Trout Unlimited's Redd Count. 180 lbs of trash were collected. She and Caitlin are the outreach coordinators for ClearWater Conservancy's Watershed Cleanup Day on 4/12/25.

8) Old Business:

- a. Short Primer on Stormwater – Lee Murphy
Lee described a short paper he provided to the Executive Committee, intended to be expanded upon to for educational use. Its premise is that the general public is uninformed about the problems caused by urban stormwater. A brief discussion followed.
- b. Motion was approved for the "2025 State of the Watershed" event to take place from 10AM - 2PM on March 27th at Millbrook Marsh's Spring Creek Educational Center.

9) New Business:

10) Relevant water-related news from member Municipalities:

Dave Roberts discussed the PFAS problem in Benner, and work being done by the Senior Environmental Corps. Their newest report is available at www.ccpasec.org

11) Matters of Record: See [SCWC Event](#) Calendar for details and future postings. The next SCWC Regular Meeting is 3/19 from 6:30-8:30 PM

Governments Committee 1/16 from 11-12 PM at College Twp Board Room

Atlas Committee 1/16 from 1-3 PM at Patton Twp Board Room

Authorities Committee 2/27 1-2PM 301 N Spring St Board Room

13) Adjournment – Motion to approve followed by Second

Educational Topic: Introduction by Doug Mason

Presenters: Mike Tylka, Director, Centre Regional Planning Agency; Anne Messner, Senior Transportation Planner, Centre County Metropolitan Planning Organization

Topic: Mike and Anne will be present to give a brief summary of the efforts underway related to the Centre Region Comprehensive Plan and the Centre County Long Range Transportation Plan. As the Spring Creek Watershed Commission has been identified as a stakeholder group, the bulk of the time will be utilized to hear what the Commission thinks on related topics. A [set of Questions](#) has been provided in order to help facilitate the discussion.

About the Centre Region Comprehensive Plan Update:

[Centre Region Comp Plan 2045 Hub](#)

[Centre Region Comprehensive Plan Summary Sheet](#)

About the Centre County Long Range Transportation Plan Update: [Centre County Long Range Transportation Plan 2055 - Centre Region Council of Governments](#)