**Spring Creek Watershed Commission**

**Regular Member Meeting**

**Wednesday July 16, 2025**

**Minutes**

Meeting brought to order 6:30PM at 1481 E. College Avenue, State College, PA College Twp.

1. **Call to Order.** Regular Member Meetings start at 6:30PM and end at 7:30PM followed by an educational presentation from 7:30 to 8:30PM. The Chair relayed recent public outreach accomplishments and the Commission’s focus on watershed stewardship planning with Member Municipalities as part of the Spring Creek Watershed Stewardship Program Phase III.
2. **Roll Call and Introductions.** Present - Randy Brachbill, Bob Igo, Lee Murphy, David Roberts, Elyse Johnson, Jon Eaton, Lisa Strickland, Jasmine Fields, Doug Mason, Kevin Abbey, and Leigh Fehlman.
3. **Public Comment & Written Correspondence.** None.
4. **Review and approval of previous meeting minutes**. Motion called and accepted to approve minutes of the May 21, 2025 Regular Meeting.
5. **New Agenda Items**. None.
6. **Report on Officers and Committees**.
   1. Standing Committee Reports, Bob Igo - Frequent committee meetings are being held to advance the SCWC watershed stewardship goals, including strategic direction, the GIS mapping project, and Conservation Stewardship programs.
   2. Finance Reports, Approval of Bills and 2026 Budget, Kevin Abbey - Update was provided on the ClearWater accounts held for SCWC and contributions received in 2025. No actions on the SCWC’s second account. Kevin gave a review of approved expenditures including for public notices, WIX web site support, and staffing expenses.

A draft budget was approved unanimously. The draft budget outlines the financial needs and current resources of the Commission for 2026. Needs include increased resources for staffing necessary to accomplish the goals of the Watershed Stewardship Plan Phase III.

* 1. Atlas Report, Jon Eaton - A meeting and field trip is scheduled at ClearWater Conservancy to review files and watershed data for digitization. Two watershed report documents are in progress for inclusion in the Atlas.
  2. Education Report, Jasmine Fields - Nothing to Report.
  3. Americorp Report, Elyse Johnson provided a Watershed Coordinator update and summary of Phases I, II, and III. A PFAS in the Watershed presentation is scheduled for COG on July 23. A workshop on native plants at the Student Farm is forthcoming.

7. **Old Business**

A. **SCWC Strategy Meetings** - An overview of Phase III’s watershed stewardship mission, accomplishments, and goals moving forward will be provided to Member Municipalities in September. A letter outlining SCWC needs along with a draft budget for 2026 was recently sent to Member representatives.

* The Commission encourages active participation in SCWC Regular Meetings by all Member representatives.
* *The Commission wishes to acknowledge the support received from Municipal Members and others. This support allows the Commission to carry out the conservation and stewardship goals of the Spring Creek Watershed Stewardship Plan.*

B. **SCWC Stormwater Workgroup** - The Conservation and Stewardship Committee’s stormwater workgroup held meetings in April and May to develop draft plans and consider stormwater projects to augment Municipal activities. The Stormwater Workgroup includes representatives from Fish & Boat, DEP, Susquehanna River Basin Commission, and Municipal Members. The SCWC GIS mapping project welcomes input from Members and municipal engineers on stewardship and stormwater projects within the Spring Creek watershed.

The next Stormwater Workgroup meeting is scheduled for the end of July.

8. **New Business**

1. Motion to approve a State of the Watershed Event in cooperation with Keystone on was carried unanimously.
2. Educational Signage Projects - A grant was received to finance a public education project to place informative signs at important and popular watershed sites. The signs describe the site’s significance and connect the public with Atlas resources. Educational signage has been placed at the Sunny Side Kayak Park and plans are underway at additional sites.

9. **Relevant Water Related News from Member Municipalities** - Benner Township reported that three new Board Members were appointed to the Benner Township Water Authority by the Supervisors following the resignation of three former members. Benner Supervisor are reviewing the possibility of an Ordinance proposal to terminate the Benner Township Water Authority.

10.  **Education Topic** - Leigh Fehlman, Watershed Specialist, Centre County Conservation District provided a report on Centre County CAP: Project Updates and the 2025-2026 Subaward Program. The Chesapeake Bay 2025 targets for nutrient and sediments reduction from Pennsylvania have not all been met with only 40% of targeted reduction for nitrates. Grant funding is available through the CAP program for stream cleanup projects. Leigh Fehlman is available to help guide cleanup project applicants through the grant process. A conservation landscaping project at Calvary Church is a case study demonstrating an effective watershed outreach and enhancement project. Involvement is encouraged to help identify, facilitate, and receive grant funding for watershed cleanup projects. CAP Subaward Grant applications will be accepted in March 2026.

11. **Matters of Record**

A. See Postings on SCWC Event Calendar

B. Next Regular Member Meeting September 17, 6:30 to 8:30PM Location TBD

C. Governments Committee Meeting July 17, 11AM to 12PM College Twp Board Room

D. Atlas Project Meeting July 17, 1 to 3PM ClearWater Conservancy

E. Conservation and Stewardship Meeting July 29, 3 to 4:30PM Willowbank Bldg.

F. Atlas Project Meeting August 21, 1 to 3PM Patton Twp. Board Room

G. Authorities Meeting August 28, 1:30 to 2:30PM at 301N. Spring Street Small Conf. Room

12.  **Adjournment**. Moved and Carried 8:30PM