

**Spring Creek Watershed Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
May 17, 2023 at 7:00 PM  
Hybrid Meeting: Zoom and in-person at  
Bellefonte Borough Municipal Building  
— DRAFT MINUTES —**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dustin Best called the meeting to order at 7:00pm on Wednesday, May 17, 2023.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

**VOTING MEMBERS:**

Dustin Best - Chair (in person) College Township  
Rany Brachbill - Vice Chair (in person) - Bellefonte Borough  
Jim Lanning - Secretary (in person) - Benner Township Alt  
Kevin Abbey - Treasurer (zoom) - Ferguson Township Alt  
Jasmine Field (in person) - State College Borough Alt  
Art Gover (zoom) - Potter Township Alt  
Don Franson (zoom) - Walker Township Alt  
Doug Mason (zoom) - Patton Township Alt  
Bob Igo (zoom) - Harris Township Alt

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Izen Lingenfelter (in person) - Communication Coordinator SCWC  
Robert Carline (zoom) - Atlas Project  
Corey Gracie-Griffin (zoom) - Ferguson Township  
Jon Eaton (zoom)  
Lee Murphy (in person)  
Tim Gleason (in person) Educational Presenter  
Caitlin Teti (in person) Educational Presenter  
Joanne Tosti-Vasey (in person)

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Lee Murphy - In 2020, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation sued EPA over Pennsylvania's clean up plan which they thought was inadequate. Recently there has been a draft consent agreement between CBF and EPA and comments can be offered until May 22nd. Comments can be viewed at the following link:  
<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/04/21/2023-08510/proposed-settlement-agreement-clean-water-act-and-administrative-procedure-act-claims>

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to accept the March 2023 meeting minutes by Randy Brachbill, second by Jim Lanning. All in favor. Passed unanimously.

**NEW AGENDA ITEMS**

No additional agenda items at this time.

**EDUCATIONAL TOPIC**

Introduction by Doug Mason, Education Committee  
Presenter: Tim Gleason and Caitlin Teti  
Topic: Lessons from Educational, Hands-On Water Quality Activities in the Spring Creek Watershed

## REPORT OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

### A) Executive Committee: Dustin Best: Chair

View the report by clicking the following link:

■ Executive Report\_SCWC\_MAY2023.docx.pdf

### B) Officer reports:

Vice Chair: Randy Brachbill - Recapped the meetings that he was in attendance at which included the March 7th and April 24th meeting with Dustin along with the Atlas Project meeting on April 20th and the Phase III Authority Committee Meeting on May 11th.

Secretary: Jim Lanning - Working on funding.

Treasurer: Kevin Abbey - Will provide a financial report later in the meeting.

Member at Large: Jasmine Fields - Nothing to report at this time.

### C) Phase 3 Coordinating Committee: Bob Igo

Governments Committee - Kent Baker is in the process of getting a meeting set up with Erin at HRG to discuss their interactive map.

Authorities Committee - discuss the challenges in Benner Township and had a discussion on the impacts of the watershed by population by tourism and potential changes in climate. Ray from Centre County Planning shared some mapping that outlines authorities.

Conservation Stewardship Committee and discussed millbrook marsh and how the sewer line that is going through that area

In the process of bringing all the chairs of the committees together to discuss current progress and future planning.

Discussed information about infrastructure grants available from National League of Cities

### D) Atlas: Bob Carline

Published an article in April on Biking in Central PA on the Rails to Trails. This brought the total articles published to 56. We have two articles in production and should be published very soon. Had an anonymous donor pledge \$10,000 towards the interactive map project for Atlas and plan to schedule out an RFP for the project soon. Actively looking for new members to join the Atlas Committee. Currently have 8 active members Izen presented numbers of visits from the Atlas website and site visits.

Next meeting is on June 15th at 1pm at Patton Township Library.

## OLD BUSINESS

No old business to report.

## NEW BUSINESS

### A) Budget activities and timeline

Dustin Best reviewed the timeline of the budget so member municipalities can share their inputs.

Joanne Tosti-Vasey suggested looking at the IRB Grants to see how they may fit into possible funding for the SCWC.

## B) Municipal contributions

Kevin Abbey gave an update on past (late) member contributions, which ones have paid and which ones still owe.

Discussion took place on how to proceed with notifying member municipalities on amounts that are still due.

Was asked from each member municipality if we should continue to invest time into getting past contribution payments. Was agreed to continue.

## FINANCIALS

Presented by Kevin Abbey - Treasurer

View the report by clicking the following link:

 [SCWC Treasurer's Report\\_5.9.23.docx.pdf](#)

## APPROVAL OF BILLS

No bills for approval at this time

## ONCE AROUND THE WATERSHED

Potter Township: Nothing to report

State College: Nothing to report

Walker Township: Noticed an increase in solar farms being developed in the area

Harris Township: Nothing to report

Patton Township: Nothing to report

Ferguson Township: Nothing to report

College Township: Nothing to report

Benner Township: SCWC was asked to participate in a State Water Plan. Need to reestablish the water due to high nitrate levels and PSAF issues.

## MATTERS OF RECORD

Kevin noted the success of watershed clean up day with over 500 volunteers and cleaned up over 6 million pounds of trash since 1997

Remaining meetings for 2023:

July 19, 2023

September 20, 2023

November 15, 2023

## ADJOURNMENT

Rany Brachbill made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Dustin Best .  
Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42pm on Wednesday, May 17, 2023.

---

The May 17, 2023 SCWC is sponsored for airing on C-NET by the Centre County Government. It will air on CGTV (Xfinity Channel 7) at the following times:

Tuesday, May 30 - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 1 - 9:00 a.m.

Friday, June 2 - 6:00 a.m.

Saturday, June 3 - 12:00 a.m. & 12:00 p.m.

As always, it will also be available to watch online within 72 hours at [www.cnet1.org](http://www.cnet1.org).