

**Spring Creek Watershed Commission
Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2021 at 7:00 PM via Zoom
--- DRAFT MINUTE ---**

CALL TO ORDER

Joanne Tosti-Vasey called the meeting to order at 7:03pm on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 via Zoom

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

VOTING MEMBERS:

Joanne Tosti-Vasey - Bellefonte Borough (Chair)
Paul Takac - College Township (Vice Chair)
Jim Lanning - Benner Township (Secretary)
Donald Franson - Walker Township
Douglas Mason - Patton Township
Janet Engeman - State College Borough
Robert L Igo - Harris Township
Pam Steckler - Ferguson Township

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Izen Lingenfelter - Communication Coordinator
Caitlin Teti
Lara Fowler - Penn State & Guest Speaker
David Roberts
Bob Carline - Atlas Project
Ron Porter - ferguson twp
Jasmine Fields - State College Borough
Bill Sharp - College Township Alt
Jon Eaton - Bellefonte Alt

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to accept May 2021 minutes by Doug Mason, Second by Pam Steckler. Passed unanimously

Motion to accept July 2021 minutes by Pam Steckler, Second by Paul Takac. Passed unanimously

CITIZEN COMMENTS

No comments at this time

EDUCATIONAL TOPIC

Title: "Understanding and Stewarding Water Quality, a Legal Perspective"
Speaker: Lara Fowler, PSU Law School (lbf10@psu.edu)

Funding Source Document -

<https://water4ag.psu.edu/files/2021/07/Fowler-Webinar-Brief-Final.pdf>

OLD BUSINESS

One Water Report:

Powerpoint Presentation Status - Paul Takac

Link to presentation -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oh1pXG75kQg>

Paul stated that we need 7 of the 12 municipalities to move forward. Currently have 6 approvals. Halfmoon Twp, Harris Twp, College Twp, Patton Twp, Ferguson Twp, and Walker Twp. On the agenda for October 18th for State College Borough.

Request for response to letter from Bellefonte Water Authority re One Water Plan Resolution

Paul Takac read from a letter that was received from Bellefonte Borough in regards to the One Water Plan.

There is skepticism related to the Commissions' true intentions now and in future phases. The Bellefonte Borough Authority is opposed to any additional entities having a say, legal standing or authority over any decisions related to who gets water, how much and at what cost. Skepticism was heightened following the heavily politicized potential water sales in Spring Township to the Nestle company that took place prior to the "One Water Plan" idea.

In an effort to reduce skepticism, the Bellefonte Borough Authority is requesting that the Commission and all participating municipalities approve a resolution that clearly states "the Commission in no way now or in the future, is intending to have any legal standing or authority in any Centre County water system's operations, contract sales, consumptive uses, daily withdrawals, ect. The Commission is only a planning organization now and in the future"

Short discussion took place in regards to this letter.

Jim Lanning made a motion to have Paul Takac and Bill Sharp develop a response based on the conversation discussed, second by Doug Mason. Passed unanimously.

Caitlin Teti Master's Project Plan:

Caitlin gave an update on her masters degree project in regards to the One Water Plan. Created a toolkit for SCWC to do a stakeholder analysis survey

Planning on presenting the full presentation at the November meeting.

Title: Moving the "One Water Plan" Forward: Collecting Vital Data through a Stakeholder Analysis for the Spring Creek Watershed Commission's Integrated Watershed Management Plan

Atlas Project: Bob Carline

Currently working on 'Art in the Watershed' and planning to have that up and active very soon.

Award Proposal from the Atlas Workgroup is still in the information stage. Should have a proposal by the next meeting.

Education Committee:

Educational Topics for 2021

November 17 – Clearwater Conservancy – Riparian Buffers of Clearwater Conservancy

New Committee for 2022

Doug Mason - Chair

Jasmine Fields

Terry Melton

SCWC Facebook Page:

Izen Lingenfelter gave a brief update on the status of the Facebook page and reminded people in attendance to have their townships like and follow the page.

Microplastic Pollution in the Spring Creek Watershed:

Presentation by Jasmine Fields on possible educational solutions - tabled to July

Invoicing Municipalities for memberships in 2022:

Short discussion took place on the population numbers and which numbers to use for 2022 billing.

Paul Takac made the motion to invoice municipalities using the 2020 census if available and the 2010 census if not, second by Rober Igo. Passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

PFAS contamination of Spring Creek and Bald Eagle Creek

Dave Roberts gave a brief presentation on PFAS and will be doing a follow up presentation at the January 2022 meeting.

FINANCIALS

Presented by Bill Sharp

Memberships received for 2021: Bellefonte Borough, State College Borough, Benner Township, Halfmoon Township, Patton Township, Potter Township, Spring Township

June 2021

| | DEBIT | CREDIT | BALANCE |
|--------------|---------|--------|-------------|
| PROJECT FUND | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$2,150.63 |
| GENERAL FUND | \$1,900 | \$0.00 | \$25,989.64 |

Note: the debit is a docketed estimate of expenses and is pending final approval.

July 2021

| | DEBIT | CREDIT | BALANCE |
|--------------|--------|---------|-------------|
| PROJECT FUND | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$2,150.63 |
| GENERAL FUND | \$0.00 | \$25.00 | \$26,014.64 |

August 2021

| | DEBIT | CREDIT | BALANCE |
|--------------|--------|---------|-------------|
| PROJECT FUND | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$2,150.63 |
| GENERAL FUND | \$0.00 | \$25.00 | \$26,014.64 |

ONCE AROUND THE WATERSHED

Pam Steckler - Ferguson Twp - discussed their stormwater mgt utility fee

Paul Takac - College Township - no update

Bill sharp - utility work and spring creek park plan

Jim Lanning - Benner Township Alt - received letter from sierra club

Jon Eaton - nice event under the light

Joanne Tosti-Vasey - Bellefonte Borough - Gamble Mill is now open

Robert L Igo - Harris Township - no report
Janet Engeman - State College Borough - just some street flooding - looking for volunteers to work on the water garden
David robert - Crickfest in Coburn this Sunday

ADJOURNMENT

Paul Takac made a motion to adjourn, second by Janet Engeman.
Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:32 pm

Remaining Meetings for 2021 held via zoom

November 17, 2021

The September 15 Spring Creek Watershed Commission Meeting is being sponsored by State College and will appear on cnet1.org and air on CGTV (cable channel 7):

Monday, September 20 - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 23 - 1:00 a.m & 2:00 p.m.

Monday, September 27 - 9:00 a.m.