

**Benner Township Supervisors**  
**August 18, 2003**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Benner Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by the Vice Chairman, John Elnitski, Jr. with member Richard Lahr present. Mr. Breon was absent. Also in attendance were Howard Grove, Warren Miller, Doug Weikel, Brian Book, Jim Swartzell, Lt. Watson; Pennsylvania State Police, Renee Swancer, Tom Eby and Dave Swisher.

Executive Session Notice: It was noted that the Board held an executive session on August 4, 2003, from 8:30 to 9:10 to discuss litigation issues. All three board members were present.

**PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

Howard Grove: Mr. Grove was present to discuss the possibility of a roadway entrance off of Seibert Road on to his property that he would like to sell for a housing development. Three possible alternatives were gone over with the Board. The Board noted that out of the three alternatives provided to them, the Board would prefer the three way stop.

537 Plan: Mr. Book, Mr. Swisher, and Mr. Miller were present to review with the Board the proposed 537 Plan. Mr. Book indicated no comments were received from the County Planning Office or the public. It was stated that the PNDI and the PMHC checks both came back without findings. Discussion was held concerning the Sewage Management District regulations and how they were worded. Mr. Book noted that the pumping is to be done at five-year intervals and inspections of the sewage fields are to be conducted every three years. Much discussion was held concerning this proposed ordinance. Mr. Book noted that he did not believe that DEP would allow for the time frames to be extended anymore than what is currently stated in the ordinance. The fee schedule has yet to be determined, but will need to be prior to the ordinance being advertised for adoption. Mr. Lahr moved for adoption of Resolution 03-5 approving the Township Act 537 Plan. Mr. Elnitski seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Lahr – yes                      Mr. Elnitski – yes                      Mr. Breon – absent

Lt. Watson/Rockview State Police: Lt. Watson was present to review with the Board the incident reports for 2002 and January thru July of 2003. It

was noted that most of the serious offences that occurred in the township took place at the Rockview State Correctional Facility. Lt. Watson noted further that incidents in 2003 will probably surpass 2002's incident numbers. The report indicated that there have been 414 incidents for the first seven months in 2003 compared to a total of 571 for 2002.

Tom Eby/Benner Township Water Authority: Mr. Eby was present to bring the Board up to date on the meetings that the Authority has had with representatives of Bellefonte Borough concerning water service in the Township. Mr. Eby noted that Bellefonte is talking about purchasing water from College Township then selling it to the prison until such time as DEP will allow them to once again use their own water supply from the "Big Spring". Bellefonte has indicated that they are willing to honor the agreement that Benner Township has with College Township as long as the water is coming from the College Township water source. Once the water starts coming from the "Big Spring" they will consider the agreement null and void. Mr. Eby noted that he will keep the Board updated as discussions continue.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of August 4, 2003, were presented to the Board for their review and comments. Mr. Lahr moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Elnitski seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Lahr – yes                      Mr. Elnitski – yes                      Mr. Breon – absent

**BILLS**

The bills of August 18, 2003, were presented to the Board for their review and approval. Mr. Lahr moved to approve the bills as presented. Mr. Elnitski seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Lahr – yes                      Mr. Elnitski – yes                      Mr. Breon – absent

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Mr. Weikel was present to update the Board on the projects that he has been reviewing on the Township's behalf.

**ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT**

Mrs. Swancer presented the Board with a copy of her written report. It was noted that the Thomas' have filed an application to the Zoning Hearing Board for their pet crematorium.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Spring Township Agreement/Boundary Change: This item continues to be tabled.

Patton Township/Benner Township Boundary: This item continues to be tabled.

Beezer Hill Road Closure: This item continues to be tabled.

Zoning Amendment Request from Barbush Family Partnership: This item is tabled pending the Planning Commission's review and recommendation.

Worker's Compensation Bill from Spring Township: Mr. Elnitski noted that he has spoken with Spring Township and told them that we will need more detailed information as to the number of calls that were made to the Rockview State Correctional Facility.

Township Pension Plan: This item is tabled until more information can be obtained.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Tomco Sewage Planning Module: It was noted that this single lot subdivision requires a planning module to be filed with DEP. Ralph Houck and the Planning Commission have reviewed and signed the module. Mr. Lahr moved to approve the Tomco Sewage Planning Module. Mr. Elnitski seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Lahr – yes                      Mr. Elnitski – yes                      Mr. Breon – absent

2004 County Liquid Fuel Aid: Discussion was held concerning possible projects that the Township could apply for County Aid funding. The Board asked that Mr. Bernhard be consulted to see what his recommendations are.

Penn State Ashes: The Township is in receipt of a letter from Penn State offering free bottom ash from its coal-fired operations that can be used on roadways. A copy of the ash analysis was included. Mr. Lahr moved to sign the authorization form to receive the ashes on an on needed basis with the

understanding that they will only be used on roadways. Mr. Elnitski seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Lahr – yes

Mr. Elnitski – yes

Mr. Breon – absent

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

1. County Conservation District report – Dr. Clair
2. County Planning Commission Letters
  - a. Tomco Subdivision
  - b. Comprehensive Plan Monthly update
3. HRG Letters
  - a. Centre County Prison Facility – Final Plan
  - b. Centre Co. Mutual Fire Ins. Company – Land Development Plan
4. Letter from Penn Dot Re: application for an environmental protection General Permit
5. SBWJA Minutes of July 28, 2003
6. Workshop Notices – ABC's of Land Use Management & MPC made easy

### **NOTES**

Mr. Elnitski noted that the berm has washed away, during recent storms, along Seibert Road in certain sections and is in need of repair.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned the time being 9:55 p.m.

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Sharon Royer, Sec.