

BERN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting of Bern Township Municipal Authority

October 22nd, 2025

ATTENDEES: Jay Field, Treasurer; Fred Gurman, Chairman; Irene Reed, Secretary; Danielle Pappas, Asst. Secretary; Solicitor, Daniel Becker, Kozloff Stoudt; Kevin Conrad, Engineer, SSM Group

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Gurman, Chairman at 11:00 AM.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS: A motion was made to amend the agenda to discuss paying off the sewer loan balance.

Ms. Reed made a motion to amend the agenda to consider paying off the sewer loan balance. Seconded by Mr. Field. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 24TH, 2025: Ms. Reed made a motion to approve the monthly minutes of the September 24th, 2025 Meeting. Seconded by Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: None.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Field presented the water bill list for October in the amount of \$51,943.26 consisting of \$37,540.00 to WBWA; \$1,854.57 to Empire Services to fill sinkhole near the hospital; and \$8,443.58 to RAWA.

Mr. Field made a motion to pay the October water bills as presented. Seconded by Ms. Reed. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

Mr. Field presented the sewer bill list for October in the amount of \$54,172.36 consisting of \$3,244.95 to GenServe for quoted repairs to PS's 1-4; \$1,645.70 to SSM, of which \$132.50 will be reimbursed by developers; and \$42,539.89 to the City of Reading for the quarterly T&T.

Mr. Field made a motion to pay the October sewer bills as presented. Seconded by Ms. Reed. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

Consider Paying Off Sewer Loan Balance – Mr. Field reported that interest rates will be coming down in November and recommended that BTMA pay off the remaining sewer loan balance of \$88,562.75 on November 1st, 2025.

Mr. Field made a motion to pay off the remaining sewer loan balance on November 1st, 2025, in the amount of \$88,562.75. Seconded by Ms. Reed. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: None.

PROJECT COMMITTEE: RRAA – Tenant Advisory Committee Report – None.

PERSONNEL: None

ENGINEER: Pump Stations Update – Axiom should be installing the baskets by the end of November. Mr. Scholl is still trying to get a quote for the cost of renting from Fisher's Rental a truck with a crane to lift the pump out to unblock.

C&B Development Project – None.

Penske District Services Facility (Hartman South) – The hospital has completed all work that BTMA has requested. It was noted by SSM that grease in the wet well will need to be pumped out on a regular basis. A final cleaning was recommended to be performed before BTMA takes dedication.

Penske Truck & Collision Repair Center – None.

Reitnouer Property on Stinson – None.

Bernville Business Center – None.

High Billed Usage vs. Usage Billed – No word was received from the leak detector, Dave Bonkovitch as of the meeting.

Stinson Dr. depressed manhole – SSM is in the process of preparing plans and specification for this project to include digging up the road, repair and reinforcement of the sags and paving the road in the spring. SSM plans to advertise the project in November, open bids and awarding the project in December. Repairs will begin in January, 2026. SSM would like authorization to advertise the Stinson manhole repair project.

Ms. Reed made a motion to authorize SSM to advertise for the Stinson Drive manhole project. Seconded by Mr. Field. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

Berks Homes Connection to Sewer and Water in West Shore – The laterals at 2452 Ventnor Ave. for sewer are over 280 feet long. SSM had the developer add notes that the owner would be responsible for the grinder pump, as well as the ownership, and maintenance of the service lines from the home to connection point at the system.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: LBA Agreement – LBA has BTMA's final agreement. No comments from LBA have been received as of the meeting.

Penske District Services Facility (Hartman South) – None.

RRAA – A previous draft of an MOU agreement was found but never executed. This agreement will be reviewed and edited before a final agreement is presented.

Resolution to Adopt the Chemical Limitations at the LBA Plant – A resolution was presented.

Ms. Reed made a motion was made to approve the resolution to adopt the chemical limits at the LBA plant. Seconded by Mr. Field. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Faller Lane Blow Off Valve Repair – A quote for \$1735.00 for repairs was received from Cat Iron and needs to be approved.

Ms. Reed made a motion to pay \$1735.00 to Cat Iron for the quoted Faller Lane blow off valve. Seconded by Ms. Pappas. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

Acct 11480 – Customer requested a reversal of \$7.42 late fee as she realized all her mail was forwarded to her spouse even though she did not change her address and he did not give her the bill. BTMA changed the bill to her name only and her account is now paid up to date.

Ms. Reed made a motion to reverse the \$7.42 late fee for acct 11480. Seconded by Ms. Pappas. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

Acct 41246 Horizon Dance – Horizon Dance is requesting a reversal of the \$19.06 late fee. She moved in July 1st, 2025, but only found on September 30th that the landlord was not paying their water or sewer bill. Customer signed up for ACH to ensure payments are not late again.

Ms. Reed made a motion to reverse the \$19.06 late fee for acct 41246. Seconded by Ms. Pappas. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

JG Environmental Proposal – Approval is needed for the proposal that was sent to the board for the yearly cleaning of all 8 pump stations of debris for a total of \$8,140.00.

Mr. Gurman made a motion to pay \$8,140.00 to JG Environmental for the yearly cleaning of all 8 pump stations. Seconded by Ms. Reed. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

Diversified Technology – New updates and options for online bill pay by Diversified Technology, our current billing system, were presented to the board. Questions about security, payment types and prices were discussed and BTMA staff will continue to learn more and present further details at the next meeting.

Ms. Reed made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:44 PM. Seconded by Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Irene Reed, Secretary