BERN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting of Bern Township Municipal Authority
September 23rd, 2026

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

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Gurman, Chairman at 11:02 AM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

MINUTES OF AUGUST 26TH, 2026: *Ms. Reed made a motion to approve the monthly minutes of the August 26th, 2026 Meeting.* Seconded by Ms. Heffner. Motion Carried.

Approve adjustment to July meeting minutes to amend "Minutes of June 22nd to June 24th" meeting date.

Ms. Heffner made a motion to approve the date adjustment to the July meeting minutes. Seconded by Ms. Reed. Motion Carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: None.

TREASURER'S REPORT*:* Mr. Field presented the water bill list for September in the amount of $53,244.63 consisting of $9,588.05 to RAWA; and $38,680.80 to WBWA.

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

Mr. Field presented the sewer bill list for September in the amount of $37,400.20 consisting of $9,291.97 to SSM of which $779.62 will be reimbursed by developers; $5,127.59 to GenServe for PS#7 replacement of coolant temp high shutdown sensor and service call; $11,243.09 to Berks County for the quarterly T&T; and $4,218.00 to LBA for the 2025 WWTP audit underpayment.

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

FINANCE COMMITTEE: A water CD with Mid Penn yielded $12,523.80 in interest and Mr. Field renewed with Mid Penn for 12 months at 4% for $245,000.

A sewer CD with Tompkins yielded $10,541.08 in interest and was renewed for 12 months at 4% for $250,000.

The next CD is due on December 3rd.

PROJECT COMMITTEE: RRAA – Bi-Monthly Meeting – None.

PERSONNEL: None.

ENGINEER: Penske District Services Facility (Hartman South) – Work continues on this development with the connection to the sewer main.

Penske Truck & Collison Repair Center – Work continues with the infrastructure & the extension of the water line.

Bernville Business Center – None.

Miller Agreement for water services – The agreement was signed by Miller and approved by the BTMA Board at a prior meeting.

Rate Study for Sewer Customers – Information is being gathered to hopefully present next month.

Holy Trinity Church – Mr. Conrad talked to the Bishop that the Agreement between BTMA and the Church stipulated that BTMA would install the wye for the lateral to the main but the connection would be the responsibility of the Church when the new church is built. The church would also not be charged for the EDU and would be a customer of the City of Reading. Any future connection would be a lengthy process as they will need a Planning Module approved by DEP and the City would need to sign off on the Module as well.

PS #9 Water Quality Mgmt. Permit Needed – The DEP does not have a record of a permit application when the pump station was originally installed at the Hospital. A copy of the check to the DEP for the application was found but the DEP does not have a record of ever receiving it or cashing the check. The application fee will be $2,500 in addition to SSM's fees to prepare the application.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: RRAA – None.

Penn State Health – A meeting to continue to discuss the BTMA billing rates was held. Further discussion will continue once the rate study is completed.

OLD BUSINESS: BTMA Phone Services – Discussion ensued regarding the quotes received from Comcast and Frontier to fix the phone issues BTMA has been experiencing the last few weeks. The office staff preferred having a cell phone to use instead of a landline and do away with the fax number. The current BTMA phone number can be transferred to the cell phone.

Ms. Heffner made a motion to accept the Comcast phone and internet service, keeping the same phone number, and approve the office staff to purchase a cell phone under $200.00. Seconded by Ms. Reed. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Ms. Heffner, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed. Motion Carried.

N**EW BUSINESS:** Misco Acct. #71 – SSM discovered during the sewer rate study that Misco has been overbilled by $5.67 for 132 months since October 1, 2014 for a total of $748.44. The extra charge was somehow added to an "Extra Bill" field on the service screen on 10/1/14 even though the last rate increase was 4/1/12.

Ms. Reed made a motion to reimburse Misco $748.44 for the billing error from 2014. Seconded by Ms. Heffner. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Heffner, Ms. Reed. Motion Carried

Republic Services Quote – This quote is for pumping out the PS's. It was decided that BTMA would like Miller to continue scheduling the pump outs as it is already in the approved Miller Sewer Agreement.

Construction Meter Quote – Both Penske construction projects need a fire hydrant construction meter. BTMA only has one and RAWA and WBWA do not have one to borrow. A quote was received for the purchase of a second hydrant construction meter.

Ms. Reed made a motion to purchase a hydrant construction meter up to $2300.00 if the construction company did not purchase one. Seconded by Ms. Heffner. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Ms. Heffner, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed. Motion Carried.

Diversified Technology Quote – LBA's billing program changed, causing BTMA to double the amount of time needed to enter the consumption reads for billing. Diversified needs to develop a program to import LBA's report that is compatible to BTMA's billing program. A quote was received for $675.00 to design the report.

Ms. Reed made a motion to approve the quote of $675.00 for Diversified to develop a program to import LBA's report to BTMA's billing system. Seconded by Ms. Heffner. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Ms. Heffner, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed. Motion Carried.

BCW&SA Update of 9-17-26 Meeting – Mr. Gurman attended the meeting and there was a long discussion to break away from Albright's CELG and look at other colleges in the area to work with. The County Commissioners recommended trying to work it out with Albright and gave the Association 30 days from the 9/17 meeting to discuss their concerns with Albright and to find a solution that works with both parties.

Ms. Reed made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:45 PM. Seconded by Ms. Heffner. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Irene Reed, Secretary