

Bridgeton-Nockamixon-Tinicum Groundwater Management Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday – January 14, 2025

Call to Order at 7:30 PM via Zoom

In Attendance: Tom Eckhoff, Dr. Stephen Donovan, Dr. Riley Murphy, Karl Young, Dr. Carrie Manfrino, Bill Ballantine, Mary Lennon, Todd Stone, Dr. Art Baehr

The next BNTGMC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 11, 2025 @ 7:30 PM via Zoom.

1. Approval of the December 10, 2024, meeting minutes – approved
 - Motion to approve: Tom Eckhoff – Chair
 - Seconded by: Dr. Riley Murphy - Secretary
2. Treasurer’s Report: \$5,386.55 – no outstanding invoices. Karl will reconcile 2024 with Teri Lewis, Nockamixon Township Manager
3. Reorganization – Election of Officers for 2025
 - Chair – Tom Eckhoff
 - Vice-Chair – Dr. Stephen Donovan
 - Treasurer – Karl Young
 - Secretary – Dr. Riley Murphy
4. Public Comment - none
5. Old Business:
 - Groundwater Ordinance review by Tinicum & Bridgeton townships. This is a committee focus for 2025. Tinicum Twp request to be put on the Planning Commission work session agenda for February 11,

2025. Karl Young to call Gard Holby, Bridgeton Township Supervisors, to put groundwater ordinance on their agenda.

- As an educational outreach, a water quality summary will be presented to the township supervisors, along with the BNTGMC 2024 Annual Report, to emphasize the importance of well water testing. A formal outreach was sent to the townships. This is a 2025 objective.

6. Continuous Monitoring Network (CMN):

- Dr. Donovan continues to monitor the new logger on Rt. 412 adjacent to PHS. This will act as a surrogate for the PHS well. Stephen updated the data on 1/14/2025 and the website.
- New logger “birdhouse” assistance has been posted on the township websites. Bill Ballantine will contact some local contractors for assistance.
- Mary Lennon has not downloaded the Fall data – will wait for warmer weather.
- Discussion on whether to replace the (new) Cross Creek logger with the old-style logger due to excessive “noise” at low well levels. It was decided to leave the new logger in and cull the noise.
- Possible new well on Perry Auger Road for monitoring. Tom Eckhoff
- Will follow up with owner. See if there is an AC outlet within 500 ft.

7. Static Water Level Network (SWL):

Stephen Donovan continued to monitor the well, on Brownstone Road. He is taking a reading every few days to get a real-time reading during our current drought spell. Recent precipitation has improved the situation and the most recent ping indicates the well is in recovery.

8. Township Activities:

- Nockamixon:

- Ottsville TCE plume: Additional well samplings, by PaDEP, continue to detect TCE in homeowner's wells. Discussion on non-residential wells and how they are affected.
- Tinicum:
 - Continue focusing on the groundwater withdrawal ordinance.
 - Committee members contacted to renew representation for the Township. Dr. Riley Murphy and Dr. Carrie Manfrino were approved to continue to represent the township.
- Bridgeton:
 - Boarhead Farm: No updates

9. Ancillary Activities:

- Stream monitoring – Mary has received the return of the conductivity unit from Global Water. The unit will be put in storage.
- ECO-Bucks – Continues to support the BNTGMC in educational outreach activities and hardware (logger) deployment. ECO-Bucks received a new grant to continue its activities.
- Dr. Art Baehr is reviewing the commercial/transient Public Water Supply (PWS) groundwater data.
- Dr. Art Baehr's review of the Tinicum Watershed recharge data indicates 8 inches in 2024, less than the 10 inches in the previous year(s).

10. New Business:

- Dr. Baehr continues to update the Local Hydrologic Status (formerly Local Drought Monitor) on the website. The status has been updated on January 4, 2025, and indicators (except Groundwater) are NORMAL.

- 2024 Annual Report completed and submitted to townships. Dr. Carrie Manfrino has volunteered to present to Tinicum Township Supervisors.

11. Member Concerns:

- PA Groundwater Symposium is May 7, 2025. Tom Eckhoff will submit an abstract for the conference.
- The rainfall data in 2024 was reviewed. There is an 8-10 inch deficit and this has contributed to a late GW recovery in the wells being monitored.

The meeting ended at 8:51 PM