

Springtown Water Authority

Meeting Minutes July 6, 2026

Call to Order: The chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Members present were Donald Kucher-Chair, Raymond Kade Secretary, Bill Ryker Treasurer and Bill Hershey. Also present were Rich Cernok -System Manager, and Rick Howard Legal Counsel.

Absent Allen Kugler.

Pledge of Allegiance

Don read the minutes from June 2, 2026.

Motion to approve the minutes from June 2, 2026, by Raymond seconded by Don and, approved by the board.

Treasurers Report: Bill Ryker presented the Treasures Report. The report included a year over year comparison of the prior year.

Payment of bills: Bill Ryker presented the line-item bills. The total was \$8381.94.

Bill made a motion to pay the bills Raymond seconded and the motion passed with no objections.

Solicitor Report: Rick reported that the civil lawsuit against the Springtown Water Authority and Richard Cernok would be tried at the District Magistrate in Ottsville on July 14th. The authority insurance carrier will represent the Authority and Rich at the trial.

A court ordered payment was made by a delinquent customer. This payment was part of ongoing litigation.

Consulting Engineer Report: There was no report from the consulting engineer.

System Operators Report: There was and intermittent failure of a chlorine pump at the treatment building. This resulted in a loss of water pressure for many customers. After a lengthy discussion it was decided by the board that the system operator would need to be able to purchase parts in an emergency situation.

There has been a dramatic increase in unpaid bills. Rich and Bill will work together to find out what is causing this increase in unpaid bills and they will try to find a solution to encourage people to pay their bills. Our treasurer is working to make it easier for customers to pay their bills online and to have a direct deposit deduction.

Rich reports that our spare parts inventory is at an all time low and that he will have to replenish the parts that we need to keep the system running.

Rich reports that a customer has constructed a wall that prevents us from replacing a failed meter. Rick will write a letter to the customer informing him that he must give us access to replace the meter.

Business:

~ Raymond Kade made a motion to increase the fire hydrant fee from \$12.50 to \$25.00; Don Kutcher seconded the motion; the motion carried without exception.

Rick will advertise the rate increase in the proper venues.

The treasurer will include the rate increase in the next billing cycle.

~ Raymond Kade made a motion to authorize the operations manager to make purchases not to exceed \$3500 without prior board approval; Don Kutcher seconded the motion; the motion carried without exception.

Adjournment: Raymond made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 PM, Bill Ryker seconded; motion carried without objection.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 03, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,

Board Secretary Raymond Kade