

MEETING MINUTES
SANGAMON VALLEY PUBLIC WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JULY 27TH, 2020
3:30PM

Held via GoToMeeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Buchanan, Bud Parkhill, Meghan Hennesy, Mike Larson, James Ingram, Mike Melton, Michelle Grindley, Kerry Gifford, Lindsey Stroud-Rodts. A Quorum was present.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

GUESTS PRESENT: Kelly Pfeifer

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Hennesy called the meeting to order at 3:35pm.

2. APPROVE AGENDA: Chairman Hennesy asked if everyone had a chance to review the agenda and if there were any recommended changes to the agenda as presented. Stroud asked to add "Approval of Minutes from Emergency Response Committee Meeting held June 29th" to section 4. C. No other changes were recommended.

Motion by Parkhill to approve the agenda with additions, 2nd by Melton. All voting yes, motion carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT: Kelly Pfeifer attended the SVPWD Board meeting but did not have public comment.

4. SECRETARY'S REPORT:

A. Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting held June 22nd, 2020 – Chairman Hennesy asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes and if there were any changes. There were none.

Motion by Melton and 2nd by Buchanan to approve meeting minutes from Regular Meeting held June 22nd, 2020 as presented. All voting yes, motion carries.

B. Approval of Minutes from Closed Meeting held June 22nd, 2020 – Chairman Hennesy asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes and if there were any changes. There were none.

Motion by Melton and 2nd by Hennesy to approve meeting minutes from Closed Meeting held June 22nd, 2020 as presented. All voting yes, motion carries.

C. Approval of Minutes from Emergency Response Committee Meeting held June 29th, 2020 - Chairman Hennesy asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes and if there were any changes. There were none.

Motion by Parkhill and 2nd by Melton to approve meeting minutes from Regular Meeting held June 22nd, 2020 as presented. All voting yes, motion carries.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Approval of Accounts Payable listing for June, July & August 2020 – Gifford reviewed the Income and Expense Report and all A/P listings over \$1,000.

- Altorfer Inc. - \$26,734.88 (New Generator)
- Ameren Illinois - \$6,907.90
- CMS - \$5,505.00
- Donohue & Associates - \$3,951.34
- Express Employment - \$3,010.00
- Farnsworth Group - \$1,000.00
- Illinois EPA - \$175,025.22
- Illinois EPA NDPES - \$2,500.00
- IMCO - \$2,665.82
- Meyer Capel - \$4,398.00
- Midwest Meter - \$1,582.00
- Schulte Supply - \$2,064.00
- Cincinnati Insurance - \$2,146.00
- Twin City Electric - \$3,544.25
- Visa – First Mid - \$1,855.59
- Water Solutions Unlimited - \$3,832.54

Motion to approve Treasure's Report as present for a total of \$268,562.99 by Melton and 2nd by Buchanan. All voting yes, motion carries.

Following approval of the Treasure's report, discussion was held regarding the interest rates of the current IEPA Loans. Parkhill asked Gifford to look into seeing what the cost would be to refinance those. Gifford noted he would check, but felt it may be more expensive to pay to refinance, than to keep the loans at their existing rates.

6. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT: Gifford reviewed the GM Report below.

General Manager/Treasurer Report June 2020.

District Covid-19 Operation Level: The water district current level of operation is at a level 3 which means the virus is considered to be at a dangerous level to the public health.

Treasurer report:

Income: Due to summer time increased water demand June water sales were \$155,124.60 that is an increase of 22k above average month. Total operating revenue for the month was \$164,063.99. **The water district continues not to collect \$3,000/month in penalty and reconnect fees.** Non-Operating revenue continues to be strong for the year at \$103,655.20. The District has issued 24 new housing start permits through July 22nd.

Expenses: Operating expenses through June are 4.8% below budget. Total expenses for the year are \$785,925.24. June equipment purchases were high we paid for the installation of surveillance systems

at the water plant, admin building and route 47 pump station. These securities updates were approved as part of our current budget. Another large purchase was for a submersible pump at the sewer plant. This was a replacement of an existing but aged pump. The monies to purchase this pump came from the depreciation/replacement account not the 2020 operating budget.

Meter Reading: 10 meters were estimated in June and 1,910 customer accounts were billed. The June average water usage per customer were as follows: Homeowners 7,251 gallons, Candlewood 3,254 gallons. Water usage has increased from pools and irrigation systems.

Water Plant and Distribution System:

Water Distribution System: The unaccounted for water loss through June is at 3.6%. The District typical unaccounted for water loss range is between 3% - 6%.

Water Treatment Plant: Tonka Water realigned the Pur-IX softener multiport valve. This realignment of the valve did improve the water softness. Discussion on how Tonka plans to provide continuous and reliable soft water treatment are currently on-going. The water district desires a new multiport valve or a different softening system all together.

Wastewater Treatment Plant and Collection System:

Wastewater Plant: Effluent disinfection to the river for seasonal fecal coliform deactivation is now in operation until October 31. Tree trimming and spraying are the big time consuming jobs this time of the year.

Collection System: We had no sewer back-ups in the month of June. The new generator is up and running at Thornwood lift station.

Subdivision Updates:

Ridge Creek 5th addition: The developer provided the construction bond letter of credit in the amount of \$330,000 and paid the north east trunk line hook on fee in the amount of \$22,210. Feutz Inc. is the contractor doing the infrastructure development. The water district has both required IEPA construction permits.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

A. COVID 19 Updates:

1. Community Discussion/Penalties – Chairman Hennesy reminded everyone that this initial discussion was to perhaps set aside some budgetary dollars for community relief, and have that ready to go. There was also discussion about possibly opening that up to community donations, but more details haven't been discussed. With no other suggestions at this time, Chairman Hennesy asked to keep this on the agenda for next meeting for discussion.

2. Phase 2 – Cautionary Level with Modifications – Gifford noted that we are on Level 3 right now and we have not changed that based on what is going on Nationally with Covid cases. Stroud added that they have included daily temp screens and mandatory biweekly covid testing for levels 2-4, as well as using single drivers in vehicles whenever possible. Chairman Hennesy also noted that we have budgeted this year a new truck purchase, and due to keep staff separated, it may be time to move forward with that purchase. Chairman Hennesy stated that she thought it prudent to bring this back up for discussion by the board. Parkhill stated that he would like to see the District pursue alternate transportation that would serve the

purpose, but not necessarily a new truck. Larson asked about mileage reimbursement and if the employees were willing to use their own vehicle. Gifford stated that it has been looked into and he doesn't prefer that route just because of liability and insurance reasons. Gifford prefers that since we are a growing District, he isn't sure what an alternative vehicle would be that would fit out needs and equipment. Gifford also noted that if we go to a Level 4 and we don't allow them in vehicle together at all, we are going to have to have another vehicle to use. Chairman Hennesy asked Parkhill what his recommendation was for an alternative vehicle. Parkhill suggested an alternative vehicle that he has seen farmers and others use that haul tools and such, and John Deere makes them as well as Kubota. He also noted that we need to make sure it will serve our purpose, but maybe not having to spend \$50,000 on a new truck. Parkhill also recommended looking at smaller pick-ups, but with an adequate sized bed to haul the tools that needs hauled. Parkhill recommended researching it a little further. Chairman Hennesy noted that we should also keep in mind that we are going into fall and winter soon, and that this vehicle is weather proof, and we are limiting ourselves. Gifford also noted that the vehicle we intended to replace with this new truck is the 2010, the oldest vehicle, and it has the heavy lift gate. He noted that it is our equipment repair truck and it is starting to cost us a lot of money. Parkhill agreed that the District needs an all-weather vehicle that has heat and air, but he would like to see some alternative thoughts and ideas to save the District some money. Chairman Hennesy asked if Stroud and Gifford could come to the next meeting with a spreadsheet with pros and cons. Gifford reiterated that this is the most important vehicle we have and it is ten years old, so we could look at a smaller used truck, but with the understanding that if this truck becomes unusable we will still have to replace it. Parkhill explained that he was confused in thinking that we were looking for an additional vehicle and not necessarily one to replace an existing vehicle. Gifford noted that yes, we would have to address that as well, but he cannot lose his biggest truck. He stated that he was going to keep the 2010, because the trade in wasn't worth it, but it will probably only get another year or two at the most because of the problems. Gifford confirmed that he would prefer to stick with the original budget plan and purchase the new truck. Chairman Hennesy stated to put this topic on the agenda for next month with more information from Gifford and Stroud.

3. Wastewater Testing – Chairman Hennesy noted that Patrick and Jason from the Village were kind enough to join us for a meeting with Biobot last week. Our hope was that the Village would see some value in it and maybe be able to contribute to this financially. She also noted that we found out we can do weekly testing. Part of the discussion centered around the fact that they do testing in certain areas and then 10-15 days later that area sees a corresponding spike in positive covid tests, so it is a good way to get ahead of the curve. Biobot was not able to get more information to Patrick prior to this Board meeting so we haven't had a chance to circle back around with them yet. Gifford noted that he is 100% sold on this testing and tool and asset to parents when they have to make decisions. He feels like we should figure out how to do this with or without help. Larson asked what we would do with the test results and note that we are only of value if we share it with folks. Gifford noted that we could share a copy of the reports from Biobot, and said that it is

basically a warning system. Larson asked if we are going to then recommend what the public needs to do. Gifford doesn't think we should be doing that, but provide it to the Village, School, and Township. Chairman Hennesy stated that we would need to have discussion and decided how to flush out the information, but because we haven't had a chance to see if the Village is interested yet, we haven't had that level of discussion yet. Larson asked if we have touched based with the public health department and have they vouched for this type of testing, or have we even talked to them. Gifford noted that this is from his industry, and this has all been brought to our knowledge through the wastewater industry contacts. Chairman Hennesy offered to take the next step and get ahold of the CUPH and see what they would think about us getting this data. Chairman Hennesy asked Gifford to share the Biobot information with the Board Members.

B. Northward Water Expansion Discussion Updates – Chairman Hennesy stated that she doesn't have any updates at this time. They have reached out to Carol Ammons office with some of the questions the District had with respect to the procedures with that or scheduling a meeting with her and Parkhill.

C. 2020 Water & Sewer Ordinance Updates – Gifford noted that we are at the point where the Ordinance updates just need to be quality checked by him and the District Engineer. The District will be getting a new District Engineer soon as the current one, Mr. Pisula, will be retiring due to some medical issues. The Engineer replacing him will be Mr. Tim Cowan who has worked with Mr. Pisula on many projects for the district. Gifford noted that his goal is to be through the quality check by the end of this week so we can put it out for Public review for 60 days.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Proposal to Pay for Covid-19 Wastewater Testing – Gifford noted that if we are going to pay for the testing ourselves, he recommends taking out of our budget that money that was originally set aside to go into the Sewer Project, by \$18,000 and put that into community donations line on the budget and this would not change the bottom line. If the Board would just like to pay for it outright, he would recommend paying for it out of the Capital Projects account that has about \$350,000 right now. He would prefer to have assistance from some of the benefactors contribute to pay for this testing. Either way, he doesn't think there is anything more valuable for the parents. Parkhill asked if the Village might be able to help out with a grant. Gifford confirmed this. Parkhill stated that then we should know more about it after the next meeting with the Village. Melton asked if there are any other water districts doing the testing on covid. Chairman Hennesy stated they are working with around 132 cities right now.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Executive Session was not held.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Grindley, and 2nd by Hennesy to adjourn at 4:30pm. All voting yes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsey Stroud-Rodts
Secretary, Board of Trustees