



Minutes

Regular Meeting

5:00 pm, June 11, 2020

Chairman Charles Hegler called the meeting to order with Commissioner Leonard Bowick, Commissioner George Long, General Manager Adam Hedden, Superintendent James Robinson, and Office Manager Cheryl Daniels present.

Charles Cook had several questions regarding the water rates.

On a Motion by Commissioner George Long, seconded by Leonard Bowick, the Commissioners approved the May 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes, May 2020 Accounts Payable and the April 2020 Financial Statement.

Safety Committee Update:

Safety Training for the month of June will be Plug Safety.

Cheryl Daniels ~ Office Manager:

The office opened the lobby up for customers on June 1, limiting 4 at a time inside. We are back to regular routine as far as late fees, credit card fees and cutting customers off for non-payment. Overall, operations are running smoothly in the office.

James Robinson ~ Superintendent:

JR stated that the Safety training for the month of June will be Plug Safety. Overall, operations are running smoothly.

Glenn Hill ~ Chief Waste Water Operator:

Mr. Hegler presented Glenn's report:

They have started cutting rights-of-way. Jisk, Inc. is reworking the electrical on the bar screen in the amount of \$3325.00. Overall, operations are running smoothly.

Troy Caparro ~ Water Treatment Plant:

Mr. Hegler presented Troy's report:

The Strom Thurmond Reservoir level as of June 11 was 330.43. They have ordered and installed new metering pump for algae control. They have repaired a main break in raw feed. They have updated flushing plans for a more uniform treatment. Overall, operations are running smoothly.

Adam Hedden ~ General Manager:

Covid-19 –

We are continuing to follow guidelines like other businesses in the state.

The main lobby was reopened June 1. We are only allowing 4 customers in the lobby at a time.

Governor McMaster has lifted his order and will be cutting off customers for non-payment this month. We will resume normal penalties for disconnection and late payments.

Online and Payment-by-Phone convenience fees are being paid by customers.

Our Employees are taking the following precautions:

Front Office: The front office personnel are all back onsite. We will continue to clean regularly.

Operations – As much as possible, they are working outside and when practical practicing social distancing. When riding they are to be paired with the same person daily to avoid possibly spreading germs to other employees. Nothing has changed here.

Water Plant and Wastewater Plant – Employees are working normally but using precautions where possible, especially avoiding everyone being in the office around the same time.

PPE – We have ordered several large bottles of hand sanitizer and 3 cases of nitrile gloves.

Water Plant:

Value Engineering – The contractor gave us a base number of \$12,500,000.00. They also provided us a complete list of adders so we can put in items based on additional funding.

Funding – The USDA approved additional grant funding in the amount of \$4,058,000.00. This will allow us to build the water plant, clear well, water tower, and install new water meters.

Water Meters -Water meters will need to be bid again.

Recommendation on Other Bids – Turnipseed has made a recommendation regarding bids for the construction of the water plant and clear well. They also have a recommendation on acceptance of a bid for the construction of the water tower. A vote is needed to approve these and send them to the USDA.

Financing – There are potentially two options regarding financing during construction. The first is a traditional interim loan. The interim loan provides funding for the project until it reaches the total stated loan amount approved by the USDA. Then the USDA makes permanent loans to reimburse the interim lender. At that point, the CPW begins making payments to the USDA. We anticipate this happening around March of next year depending on the construction start date. The rate of the loans will be determined at that time. The rates will not exceed the letter of conditions rate on each loan.

Option two, if approved by the USDA, would be to let the USDA issue the funding up front and not use an interim loan. This could potentially be in September of this year. The upside to this option is we know the current loan rate is 1.4% and when the loans close in September, it should be near that rate. The negative to option two is payments for the loans would start in September or October of this year.

An analysis of these options has been provided.

Wastewater Plant Grant – GMC came back with their estimates and recommendations. They did not recommend using different manufacturers for the aerator motors, gear boxes, etc. They recommended staying with the ones used by the current manufacturer of the plant (Ovivo) to

guarantee performance. They did have some recommendations to help lower the cost of the project. However, even with those, the only way they could get the cost close to the original budget was to ultimately reduce scope. The scope would be to replace 2 original aerators with 2 new aerators with VFD's and replace the manual filter valves with new manual filter valves that could be automated at a later date. The estimated cost for this (including engineering and contingency) would be approximately \$728,000.

I spoke with the RIA about GMC's findings on Tuesday afternoon of this week. They are reviewing the information and will get back to me regarding if or how we move forward.

Wholesale Power: No change on the prepaid gas contract status.

Rate Study: Rate recommendation sheet is attached for review.

Budget: Only minor tweaks made to the budget. The capital plan is provided. We will need a special meeting later this month to vote on the approval of the budget.

No excess equipment was sold in May due to Covid-19.

There being no further business, Mr. Hegler made motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl W. Daniels

Cheryl W. Daniels
Office Manager