

WELLS COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
May 2, 2022

**Board members present:**

Mike Mossburg – absent for start  
Leon Berning  
Jon Oman  
Andy Stoller  
Bruce Stinson

Lewis Brown, RSD Superintendent  
Nate Rumschlag, County Engineer  
Mark Burry, Attorney  
Ryan, Choice One Engineering - absent

**Call to Order**

Bruce called the meeting to order with the pledge and prayer by Andy.

**Attorney Comments**

Bruce turned the meeting over to Mark.

Mark asked the board to open the public hearing. Motion by Leon and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Andy to open the public hearing.  
Motion carried 4-0

Mark gave a copy of the publisher's proof of publication for the record. This will start the 30-day hold period prior to the closing date for the bond.

Mark then presented **Rate Ordinance 2022-03** up for adoption after being introduced and tabled at the last meeting. The rates will hold final at \$95/month with interim rates at \$35/month. Board discussed the total number of customers in phase 2.

No public comments on the rate ordinance. With no public comments Mark asked the board to take a motion to close the public hearing.

Motion to close the public hearing by Leon. Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jon. Motion carried 4-0.

Mark Introduced **Bond Ordinance 2022-02** and the coverage area of the ordinance.

Motion to adopt **Bond Ordinance 2022-02** by Andrew and seconded by Leon. Motion carried 4-0.

Mark Introduced **Rate Ordinance 2022-03** and the schedule of payments and when full rates would fall. Mark made a point that the full rates are scheduled to start in May of 2023 to avoid the concerns from the Phase 1 rate ordinance.

Motion to adopt **Rate Ordinance 2022-03** by Jon and seconded by Andrew. Motion carried 4-0.

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**Board Comments**

Leon opened discussion to review an update on the creation of a low-income assistance fund for connection to the system.

Mike Mossburg arrived to the meeting.

Leon is recommending joining the WCCOC to access contacts for fund raising of the program. Leon met with Tammy Slater of the Wells County Foundation, but Tammy did not want to screen the applicants only to issue the funds through the foundation.

Leon then met with Lancaster Township trustee Rick Smith and Trent Markley from Liberty Township. Leon asked them to create a common screening process so funds could be distributed equitably between the service areas. This will work as both project phase 1 and phase 2 fall within these two townships.

Leon asked the board to consider joining the Chamber of Commerce and have a check authorized for \$170.50 for the next meeting.

Leon pointed out that the grant would only provide for assistance with decommissioning of their septic system and connection to the district.

Leon commented that the USDA grant had such a low-income threshold that many are just not eligible. This will help those above the lowest limit.

Erin Prible offered to help with mailers and the contact list once we joined the chamber.

Motion to join the Wells County Chamber of Commerce by Jon. Motion was seconded by Leon. Motion carried 5-0

**Public Comments**

Paul Morgan asked last month when I can connect, and I have still not seen anything. What is the status?

Lewis responded that the 40 days will end on May 10<sup>th</sup>, and we should be ready to send out connection notices then. Last item we have is AEP providing power to the large grinder stations.

Paul asked about the pavement repair schedule.

Nate offered to meet with Paul to review the repairs proposed.

Lewis asked the board to tell VTF to take action on the pavement each week.

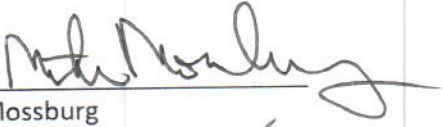
Leon asked to have Tom Neuenschwander put on the agenda for the next meeting.

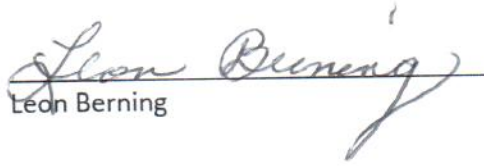
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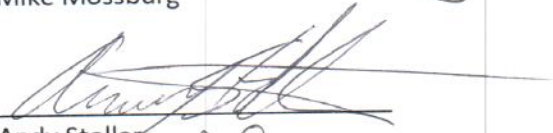
Motion to adjourn – Leon, motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike. Meeting adjourned. 5-0

Next meeting will be a board meeting proposed for May 9<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, at the regular time.

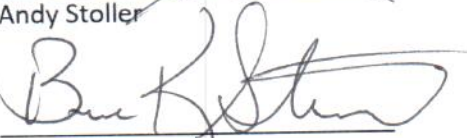
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