

WELLS COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 11, 2023

Board members present:

Bruce Stinson
Leon Berning
Jon Oman
Andy Stoller
Dr Richard Jackson

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

Call to Order

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

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from March 16, 2023 by Dr Jackson and 2nd by Andy. Motion carried 5-0.

Review of Claims and Account Reconciliation

Review of claims prepared by Trent and reviewed by Leon for the board. Leon brought in claims totaling \$17,432.11.

Account balance is \$105,660.91.

Motion to approve the claims by Jon and 2nd by Leon. Motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent Report

Lewis passed out his written notes for the board and reviewed the last month of project progress.

Lewis then reviewed the recent conference call with the County Health Department regarding delayed connections from Phase 1.

Lewis stated that the west side of Craigville is nearly complete from Phase 2. VTF has been patiently working around the water lines in the roadway.

Bruce did comment that he was satisfied with the efforts VTF put in to make his connection to the system.

Leon asked when homes should be ready to connect. Lewis mentioned that he was anticipating June connections.

VTF has a laydown yard ready for Kingsland and has assembled much of their pipe.

Lewis is checking to see if the tablet can be reimbursed through SRF as part of the grant funds.

Lewis is still having issues with the grinder station floats and will need continued maintenance.

Lewis asked about the Ampstun software purchase. Liens will be easier to process once we have the software in place.

Lewis mentioned that the pond near Murray will be addressed by Fleming since it appears that this happened after they connected the home to the north.

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Lewis mentioned that there have been some volunteers to help one of the homes with a need in Murray to make their connection.

Lewis mentioned that there were two home starts in the project area. We never claimed a housing boom, but new starts where we couldn't build before is certainly positive. I know from experience that had we not had our system in place these lots would not have qualified for a septic system.

Andy – How are we doing with I&I in Murray?

Lewis – I think we have crawl space sump pumps to contend with. I will keep monitoring and will follow up with homeowners as I narrow in on locations.

Lewis reviewed the connection status for some homes. Weather is no longer the issue for these properties. Lewis then asked about new easement forms and new topics.

Engineering Reports

Phase 1

Ryan met with VTF for a progress meeting. Phase 1 generator is now scheduled for May. Seeding in Phase 1 to meet specs with weather is proposed. Electrical service has been switched over to the district.

Craigville – Phase 2

Pay application #7 for \$345,800.95 was presented to the board. Work is still on budget and even with some of the extras we are not anticipating being over the contingency allowance.

Motion to approve pay application #7 by Andy. 2nd by Jon. Motion carried 5-0.

Gravity crew is on the east side of town and will move directly to Kingsland when complete.

Kingsland

Discussion of the CTL inspection contract.

The board considered using Wessler still since their schedule opened up and having Choice One work part time to help save some costs for the project.

Nate commented that the RSD should have inspection services when any open road cuts are performed.

Attorney Comments

Mark reviewed the input from the recent meeting with the Health Department and enforcement of the phase 1 connections. The plan is to author a final notice letter from the RSD and copy the health department on each letter. The letter will require that each resident contact LA within 10 days to establish a timeline for the connections. Any who do not notify the district will be forwarded to the Health department and they will pursue enforcement on their end. The elimination of these failed septic systems is the purpose of the district.

Ryan Bennett and Ted Storer with the county health department both took the situation seriously and were quite helpful.

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SRF Disbursements for phase 2 disbursements from SRF.
#30 – Wessler Engineering \$14,944.00

Motion to approve presented disbursement request by Andy and 2nd by Jon. Motion carried 5-0.

SRF Disbursement request for phase 2 from the ARPA fund were then presented by Mark.
#L6 VTF Pay application \$345,801.00

Motion to approve pay applications by Jon and 2nd by Dr. Jackson. Motion carried 5-0.

Mark presented to the board the Affidavit of Non-Occupancy and Non-Use. Mark reviewed the language and purpose for this document on properties within the project service area that are unoccupied and are scheduled for demolition or to remain abandoned. The document must be signed and recorded against the property along with inspections to verify that all plumbing leaving the structure has been removed. Ryan Bennet will review the draft document and be notified of anyone requesting and filing this on a property they own.

Mark commented that Craigville has a drop-dead date on enacting the full rates. After some discussion the board agreed and said that they will need to comply with the ordinance and bond documents.

Motion to authorize Adams-Wells Internet to issue bills in phase 2, Craigville project area, at the full rate in accordance with the approved rate ordinance. Motion was made by Dr. Jackson and was seconded by Jon. Motion carried 5-0.

Board Comments

Andy asked for comments from the rest of the board on the draft budget. Trent will track the expenses using the budget categories and report accordingly to the board.

Motion to approve the budget as presented by Leon and was seconded by Jon. Motion carried 5-0.

Leon asked about the Skip Edwards connection. Mark commented that VTF was not planning to perform any additional work and that Skip was included on the list of properties from phase 1 that needed to finish their connection.

Public Comments

Question about stakes in the yard. Do they need to stay out there still?

LA – Could be removed and were used to mark the right of way. Silt fence is at the hickenbottom drain.

LA – we think VTF hit a tile and will dig up an area to identify the private tile for repair.

Andy asked about billing system change with BCS and Adams & Wells County RSDs.

Mark commented that he would bring it up to the Adams County RSD board on Thursday.

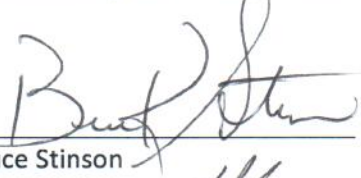
Nate recommended thanking Adams-Wells Internet for their work on the billing and starting the district out for phase 1 & 2.

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Motion to adjourn – Dr. Jackson, motion 2nd by Andy. Meeting adjourned. 5-0

Next meeting will be May 8, 2023, at 6:30pm.

NR



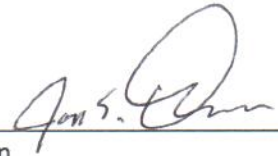
Bruce Stinson



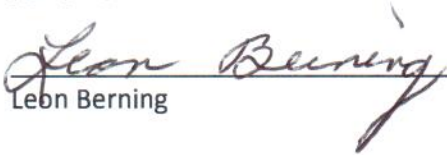
Andy Stoller



Dr. Richard Jackson



Jon Oman



Lebn Berning