

WELLS COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 8, 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 April 11, 2023 by Leon and 2nd by Andy. Motion carried 5-0.

Tom Neuenschwander

Tom provided the board with an update of the insurance policy and changes required by the railroad for the crossings included in the Kingsland project. The endorsements were a condition of the permits for the crossings. Tom requested that the board notify him as portions of the system are put online or turned over to the district so they can be included in the policy coverage.

Nate commented that it was his understanding that VTF is not responsible to ensure the system you are using if the problem is not a warranty issue. For example, a lightning strike on the system that is in operation would likely not be considered a warranty issue.

The total for the insurance is now \$6,968 for the year. This does include the required public official coverage as well.

Leon asked how much is strictly due to the railroad requirements?

Tom - \$800

Andy asked why we had auto insurance coverage and no vehicle. The board discussed this.

Bruce called for a motion to approve. Motion by Andy and 2nd by Dr. Jackson. 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 \$19,082.93.

Account balance is \$110,165.29.

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

Superintendent Report

Lewis introduced Doug Fiechter from CR 100N & 700E wanting to connect to the Craigville system. Ryan commented that he could connect. Nate asked if he had signed a voluntary connection agreement.

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Mark and Doug to organize the necessary easements.

Lewis then reviewed his notes for the board.

- Still not finished with the restoration on Phase 1. Still 4-5 properties on each project.
- Asking for correction of the gate to the lift station. The gate is difficult to open and won't close tightly as it is currently balanced on the fence.
- Wants to mow the enclosure in Murray. The person mowing the church lot is asking for \$50 each time they mow the enclosure. Mark commented that the insurance for the mower should be the responsibility of the business performing the work.

Lewis commented on the full rates for Craigville and when this was approved?

Nate read the language from the rate ordinance for the board.

Lewis thanked Nate for reviewing the Kingsland customer list and how they performed a lot-by-lot review of the connections. Next, he will be working on the easements needed for the grinder station services.

Lewis discussed the siphoning issue on the system. Lewis then proceeded to review his notes for the board.

Lewis discussed the pond next to Murray. Nate gave the board an update on the pond and what the highway department is doing with VTF under their contract.

Lewis then outlined some of the project benefits and new development resulting from project 1 construction.

Engineering Reports

Phase 1

Ryan reviewed the flow meter leak issue and panel connections. Ryan also had pay application #11 the final pay application from VTF for phase 1. After some discussion of items not addressed on the punch list, Andy made a motion to table the request. Motion was seconded by Leon. Motion to table pay application #11 carried 5-0.

Craigville – Phase 2

Ryan will check on the substantial completion date in the contract.

Ryan stated that the phase 2 panels won't have the same issues.

Kingsland

Still has a June start listed.

Tocsin

Ryan discussed the status of the application. SRF is waiting to announce funding until July.

Attorney Comments

SRF Disbursements for phase 1 disbursements from SRF.

#79 – Choice One Engineering	\$198.00
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Motion to approve presented disbursement request by Andy and 2nd by Dr. Jackson. Motion carried 5-0.

SRF Disbursement request for phase 2 from SRF were then presented by Mark.

#31	Wessler	\$18,684
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Motion to approve pay applications by Jon and 2nd by Dr. Jackson. Motion carried 5-0.

#32	Choice One Engineering	\$2,642
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Motion to approve pay applications by Andy and 2nd by Jon. Motion carried 5-0.

Mark presented to the board the amended treatment agreement with Bluffton. Mark reviewed the rate control mechanism drafted by SRF and the current rates are at \$3.52/1000 gallons. Under the agreement future customers will be at \$9.72/1000 gallons. SRF will pay a subsidy to the City of Bluffton each month to offset the increase in the rate. The subsidy lasts for 28 years.

This works as an amendment to the Murray agreement. Mark then went through the agreement again and the rates for the board.

Andy – So future customers will have a \$9.72 treatment rate. The credit by SRF covers this difference.

Lewis – Could you have different rates?

Nate - No, you will be expected to hold rates across the system.

Motion to accept the amended treatment agreement with Bluffton by Dr. Jackson and 2nd by Andy. Motion carried 5-0.

Mark then presented to the board a Purchasing Ordinance covering procedures for bidding, quoting and miscellaneous purchasing by the district and its agents. Ordinance 2023-01 was reviewed for the board by Mark. This ordinance establishes the purchasing and quote policies for the board to comply with SRF reimbursements and state board of accounts. These purchases would need to fall within the approved budget.

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

Public Comments

Jim Dehoff, property owner of 5510 E 100 N, reported that VTF hit some drainage tile on his property on Phase 2. He is convinced that some tiles have been hit on the Chris Jutte property.

Lewis – The project list has this identified. Allen knows about this, and they need to fix the tile.

Board Comments

Leon asked about the ARPA reporting to the Commissioners.

Nate responded that he reviewed the issue and brought the project update before the Commissioners.

Lewis commented that BCS has been more responsive.

Andy – we have a purchasing ordinance now so we can look at quoting some services under that process.

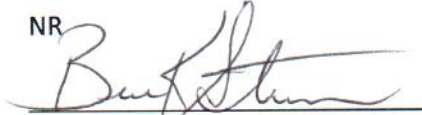
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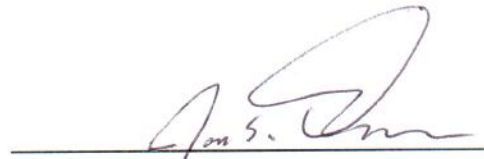
Lewis – what is the benevolence fund at now. There is \$2,027.93 in the fund currently.

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

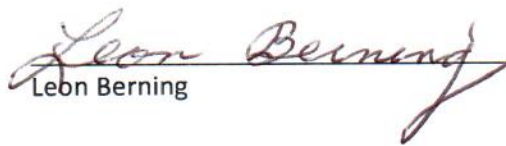
Next meeting will be June 12, 2023, at 6:30pm.

NR


Bruce Stinson


Jon Oman


Andy Stoller


Leon Berning


Dr. Richard Jackson