

WELLS COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 12, 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.

Public Questions

Shawn Collier – 6060E 100N The contractor is not working like I would expect. The promptness is out of line and seems like you are flying by the seat of your pants. Why am I paying this \$95 bill when the project is not done?

Mark responded that the rate start dates are in the ordinance. The rate hasn't risen but the date was stuck in the May 2022 Rate Ordinance. Mark read select language out of the rate ordinance. Mark then reviewed the SRF financing package and how the funding requires certain actions by the board.

Shawn – Did anyone lose their job for this?

Bruce- Shawn, I pay the same \$95/month as you are now.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from May 8, 2023, by Leon 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 \$9,074.68.

Account balance is \$123,858.38

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

Superintendent Report

Lewis reviewed his notes for the board.

- 10 laterals yet to get in. Crew can usually do 2-3 per day.
- 2 grinders have been set and the crew is expecting to do 4 a day.
- Paving in Craigville was discussed and Lewis turned over the discussion to Nate.

Nate responded that the Highway department has met with the paving contractor and is working on options to do additional asphalt repair or improvements beyond the scope of the work being done by the RSD.

- No new connections in Liberty Center

WELLS COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 12, 2023

- 2 more connections were made in Murray.
- 3 liens have been filed.
- The notice to connect letter has not been sent out to the ones in Liberty Center and Murray who still have not connected.
- Doug Sundling has asked about adding the sewer main to the County GIS system
- A decision needs to be made regarding 811 membership.

Nate commented that Doug could be a valuable resource.

Nate also mentioned that it is a condition of your county permits that you participate in 811 for locates of the utilities.

Andy – I thought we already joined.

Mark and Nate offered to help set up the 811 account.

Engineering Reports

Phase 1

All but one property seeding is complete.

There is a sinkhole to be repaired by VTF.

Andy – what of the corrective work on the grinder connection wiring?

We are still in negotiations.

Craigville – Phase 2

Suppliers left out some items and Aaron will speak on the schedule.

Kingsland

Discussed the inspection contractor rates and contract. There is a \$229,000 total NTE with Wessler Engineering. Will start construction in July, so letters about the interim rates should go out this month.

Pay Application #8 Phase 2 Craigville total of \$230,896.16.

Leon asked about a dividing line for one home. Ryan discussed with him to clarify.

VTF Construction – Aaron Miesse

Aaron reviewed the project status and supplier issues that have plagued both this project and the industry overall.

Aaron reviewed project updates. Electrical control panel pad and AEP is set to power it. 10 grinders will be done next week with 4-5 weeks for grinders and one house needs electrical upgrades.

Working with Bluffton on power to the flow meters next week. The challenge will be homes for the upgrades. We have Rorick for phase 2 electrical and Fuhrman for phase three electrical work.

WELLS COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 12, 2023

For Kingsland, we want to start the forcemain first and grinders with gravity to be delayed. We can't get an ETA on the main lift station and its components.

Bruce, when can we be live with Craigville?

Aaron – the 2nd week of July. We have a 110 point inspection checklist for grinders. My crews don't like them, but this should solve many of the issues we have had on other grinders.

Board discussed the schedule with Aaron.

Aaron commented that much of the delay for phase 2 was to avoid the yard complaints from phase 1. VTF does have the same landscaper from phase 1.

Andy – When did you need to have everything ready?

Aaron – March

Andy – What did we need to do?

Aaron – You are doing it right. The time in the contract and buffers are all you can do to help. To the customer's question about did anyone lose their job? Yes, you can consider that 2 people lost their jobs over the delays.

Lewis – do we have a definite start date for phase 3? The software could be live next week.

Aaron – Boring for Kingsland will start in 2 weeks.

Lewis – will boring under SR 1 be an issue?

Aaron – No, the INDOT permit is already done. The Rail Pros has 4 inspectors east of the Mississippi so making their schedule is the critical issue for us.

Attorney Comments

Mark presented to the board the interlocal agreement for billing services for Adams and Wells County RSD, to serve the Kingsland service area. The billing software has been preapproved by SRF. The agreement will be for work at an hourly rate of \$40/hr. This will continue until such time as both parties wish to go to a \$/customer rate.

Mark reviewed for the board the terms of the agreement.

Starts with Kingsland for now and will add other agreements with other service area contracts.

Motion to approve the interlocal agreement by Andy. Motion was 2nd by Jon. Motion carried 5-0.

SRF Disbursements for phase 1 disbursements from SRF.

#80 – VTF

This disbursement was put on hold by the board.

WELLS COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 12, 2023

#81	Miller Burry & Brown (recording fees)	\$60.00
#82	Ampstun Software Reimbursement	\$9,600

Motion to approve disbursements #81 & #82 ONLY by Jon and 2nd by Dr. Jackson. Motion carried 5-0.

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

#L7	VTF (partial)	\$60,054.30
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Board discussed pay application #8 to VTF for \$230,896.16. Which covers the L7 disbursement request which exhausts the remaining ARPA account.

Motion to approve pay application #8 by Andy and 2nd by Jon. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion to approve pay application #L7 by Dr. Jackson, and 2nd by Andy. Motion carried 5-0.

SRF Disbursements for phase 2 disbursements from SRF.

#33	– Miller Burry & Brown (45 Easements recorded)	\$6,917.00
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Motion to approve pay application #33 by Leon and 2nd by Jon. Motion carried 5-0.

#34	– Wessler Engineering Inspection	\$17,197
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Motion to approve pay application #34 by Andy and 2nd by Dr. Jackson. Motion carried 5-0.

#35	– Choice One Engineering	\$2,883
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Motion to approve pay application #35 by Andy and 2nd by Jon. Motion carried 5-0.

#36	– LA Brown (45 Easements recorded)	\$6,750.00
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Motion to approve pay application #36 by Leon and 2nd by Dr. Jackson. Motion carried 5-0.

Mark presented to the board the Pay Gov Application for Utility Bills. Jane from ACRSD will set up this for Kingsland.

Motion to approve this application by Andy, motion 2nd by Dr. Jackson. Motion carried 5-0.

Mark brought up a claim for \$90 for recording fees. Requested approval of the claim.

Motion to approve the fee by Dr. Jackson, motion 2nd by Jon. Motion carried 5-0.

Board Comments

Bruce – What is the status of the Notice to Connect for phase 1?

Mark – I reviewed the letter today. Notice 1 was issued in August of 2022, and Notice 2 was issued November 2022. Notice 3 went out by certified mail after that. Next letters will go out soon.

Andy – Are we being paid for filing the liens so that we are covered?

Nate – not until taxes are being paid.

WELLS COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 12, 2023

Andy – Where are we on the Wessler Contract?

Mark – Is this within the project budget?

Ryan – Yes, it is.

Andy – Can we make the necessary edit to the Wessler Agreement so it can be signed?

Mark – we can edit it with the signature.

Motion to approve the edited Wessler Agreement for inspection services for Phase 3 construction by Jon, motion 2nd by Andy. Motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Jackson – Where are we on the Drop Box?

Nate commented that he has brought this up to the Commissioners, but there was concern from the Courthouse maintenance staff on the additional traffic.

Andy – Why the push back?

Nate – I don't know, but I would recommend the board reach out to the Commissioners for a walk-through of your plan and needs.

Public Comments

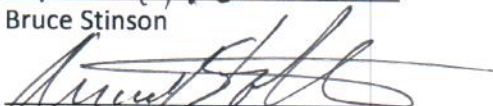
No further public comments

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

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

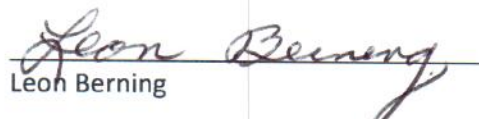
NR


Bruce Stinson


Andy Stoller


Dr. Richard Jackson

absent
Jon Oman


Leon Berning