

WELLS COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 13, 2024

Board members present:

Bruce Stinson - President

Leon Berning - Treasurer

Jon Oman – Vice President

Mark Burry, Attorney

Ryan Lefeld, Choice One Engineering

Lewis Brown, RSD Superintendent

Andy Stoller - Secretary – Absent

John Shady - Member - Absent

Call to order

- Bruce Stinson called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance and a prayer by Lewis Brown.

Approval of Minutes

- **Moved** to approve April 2024 meeting minutes. Motion made by Leon with 2nd from Jon. Motion carried 3-0.

Approval of Claims and Account Reconciliation

Leon reviewed 24 claims prepared by Trent totaling \$15,013.14

Account Balance on Apr 8, 2024 is \$237,688.98

Account Balance on May 13, 2024 is \$265,755.71

Moved to approve the claims by Jon and 2nd by Leon. Motion carried 3-0.

Insurance

Tom Neuenschwander presented insurance coverage and rates to the board

Policy in effect May 14th

Moved to approve the policy and pay the premium by Jon and 2nd by Leon. Motion carried 3-0.

Public Questions

Question from A.J. Springer: When is VTF going to do the restoration? Answer: Coming soon to finish Kingsland restoration

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Superintendent Report

- See report by Levi Morrison (Wessler RPR II) dated 5/9/2024.
 - Working final punch list for project Completion
- See Superintendent's report dated 05/13/2024.
 - New Shop Rental agreement in place, storage unit material consolidated to new facility
 - Kingsland - notice to connects have been sent
 - Board needs to develop job description for new employee
 - Truck has been plated!
 - There are 53 homes with basements that will need checked for I&I
 - Next round of liens are in process
 - Sewer map will be added to GIS, realtors must use it
 - Craigville connections are starting to be made

Engineering Report

- Tocsin (Project Area #4) discussions with SRF are positive
- SRF is asking for how much money is left from previous projects

Attorney Comments

Phase 3 - Kingsland

- SRF Disbursement Form #12
 - \$15,297.60 to Wessler Engineering for support services
- SRF Disbursement Form #13
 - \$4650 to Miller, Bury, and Brown for easements
 - \$24,000 to Miller, Bury and Brown for legal support in processing Phase 3 project development
- Motion to approve by Jon, 2nd by Leon, motion passed 3-0

Phase 2 - Craigville

- SRF Disbursement Form #75
 - \$1,653 for Change Orders
- Motion to approve by Leon; 2nd by Jon; Motion passed 3-0

Board Comments

- N/A

Public Comments

There were no further comments.

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Moved to adjourn the monthly meeting by Jon and 2nd by Leon. Motion carried 3-0.

Public hearing to present the Phase #4 Tocsin plan and receive public comments began immediately following this adjournment.

Next meeting will be on Monday June 10, 2024, at 6:30pm.

LB



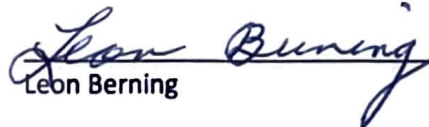
Bruce Stinson



Jon Oman



Andy Stoller



Leon Berning



John Shady

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Public Meeting for Tocsin Project

Lewis Brown - The comments made tonight will be sent to SRF to help us obtain grant dollars for the project.

Ryan Lefield - The state is pushing to clean up off-site sewage discharge in small towns. We're finding high E-coli counts in the water. With grant money, we hope to maintain the rate at \$95/month. A lot of homes in Tocsin will be on a gravity system. Along the force main along SR 224, the homes will have grinder pumps. You will be asked to sign an easement for the RSD to install the grinder pit and have access to for future service calls. Lewis will work with you as to where you want your grinder pit located. This project will be approximately \$4.5 million and we should know by July where we stand with SRF. We'll bid the job this fall pending financing approval from SRF. This will put the project start date in the spring of 2025.

Mark Burry - The law has changed regarding easements. The first project in Wells County was the Murray & Liberty Center project, followed by Craigville, and then Kingsland. SRF looks at three components:

1. Treatment Costs
2. Debt Service
3. Operating Costs

We had to delay the Tocsin project for 2 years because SRF made cuts in their available funding. If we get the funding, the board will send out letters of notice to connect if you are within 300 feet of the sewer line. There is a process to exempt your property if your on-site septic system is 20 years old or newer. You've got 60 days to file for an exemption after the notice to connect goes out. The Homeowner is responsible to connect from your home to the system via a lateral sewer line. The RSD will be responsible for the grinder pump.

Lewis Brown - The big thing we need from the homeowner is the easement that we need in order to maintain and service the grinder pump.

Terry Kahn - Do you run the line to the road?

Molly Hoag - What happens if we don't get the funding?

Answer (Ryan Lefield) - The project will probably get delayed again.

Public Question - Is there financial help for the low income?

Answer (Leon) - There is a form that the township trustees have for the low income people to apply through. It will only cover connection costs.

Public Question - What happens if our systems fail before the project is complete?

Answer (Lewis) - You would have to go on pump & haul. We will have interim rates to cover up front costs of the RSD prior to project completion.

Moved to adjourn the public meeting at 7:36pm

Motion by Jon Oman; 2nd by John Shady; Motion passed 4-0

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Moved to make the public notice in the News Banner a matter of public record.
Motion by John Shady; 2nd by Jon Oman; Motion passed 4-0

Moved to adopt Resolution 2024-1
Motion by John Shady; 2nd by Jon Oman; Motion passed 4-0

Moved to adopt Resolution 2024-2
Motion by John Shady; 2nd by Jon Oman; Motion passed 4-0

Moved to adjourn
Motion by Jon Oman; 2nd by John Shady; Motion passed 4-0