

# **Minutes of the Board of Water Commissioners' Meeting**

**Monday, July 21, 2014**

Present: Commissioners G. Van De Kreeke, R. Haen, M. Heinz, and J. Trueblood, Superintendent. .

The meeting was called to order by G. Van De Kreeke, President, at 4:02 P.M. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Motion by Commissioner Heinz, seconded by Commissioner Van De Kreeke, that the minutes of the June 17, 2014 meeting be approved as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Financial Reports**

The financial reports for June were reviewed. Superintendent advised that unusual winter expenses will continue to affect financial results for this year. Commissioner Heinz made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Van de Kreeke, to accept the financials as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Superintendent's Report**

### **Operations' Department Report**

Superintendent reported that June pumpage increased 2% from last year. Superintendent then reviewed the summary of operations work for the month. The Commissioners accepted the report as presented.

### **Construction Maintenance Department Report**

Superintendent reviewed recent maintenance work completed by the crew. The crew continued working on street repairs due to numerous water main breaks during the winter. The Commissioners accepted the report as presented.

## **Old Business**

### **Old Business Presented By Commissioners**

There was brief discussion about the Schuchardt property.

### **Other Old Business**

#### **Discuss failure of several letters on Erie Avenue tanks**

Superintendent reported that the contractor proposed two possible solutions: one involving epoxy to repair the existing letters, and one involving the production of new letters out of aluminum rather than stainless steel. Superintendent rejected the epoxy solution. In consultation with Donohue & Associates, Superintendent advised that aluminum would be acceptable, but the mechanics of the new letters must be approved by Donohue to ensure a long life. Superintendent reported that other maintenance work on the tank will be started later this month by Utility staff. This work will include cleaning, painting, and installing a aluminum flashing material over caulk on the joints along the upright arches.

#### **Update Board on Safe Drinking Water loan for UV project**

Superintendent informed the Board that the Financial Assistance Application was submitted by the June 30 deadline. WDNR has responded indicating that the Utility's paperwork appears to be in order, the project will likely qualify for funding, and some principle forgiveness might be available. Superintendent stated that the amount of principle forgiveness is unknown, but it might be \$100,000 or more.

Update Board on wash tank project

Superintendent reported that almost all of the final grading and seeding has now been completed. Assessment of one remaining damp spot near the footing is underway. At this point in time, Superintendent feels the tank will be determined to meet all construction specs, and final completion will be issued by the engineering firm of Donohue & Associates. Superintendent has received many positive comments on the appearance of the tank.

Update Board on high lift ceiling project

Superintendent reported that work continues on the project. Much of the plaster/lathe material has been removed. The contractor is utilizing a complete system of scaffolding to minimize safety issues involved with working at heights.

New Business

Business to be presented by Commissioners

None.

Other New Business

Discuss and ask Board approval for R.O. transmitting second quarter report to Council

Commissioner Van De Kreeke made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Heinz, to transmit the R.O. Motion passed unanimously.

Discuss and ask Board approval to accept bids on S. 8th Street water main installation

Superintendent reviewed the bids received by the City Department of Public Works for street and water construction on S. 8th Street. In this case, water main and private water lateral work was bid under the DPW contract to allow a timely construction schedule. The low bid overall was submitted by Vinton Construction, with the water-related bid portion coming in at a total of \$1,267,723.25, for the entire project on S. 8th Street from Kentucky Ave to Union Ave. Superintendent pointed out that the bid items for private water lateral replacement were higher than normal, at \$154 per foot on the short side and \$123 per foot on the long side. The Commissioners inquired about options to reduce that cost to customers: Superintendent stated the City could reject all bids, but the Utility itself had no means of rejecting only its portion. The Commissioners asked if the Utility construction crew could install the private water laterals, and Superintendent responded there were too many for the crew to keep up with the contractor, and there would be too many coordination problems. Commissioner Heinz stated his concerns with the pricing but couldn't see any options. Commissioner Van De Kreeke made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Haen, to accept the bid for the water-related work if the project is accepted overall by the City. Motion passed unanimously.

Discuss and ask Board approval to transmit preliminary 2015 water utility budget to Council

Superintendent presented the preliminary 2015 budget document based on actual second quarter results from 2014. Revenues are estimated at \$7.503M. No water rate is anticipated in 2015. \$1.924M was allotted for water main replacement, including a water main extension on S. Taylor Drive. \$6.249M was allotted for other capital improvements, including \$5.1M for UV disinfection. Superintendent reviewed a number of specific capital items including calculation of the PILOT payment. After discussion, Commissioner Haen made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Heinz, to accept the preliminary budget and transmit an RO to Council. Motion passed unanimously.

Discuss and ask Board approval to file RO's 287-13-14, 470-07-08, and 53-14-15 from Council

Commissioner Van de Kreeke made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Haen, to file the RO's. Motion passed unanimously.

Discuss and ask Board approval to purchase various water main fittings

Superintendent distributed quotes for various 16" fittings and a butterfly valve needed for the water main project at S.12th and Kentucky Ave. HD proposed a total cost of \$3,732 and Ferguson proposed a total cost of \$3,807. Commissioner Haen made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Van de Kreeke, to accept the low cost proposal. Motion passed unanimously.

Discuss and ask Board approval for high lift pump/UV SCADA project

Superintendent presented a proposal from Energenecs to provide and install a PLC system in the high lift pump room: this will allow control of those pumps directly from the control room. In addition, the UV system must have an automated link to high lift pump control so that if the UV system fails, high lift pumps are shut down temporarily. There was some discussion about competitors to Energenecs in the water industry. The proposed cost is \$52,565 including a high lift pump control panel, a SCADA computer control panel, system integration, and field labor services. Commissioner Haen made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Heinz, to accept the proposal. Motion passed unanimously.

Discuss and ask Board approval for electrical work

Superintendent presented proposals from Specht and Altmeyer Electric for provision and installation of a 1" conduit system with fiber optic cable from the plant control room to the high lift station, and also for installation of 480V power to the new lake outfall actuator. Specht's proposed cost was \$7,470 and \$3,810 respectively; Altmeyer's cost was \$7,890 and \$6,187 (with a \$1,600 deduct with no kindorf rack). Commissioner Haen made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Heinz, to approve the low cost proposal from Specht Electric. Motion passed unanimously.

Discuss new PSC rules or Info

None.

Correspondence

None.

Approve Vouchers

Motion by Commissioner Van de Kreeke, seconded by Commissioner Haen, that gross payroll for June of \$141,558.95 and general vouchers of \$239,073.43 be allowed and approved. Motion passed unanimously.

Personnel

Update on engineer position

Superintendent informed Board members that the process continues to move forward.

Update on utility support specialist position

Superintendent informed Board members that many applications have been received and the process continues to move forward.

**Other Matters**

**Next Board Meeting**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, August 19, 2014.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:37 PM on a motion by Commissioner Haen, seconded by Commissioner Heinz. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes taken by:  
Superintendent  
Joe R. Trueblood

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Raymond W. Haen, Secretary