

Waterworks District No. 2, Parish of Beauregard

MINUTES

The Board of Commissioners, governing authority of Waterworks District No. Two (2) of the Parish of Beauregard, Louisiana, met in an open and public session at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, December 11, 2023, at the regular meeting place of said Board, 9252 Hwy 27, Singer, LA.

Jerry Cooley, President of the Board of Commissioners called the meeting to order and on roll call, the following members being present:

Absent: 0

Others Present: *Mathieu Rose, Jay Delafield, and Mark McCarty*

Public Participation: *There was no public participation*

Approval of Minutes:

Bill White, 2nd by Lisa Gearen, moved to adopt the Minutes of the November 13th meeting and to forego the reading thereof, motion carried without opposition.

Approval of Financial reports:

Bill White, 2nd by Lisa Gearen, moved to adopt the financial reports as written for November 2023, the motion carried without opposition.

Payment authorization:

Bill White, 2nd by Lisa Gearen, moved to pay monthly invoices for December 2023, the motion carried without opposition.

Unfinished Business:

Griner Drilling- Mr. Jay Delafield discussed the joint release of claim and indemnity agreement between the District and Griner Drilling. He was in agreement in the joint release of all claims. Also requesting for Paula Rose to be the Authorized signer on the remaining documents of release.

Mr. Bill White asked if there was a warranty involved in this agreement. If there was still a warranty on the Well 5, then he did not want that added to the joint release. He expects Griner to fulfill the warranty.

Mr. Mark McCarty stated that the project had a remainder of a general warranty until March 2024, and it would not be included in the joint agreement to release both parties. It would remain in effect until expiration.

Mr. Jay Delafield said that he would get with Ms. Cop and have the warranty excluded from the agreement.

Mr. Bill White, 2nd by Lisa Gearen, moved to adopt the following provisions to be added to the Joint Receipt, Release of Claim and Indemnity Agreement. The motion carried without opposition.

1. *Paula Rose, Secretary-Treasurer of the District, will sign the Release for and on behalf of the Water District.*

2. *Whereas, each and all of the parties to this Joint Receipt, Release of Claim and Indemnity Agreement (the "Release") do hereby agree, acknowledge and covenant that excluded from the terms and provisions of this Release herein in favor of Griner is the construction warranty provided by Griner in favor of the Water District as stipulated in the Contract (hereinafter defined) or by applicable provisions of Louisiana law;*

3. *Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of the Release to the contrary, the terms and provisions of this Release in favor of Griner, wherein the Water District releases its various and multiple claims against Griner, such provisions of this Release specifically exclude and shall not include nor extend to the obligations of Griner under the construction warranty provisions of the Contract and related provisions of Louisiana law in favor of the Water District. To be clear, the District does not release and specifically reserves and excludes from the provisions of this Release its warranty claims against Griner under the provisions of the Contract and Louisiana law.*

4. *To pay Griner a fixed amount of \$25,000 established in a settled agreement pertaining to the Liquidated damages ensued by Griner Drilling, as well as in lieu of the invoices due to Meyer and Associates by the District in the amount of \$8,285.85 is to be waived, and paid directly to Griner, with the total combined comes \$33,285.65.*

Mr. Mark McCarty also stated that RP Constructions warranty ends on December 28, 2023 for the Fields project, and he will make an appointment to go and do a final inspection before the warranty ends.

Water Sector Program:

Mr. Mark McCarty discussed the Water Sector Program, and explained that the \$1.3 million that was awarded to the district has a deadline of March 2024 to submit the project plans. The District will have a match of \$342,0000.

The Board and Mark McCarty discussed the water rate study that was mandatory by the state in order to obtain the \$1.3 million. We know that we are on LRWA's list to have a rate study completed, but not sure if the state allows us to choose who does the study. The last rate study for the District was in 2019.

The Board agreed to allow Mark to proceed with the projected plans for the Water Sector Program in order to make the March 2024 deadline.

New Business:

Mr. Bill White, 2nd by Mr. Carroll Johnson, moved to adopt and publish the 2024 annual meeting scheduled for the 2nd Mondy of each month. The motion carried without opposition.

Mr. Bill White, 2nd by Mr. Carroll Johnson, moved to adopt an additional day of vacation to include the day after Christmas, as well as the Holiday schedule for 2024. The motion carried without opposition.

Mr. Bill White, 2nd by Mrs. Lisa Gearen, moved to adopt the amendments to the 2023 Budget, and the motion carried without opposition.

The Secretary supplied and discussed the 2024 Budget, and the balance being brought forward compared to what was brought forward last year. She stated that she believed this was due to the decrease in salaries, insurance, as well as tools and supplies.

Mrs. Richelle Bowman, 2nd by Mr. Carroll Johnson, moved to adopt the 2024 Budget as written, and the motion carried without opposition.

Maintenance Report: Mathieu Rose

- a) A system overview report was given as the following:
 - 1. 75 work orders completed for the month of December
 - 2. 2- new services were installed
 - 3. 5- Leaks were repaired

- b) An annual report was given through November 2023 as follows:
 - 1. 17 new ¾" services installed
 - 2. 2 new services installed
 - 3. 137 Meters were replaced
 - 4. 156 Check valves, and curb stops where replaced

Mr. Bill White was under the impression that at least 20 meters per month were installed in the past? Paula Rose explained that we have never installed more than 20 meters annually. We are at 1856 meters with the new services. Even though you may put in 20 new services, you may have that many or more disconnecting and moving.

- c) The board discussed the lay down yard on Stanley Smith Road and the drainage issues causing it to hold water.

The following quotes were submitted as follows:

- 1. Mike McLeod \$14, 982.72
- 2. Allphase Construction (Road base) \$ 10,725.00
- 3. Allphase Construction (Cal-base) \$ 7,205.00

Mrs. Lisa Gearen, 2nd by Mrs. Richelle Bowman, moved to table the discussion until Mathieu Rose could talk with the Police Jury on what service they could offer to help the drainage on Stanley Smith Road. The motion carried without opposition.

- d) Mathieu Rose gave the final report for the Sanitary Survey citing that according to the report the deficiencies written up were from the 2022 tank report, and have been rectified, and completed. A letter was supplied to the Board confirming that the system was in good standing.

- e) A discussion was had concerning a carbon emissions hub being built in Fields. There was a concern over how close it would be to the Well in Fields, Louisiana. A print out

from the internet was supplied to the Board, where it states two companies from Mississippi and Houston had signed a deal to manage a sequestration hub in Calcasieu and Beauregard parish. No valuable information has been supplied to confirm or deny the story.

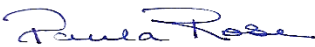
Mathieu stated that he has been aware of talk for the past month, and has been keeping up with it. He did not bring it to the Board because so far there has not been any foundation to suggest the plant is being built in the Fields area. He will continue to monitor the situation, and if he has proof that it is a danger to the Well in Fields, or any of our sources he will immediately inform the board, and take the necessary steps to protect our water system. He also informed the Board that the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Steve Joubert said the threshold was 100' from any well source.

He said he has spoken to Police Jury members, Mr. Wayne Reeves, Mr. Jeffrey Meadows, Mr. Steven Joubert with Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, and House of Representative Rodney Schamerhorn, who is working to establish a Carbon Hub facility, but not in Beauregard Parish. He asked Mathieu to email him the information that he has on the subject, and he will keep him updated on any information pertaining to the situation.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, upon a motion by Mrs. Lisa Gearen, 2nd by Caroll Johnson, the meeting was adjourned, the motion carried without opposition.

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the business meeting held on Monday, December 11, 2023 at the regular public meeting place of said Board at 9252 Hwy 27, Singer, Louisiana.



Paula Rose-District Secretary/Treasurer



Jerry Cooley, President