

Minutes of the Whitley County Regional Water and Sewer District

March 21, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Venable at 5:30 PM. Present for the meeting, Nicki Venable, Brooks Langeloh, Randall Cokl, and Walt Crowder. Absent were Chad Banks, and Madalyn Sade-Bartl.

Ms. Venable entertained a motion to approve February 21, 2023 minutes. The motion was made by Mr. Crowder, second by Mr. Langeloh. The vote was unanimous to approve the minutes.

Mr. Cokl gave the treasurer report with \$1,365.30 in checking, BAN obligation of \$15,388.50, with a credit balance of \$734,661.50. Claims: Flemming Excavating \$ 397,415.06; JPR \$38,910.00; Lori Shipman Consulting \$ 3,700.00; Barnes & Thornburg \$15,102.47; and Baker Tilly \$ 1,145.75. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Langeloh, second by Mr. Crowder. The vote was unanimous to approve the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Shipman advised the board on the construction permit appeal. The judge has set some hearing dates and deadlines for administrative review. He stated that the process will take some time.

Allie Nahrwold, JPR, gave a project update. She advised right of entry signatures are down to 7 left. The contractor has been directed not to install grinder pumps and laterals for those property owners that have not signed. Aqua Indiana has expressed a willingness to store grinder stations for the district. Mr. Shipman is completing the liability agreement and will share it with the board members in the next couple of weeks. Flemming Construction has rearranged their schedule and will not be back on site until May 2023. An Overall construction schedule was reviewed with Dunfee to begin in May 2023; Stable Acres beginning in June 2023; Coesse to begin in September 2023; and restoration in the fall 2023. Construction has been completed with manhole testing of county line south. Ms. Nahrwold introduced pay application #3 for board approval for Flemming Contracting \$53,357.02. Motion for approval was made by Mr. Crowder, second by Mr. Langeloh. The motion was passed unanimously. There were no change orders this month. JPR continues to offer meetings property owners to discuss grinder station location or lateral locations. Customers can call for an on-site or virtual visit. Phase 2 project- JPR had an internal meeting to begin acquiring any necessary easements in January. Ken Jones will be conducting meetings soon to obtain easements. JPR met with the town of Churubusco and DLZ regarding the Phase 2 Project. Some records were sent over, JPR is still waiting on the final customer list since some customers have been connecting as their septic system fails. The following proposed schedule for Phase 2 Project; submit permit applications April 1st, advertise bids May 2023, receive bids July 2023, SRF project priority list July 2023, SRF announces funding commitments September 2023, introduce and pass rate ordinances August/September 2023, close financing October 2023, start construction November 2023.

Mr. Crowder inquired about the unstable ground where the grinder pumps are located at Stable Acres. Mr. Henschen informed the board that has been checked and adjusted.

Mr. Shipman discussed Blue Ridge Mobile home Park and Timberlane sewer system is failing, they are interested in connecting to our system. There are approximately 140 homes in Blue Ridge, and 25-35 homes in Timberlane. This would be a partnership between the Town of Churubusco and Blue Lake Conservancy District. This project would be at least two years out. Mr. Cokl made a motion to table discussion of Phase 3 Project until April 18,2023 meeting, second by Ms. Venable. The motion was unanimous.

Mr. Shipman advised the board that Aqua Indiana has signed the storage agreement for the grinders.

Mr. Shipman reported that Mr. Dyson sent a response to our filing with the court. He also informed the board of a letter that is going around Stable Acres with misinformation about the project. An open house was suggested for Stable Acres prior to the beginning of construction.

Mr. Langeloh asked for an explanation of right of entry and right of way. Mr. Shipman explained that the right of entry is for the purpose of installing the grinder pump on the property from the county right of way, and is very specific, the right of way is permanent land use for utilities.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was a comment that it was appreciated that tonight's information was very helpful. There was also questions about the grants for the project, and the length of the ROE. Questions were answered about the process of installing grinder stations.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM

Next meeting Tuesday, April 18,2023

Randall C. Cokl

Secretary