

UTILITIES SERVICE BOARD MEETING

August 13, 2012

Utilities Service Board meetings are recorded electronically or stenographically and are available during regular business hours in the office of the Director of Utilities.

Board President Swafford called the regular meeting of the Utilities Service Board to order at 5:04 p.m. The meeting was held in the Utilities Service Board room at the City of Bloomington Utilities Department Administrative Building in Bloomington, Indiana.

Board members present: Tom Swafford, Julie Roberts, Sam Frank, Jason Banach, Pedro Roman, and John Whikehart. Staff members present: Patrick Murphy, John Langley, Tom Axsom, Michael Horstman, Jane Fleig, Jon Callahan, Phil Peden, Mike Hicks, and Rachel Atz. Others present: Larry Jacobs, representing the Chamber of Commerce.

MINUTES

Board member Roman moved and Board member Roberts seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the July 30th meeting. Motion carried, 6 ayes, 1 member absent, (Ehman).

CLAIMS

Board member Roberts moved and Board member Roman seconded the motion to approve the ACH payments as follows:

Vendor invoices that will be submitted to the controller's Office on August 27th included \$220,882.00 from the Water Utility; \$19,669.00 from the Wastewater Utility; and 0.00 from the Wastewater/Storm water Utility. Total Claims approved, \$240,551.00.

Motion carried, 6 ayes, 1 member absent, (Ehman).

Board member Roberts moved and Board member Roman seconded the motion to approve the claims as follows:

Vendor invoices submitted to the controller's Office on August 8th included \$2,214,717.23 from the Water Utility; \$130,512.89 from the Wastewater Utility; and \$190,283.47 from the Wastewater/Storm water Utility. Total Claims approved, \$2,535,513.47.

Motion carried, 6 ayes, 1 member absent, (Ehman).

APPROVAL OF A GRANT OF EASEMENT FOR A RECREATIONAL TRAIL FOR MONROE COUNTY:

Utilities Director Murphy said he had provided the USB with a map on which the green area represents a permanent easement, and the yellow area is a temporary easement. Monroe County is building a pedestrian/bicycle trail called Karst Trail, using INDOT funding. Part of the trail will be along Loesch Rd. where one of Utilities water towers is located. For the County to complete the portion of the trail on Loesch Rd. they will need an easement from Utilities on the eastern edge of the property. In the past Monroe Co. has given Utilities easements and Ivy Tech has given the County a large easement for this trail.

Board member Roberts moved and board member Roman seconded the motion to approve the grant of easement for the recreational trail for Monroe County. Motion carried, 6 ayes, 1 member absent, (Ehman).

OLD BUSINESS:

The Environmental Committee had met and looked over a matrix board member Ehman had generated. The staff will begin working on supplementing some of the information over the next couple of months.

NEW BUSINESS:

Board member Roberts asked about how all the students moving back into town will learn about the water restrictions. Will the University communicate with students, or will landlords? If there is a fine will it be for the landlord or the tenant? Utilities Director Murphy said staff had been working with IU. He had also suggested contacting the IU Student Association to have them help get the word out. There was an interview with the IDS today. There has also been a proposal to use table tents at some of the independent restaurants around Bloomington. He said when he was a student he never watered his grass when he lived in a house or an apartment.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

The Environmental Subcommittee had met. They have scheduled another meeting for 4:00 before the next USB meeting. Mr. Murphy said the staff would be hard pressed to put together much new information before that time.

STAFF REPORTS:

Utilities Director Murphy said there had been lots of questions coming in to the hot line about the conservation measures. Over the weekend the maximum water production was much lower than it has been lately. On Saturday, August 11th the intake tower pumped a maximum daily amount of 21 mgd raw water for one hour. The daily average was 16.8 mgd. The minimum produced was 12.78 mgd. The intake pump was at 14 mgd for several hours during the day, and on Sunday the intake tower pumped the maximum daily amount of 22 mgd raw water for two hours. The daily average rate was 18.62 mgd raw water.

Mr. Murphy said the Accounting staff is looking at the demand from the various classes of customers from last year to this year, in the three month period of high maximums, to get some idea of where the demand is coming from.

Mr. Murphy acknowledged the work that is being done by the Engineering and Water Quality Coordinator, but at the other end of the building, the staff who set up the billing and take the money have been doing an enormous amount of work. Much of this was due to the conversion to the New World system for billing. There have also been many walk ins of people who are discontinuing service or wanting a connection. Some other staff, such as Tom Axsom's administrative assistant Angie Grubb, has been helping them out.

Mr. Murphy said the budget will be presented to the City Council on September 7th, at a Committee of the Whole, and then voted on in a Regular Session on September 12th. During the Budget Hearings the Utilities budget was approved by the Council with a seven to zero vote. He said it's easier talking about the Utilities budget when it is not in the red.

Utilities Capital Projects manager Hicks confirmed that Moffit Ln. is about to be closed for about a week and a half, for work on the new pipe line. Mr. Murphy said the pipe line crew is making excellent progress. They may be done by the end of the year.

Board President Swafford said Superintendent of Operations Axsom had told him there had only been one significant main break.

Utilities Director Murphy told the USB that Utilities' work on College Avenue is finished.

Mr. Swafford said the Board appreciates the hard work that has been done by the staff getting ready for the fall.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Larry Jacobs, representing the Chamber of Commerce, said they have partnered with the Mayor's office to try to get the word out on the water restrictions. He said the staff and Director Murphy represent the USB very well. It is really appreciated. He said he doesn't think anyone else could have provided Utilities' services any better. He thanked everyone.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

L. Thomas Swafford, President