

UTILITIES SERVICE BOARD MEETING

March 10th, 2014

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 5:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Utilities Service Board room at the City of Bloomington Utilities Administrative Building in Bloomington, Indiana.

Board members present: Tom Swafford, Sam Frank, Pedro Roman, Jeff Ehman, and Tim Mayer, Ex-Officio. Staff members present: Patrick Murphy, Michael Horstman, John Langley, Tom Axsom, Mike Bengtson, Jon Callahan, Phil Peden, Mike Hicks, and Danny McConnell. Others present: Lee Balliet, Jean Jocque and Sue Mayer.

MINUTES

Board Member Roman moved and Board Member Ehman seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the February 24th meeting. Motion carried, 4 ayes, 3 members absent, (Swafford, Roberts, Sims).

CLAIMS

Board Member Roman moved and Board Member Ehman seconded the motion to approve the claims as follows:

Vendor invoices submitted to the Controller's Office on March 10th included \$154,648.78 from the Water Utility; \$282,827.39 from the Wastewater Utility; and \$23,283.98 from the Stormwater Utility. Total Claims approved, \$460,760.15.

Motion carried, 4 ayes, 3 members absent, (Swafford, Roberts, Sims).

Wire transfers and fees for the month of March 2014:

Board Member Roman moved and Board Member Ehman seconded the motion to approve the wire transfers and fees for the month of March in the amount of \$913,746.07.

Motion carried, 4 ayes, 3 members absent, (Swafford, Roberts, Sims).

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT LABOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (LMC) ANNUAL REPORT TO THE UTILITIES SERVICE BOARD

Deputy Director John Langley presented the LMC's annual report from 2013 to the board. Mr. Langley introduced Danny McConnell, the maintenance coordinator for the plants, as well as Jean Jocque, the new facilitator for the LMC, and the former facilitator, Lee Balliet.

Dr. Balliet had written a memo to the LMC recently upon his retirement, and Mr. Langley read excerpts.

Long Live the LMC

Greetings! While I don't intend to just up and disappear, I thought that with the beginning of a new era with Jean Jocque taking my place as LMC facilitator would be a good time for reflection of developments over the last thirty years or so. In short, at least the old-timers will recall, that way back in the spring of 2001 there was a serious talk over turning over operations of the treatment plants to a outside contractor. As I recall, one of the prospective firms was an outfit headquartered somewhere in Europe. But thanks in large part to AFSCME and plant management, the city and utilities administration decided to accept a proposal from plant employees to run the plants under the structure of a joint labor management committee.

The early days of the LMC were rough, to say the least. At first LMC meetings, 'opponents' would sit on opposite sides of the conference table. Some members simply would not speak directly to the others, and overall there was a sense of suspicion and sometimes hopelessness in the air. But over time, the LMC members began to accept the possibility that things could improve and get better for all those concerned.

Flash forward some thirteen years. Not all is perfect, but there is some really good stuff to look back on and celebrate, if you will. For example, no one has been laid off. The number of grievances has dropped precipitously. Safety and training programs have been greatly improved. And the amount of resources devoted to efficient plant operations has greatly increased. All treatment plant employees have better and more effective access to Utilities' administration than ever before. The LMC has its own budget, which includes not only funds for safety and training, but the commitment of staff in the form of administrative assistants and a designated facilitator.

For myself, I can say that the time I spent on the LMC and with plant employees has been rewarding, to say the least. I know I've learned a lot and I've made some good friends. And I intend to stay in touch despite the fact that I won't be such a visible part of the LMC in the future.

As for Jean Jocque, you have a new and competent colleague, who I know will do her very best to help the LMC move forward in the months and years ahead.

LMC annual report is attached to minutes.

Board Member Roman moved and Board Member Ehman seconded the motion to accept the LMC annual report.

Motion carried, 4 ayes, 3 members absent, (Swafford, Roberts, Sims).

President Swafford thanked the LMC and staff, and the process. He thanked Dr. Balliet for his years of service, and commented on the outstanding nature of the program the board established many years ago. He commended the program and its attention to safety, and looks forward to working closely with the new facilitator, Jean Jocque.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF CONTRACTS FOR WATER MAIN INSTALLATION CREDITS WITH RICHLAND CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.

Assistant Director of Engineering Bengtson presented this request for four related water main installation credits in The Highlands Development. Mr. Bengtson has presented several similar requests in the past for the same subdivision, as it was developed in many phases.

CBU Rules and Regulations and the Indiana Administrative Code allow the utility to pay credits to developers who install new water main infrastructure for new, single-family developments. These four contracts represent a second round of credits. For the first round, we have to assure that the plat is filed, that inspections are done and deficiencies are corrected, all testing has been completed. Once those were done, the utility approved 60% of the credit (based on a calculation of three years' worth of average water bills). This is now the second phase for the remaining 40% of the amount.

Lots included:

The Highlands, PH 6, SECT 2 – lots 155-187 in the amount of \$7,546.18

The Highlands, PH 5, SECT 6 – lots 338-347 and PH 6, SECT 3 lots 385-393 in the amount of \$4,634.78

The Highlands, PH 5, SECT 5 in the amount of \$6,285.22

The Highlands, PH5, SECT 4 – lots 195-205 and PH 6, SECT 2 – lots 152, 153, 154, 188, 189, 190 in the amount of \$3,887.42

Board Member Roman moved and Board Member Ehman seconded the motion to approve the requests for water main installation credits in The Highlands development.

Motion carried, 4 ayes, 3 members absent, (Swafford, Roberts, Sims).

OLD BUSINESS:

N/A

NEW BUSINESS:

Director Murphy requested a meeting of the Finance Subcommittee prior to the next meeting, to review a contract renewal with Southern Monroe Water Authority. Meeting will be scheduled for March 24th at 4pm.

Mr. Murphy also reported that Conservation and Energy resource Manager Nolan Hendon is finishing a draft of CBU's Water Conservation Plan previously discussed, and would like to present a draft to the Environmental Subcommittee within the next 30 days.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

N/A

STAFF REPORTS:

Director Murphy reports projects are proceeding with weather improving. A larger one on 17th and College Ave is now complete.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

L. Thomas Swafford, President