

UTILITIES SERVICE BOARD MEETING

January 19, 2010

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 Department Administrative Building in Bloomington, Indiana.

Board members present: Tom Swafford, Julie Roberts, Jeff Ehman, John Whitehart, Pedro Roman, Jason Banach and ex-officio member Tim Mayer. Staff members present: Patrick Murphy, John Langley, Mike Bengtson, Mike Hicks, Tom Staley, Jane Fleig, Missy Walden and Jon Callahan. Others present: Sue Mayer.

MINUTES

Board member Roberts moved and Board member Roman seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the December 22nd and January 5th meetings. Motion carried, 6 ayes, 1 member absent, (Frank).

CLAIMS

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

Claims 1090047 through 1090103 including \$153,846.76 from the Water Operations & Maintenance fund and \$1,250.00 for water hydrant meter rental for a total of \$155,096.76 from the Water Utility; Claims 1030001 through 1030048 including \$153,947.17 from the Wastewater Operations & Maintenance fund for a total of 153,497.17 from the Wastewater Utility. Total claims approved – \$308,593.93.

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

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

Claims 1090086 through 1090105 including \$27,902.93 from the Water Operations & Maintenance fund for a total of \$27,902.93 from the Water Utility; Claims 1030041 through 1030051 including \$22,277.55 from the Wastewater Operations & Maintenance fund for a total of \$22,277.55 from the Wastewater Operations & Maintenance fund. Total claims approved – \$50,190.48.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

No old business was presented.

NEW BUSINESS:

No new business was presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

There were no subcommittee meetings.

STAFF REPORTS:

Superintendent of Operations Staley gave the USB an update on the water main break on West 8th St. that happened on January 3rd. Due to the bad weather conditions the T&D crews were not able to start the repairs until January 19th when the site was excavated. Mr. Staley said this repair will use 88 yards of concrete which will be poured over the next 4 days.

Mr. Staley said T&D crews had also repaired a water main break last Saturday at 3rd St. and Eastside Dr.

Board member Banach asked what would be covered by insurance in the case of a major catastrophe. Superintendent of Operations Staley said the insurance would cover lift stations and sewer mains but he wasn't sure if main breaks would be covered. Utilities Director Murphy said this is a good point to have raised. If main breaks are not covered by insurance it is likely there would be an emergency rate increase.

Board member Mayer mentioned that he had reported the main break at 3rd and Eastside. Utilities Director Murphy praised the work of the Communications Department which is staffed 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. He mentioned that they had recently received a call from an IU employee who said there was a squirrel in front of the Student Recreation Sport Center with its head stuck in a yogurt container. The Control Operator contacted Animal Control who took care of the situation. He said he didn't want to make light of this situation but it serves as an example of the many different types of calls that are handled by the Operators. They not only handle after hour calls for CBU but also for the Street Department, Animal Control and the American Red Cross.

Board member Roman asked how much water had been lost in the recent main breaks. Superintendent of Engineering Bengtson said the break on East 17th St. which involved a 20 foot section of the 16 inch water main had lost approximately 3 million gallons of water. It took crews five hours to isolate and de-water the site.

Mr. Bengtson said the main break on West 8th St. wasn't as severe as the one on 17th St but was still significant since the break was in a 12 inch water main. The conditions had caused the pavement to rise so an extensive amount of pavement was destroyed. The break occurred after hours so crews had to be called in for over-time work. It was also necessary to get emergency line locates which can take some time. Mr. Bengtson estimated that 150 thousand gallons of water were lost in this break.

Board member Roman said there should be more recognition of the fact that this is the time of year when the most main breaks occur.

Assistant Director of Engineering Bengtson said the 17th St. main break had been a particularly difficult one to repair.

Board President Swafford commented on what an excellent job the T&D crews do and commended them for being willing to work in such cold conditions.

Superintendent of Operations Staley invited any of the USB members to let him know if they would be interested in going out on a main break.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

There were no petitions or communications.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:16 p.m

L. Thomas Swafford, President