

## UTILITIES SERVICE BOARD MEETING

05/09/2022

*Utilities Service Board meetings are available at CATSTV.net.*

### CALL TO ORDER

Board President Ehman called the regular meeting of the Utilities Service Board to order at 5:09 p.m. The meeting was held in the Utilities Service Boardroom at the City of Bloomington Utilities Service Center, 600 East Miller Drive, Bloomington, Indiana.

**Board members present:** Amanda Burnham, Jean Capler, Seth Debro, Jeff Ehman, Megan Parmenter, Jim Sherman, Kirk White, Scott Robinson (ex officio)

**Board members absent:** Jim Sims (ex officio)

**Staff present:** James Hall, Dan Hudson, Vic Kelson, Holly McLaughlin, Brad Schroeder, LaTreana Teague

### MINUTES

***Board member Burnham moved, and Board Member Debro seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the April 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. Motion carried, seven ayes.***

### CLAIMS

***Burnham moved, and Debro seconded the motion to approve the Standard Invoices:*** Vendor invoices submitted included \$592,725.55 from the Water Utility, \$429,867.26 from the Wastewater Utility, \$7,805.13 from the Stormwater Utility, and \$1,118,635.82 from the Stormwater Construction Fund.

Burnham asked about two claims to Alexander's, LLC that had identical dollar amounts but different invoice descriptions. CBU staff later followed up with Board members about the charges. Each claim was for a modification to staff vehicles.

Board member Sherman asked if the six vehicles purchased had arrived. Director Kelson answered that they had not come.

***Motion carried, seven ayes. Total claims approved: \$2,149,033.76.***

***Burnham moved, and Parmenter seconded the motion to approve the Utility Bills:*** Utility invoices submitted included \$7,004.48 from the Water Utility and \$13,438.36 from the Wastewater Utility.

***Motion carried, seven ayes. Total claims approved: \$20,442.84.***

***Burnham moved, and Debro seconded the motion to approve the Wire Transfers, Fees, and Payroll in the amount of \$530,738.19. Motion carried, seven ayes.***

***Burnham moved, and Debro seconded the motion to approve the Customer Refunds:*** Customer refunds submitted included \$235.00 from the Water Fund, \$1,096.35 from the Wastewater Fund, \$5.95 from the Stormwater Fund, and \$6.21 from the Sanitation Fund.

***Motion carried, seven ayes. Total claims approved: \$1,343.51.***

## CONSENT AGENDA

CBU Director Kelson presented the following items recommended by staff for approval:

- a. Crowe, LLC., \$3,000.00, Financial assurance review and report for the Dillman Landfill
- b. Heflin Industries, Inc., \$4,500.00, Chemical room upgrades at Monroe WTP

***As no items were removed from the Consent Agenda by the Board, the agreements were approved. Total contracts approved: \$7,500.00.***

## REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT WITH MITCHELL & STARK CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Capital Projects Manager Hudson presented an agreement to the Board for the Solids Dewatering Improvements Project at Monroe Water Treatment Plant. The agreement includes a solids building, belt press, and other related equipment. The contract is not to exceed \$2,200,000.00.

***Burnham moved, and Debro seconded the motion to approve the agreement with Mitchell & Stark Construction, Inc., subject to the approval of the Controller's and Mayor's Offices. Motion carried, seven ayes.***

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:** None

## STAFF REPORTS:

Kelson reported a spike in the sample concentrations for the COVID virus at the two wastewater plants last week. Dillman reported 3,800, and Blucher Poole reported 9,200 gene copies per 100ml. The samples were taken last week. Interested parties can check sampling updates on the City's Socrata website at [data.bloomington.in.gov](https://data.bloomington.in.gov).

Staff had a ratings call with Standard and Poor's for the water bonds. We will know within three weeks how the rating came through, and then we will proceed with the sale of the bonds.

Board member White commented COVID numbers are the highest since mid-January. The hospital had not seen a significant increase in patients, so it may be that this strain is not as severe, but he noticed several people getting sick lately. He commended the capability of wastewater testing. He said community testing has declined, so wastewater testing is the best way to tell the level of infection in the community, and having it spike this much since January is significant. He is glad we can provide it for the public.

Board member Capler asked if there is any capability of identifying strains of COVID or is there a general marker.

Kelson said it depends on the sampling methodology, and the methodology used at the lab we are working with is not reporting to us any kind of speciation. We are expecting the technology to change over the coming months, and there may be some other

opportunities to get more sample results or more complex sample results. But, typically, whatever the prevalent strain is nationwide is what we are getting.

Capler commented as Mr. White said that maybe the strain that is going around now is not as deadly because the hospital numbers are not spiking, but the more virus that is going around, the more chance of mutations could develop.

Sherman commented that he does not need to look at data to know that cases are spiking. Until recently, he knew very few people who had COVID, and in the last three to four weeks, he knew several people who had COVID. He thinks that there is great under-reporting because of home testing and no one reporting it. The longer this strain stays there, the greater the chance of another mutation, and it may not be as benign as the current strains, but he is glad CBU is testing for it.

**PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** Burnham moved to adjourn; the meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

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Jeff Ehman, President

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Date