

The Commissioners of Ward Two Water District of Livingston Parish met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at 7:00 pm at their Administration office on Carter Drive in Denham Springs, La.

Chairman John Easterly opened the regular meeting

Present – J.Easterly, S.Westmoreland, S.Spillman, S.Ball, J.McCoy

Absent –none

Guests - Agnes Killcrease, Administrative Director

Barry LeJuene, Manager

Roy Waggenpack, Toby Fruge of Owen & White

Legal Counsel, Colt Fore

Under public input, there were no comments so Chairman proceeded to next agenda item.

Motion to accept the minutes from regular meeting held on July 17, 2021, as mailed with no public comment by S.Spillman seconded by S.Ball Vote passed Yeas-4 Nays-none Absent-none Not Voting- J.McCoy

Jimmy McCoy arrived at the meeting.

Roy Waggenpack, of Owen & White introduced the Water Sector Funds Potential (American Rescue Plan Act). He explained and noted that 9-24-21 is the deadline on applications and recommended to apply as soon as possible. He explained the deadline tightness and timetable. A discussion on the considerations was made and Manager noted several surrounding systems for expansion. Engineer explained that the second round of applications will be due in January 2022. Board discussed and consensus agreed to direct Engineer to proceed with actions to meet the second round. application timetable per the Water Sector Fund program. There was no public comment.

Legal Counsel reported that he has applied to secure a motion of dismissal (regarding the Alvarez lawsuit) due that no action has been recorded by the plaintiff in the past three years. Judge will be deciding on the status of this case later this year per the motion.

Engineer, Roy Waggenpack reported that the Simms Road line replacement project is securing installation quotes.

He also noted that shop drawings on the Vincent Place contract are nearing completion.

Administrative Director summarized the Accounts Receivable aging reports and noted that in the old amounts past due section, that only 319 customers have balances greater than \$20 and only 3 customers are owing in excess of \$1000.

Manager, Barry LeJuene, reported on the monthly customer update, noting that a total increase of 76 customers was realized thru July (year to date +421) resulting in a total customer count of 23,004.

He also gave a report on the roof needs at the administration building.

Motion to direct Manager to secure quotes for roof replacement and provide the information to the board with no public comment by S.Spillman seconded by S.Westmoreland Vote passed Yeas-5 Nays-none Absent-none

Manager presented research on the potential purchase of a Caterpillar 305E2 CR excavator from the Louisiana State Bid Contract. The price totaled \$50,060.10 along with \$1,093 of a 3000 hour or 60 month warranty. He noted that if this machine did not become available the model 305 was quoted for \$54,474.10 with same warranty.

Motion to purchase one Caterpillar excavator model 305 series as presented by the Manager from the Louisiana State Bid Contract 440018971 from Louisiana Caterpillar quote Q11873 with no public comment by J.McCoy seconded by S.Ball Voe passed Yeas-5 Nays-none Absent-none

A Financial report was presented by the Administrative Secretary for the month of July 2021, and a comparison of the period of operations and budget was given to the Board of Commissioners.

Motion to accept the financial report as presented with no public comment by J.McCoy seconded by S.Ball Vote passed Yeas-5 Nays-none Absent-John Easterly

Under board comments, Shevis Ball recommended to adopt an action point in order to catch up on the back log of taps for the public. Manager explained that a recent operator addition was made in which the position will be dedicated to taps only. Shevis Ball stated that a priority should be placed on this facet of Ward Two Water operations since the back log is affecting the public in a negative wait time for service. Board discussed the potential of using subcontractor services until the past due taps can be caught up or at least adding more staff to be dedicated to this effort. Board agreed that this should be a top priority for management until the tap services can be caught up and quotes should be assembled on a per tap basis from private contractors.

Motion to direct Manager to secure tap service quotes from private subcontractors in order to decrease the back log of requested public tap services at the present time with no public comment by J.McCoy seconded by S.Spillman Vote passed Yeas-5 Nays-none Absent-none

Under board comments, John Easterly requested prayers be made for Don Wheat. Jimmy McCoy requested legal opinion on mandating Covid vaccinations for employees. Legal Counsel responded and explained the current Covid vaccination ramification relating to the 80 hour sick leave provision. After further discussion, Chairman requested an agenda item to discuss the Covid compensation policy for 2021.

Motion to approve the bills as presented with no public comment by J.McCoy seconded by S.Westmoreland Vote passed Yeas-5 Nays-none Absent-none

Motion to adjourn the meeting with no public comment by J.McCoy seconded by S.Spillman Vote passed Yeas-5 Nays-none Absent–none



Randall Smith Administrative Secretary

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 7 PM