

The Commissioners of Ward Two Water District of Livingston Parish met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 7:00 pm at their Administration office on Carter Drive in Denham Springs, La.

The meeting was called to order by President Ted Graham
Present – T. Graham, S.Spillman, S.Westmoreland, J.McCoy
Absent -John Easterly
Guests - Agnes Killcrease, Office Manager
Barry LeJuene, Manager
Roy Waggenpack, Toby Fruge of Owen & White
Several employees of the District
Legal Counsel, Colt Fore

Motion to accept the minutes from August 20, 2019, as mailed with no public comment by J. McCoy seconded by S.Spillman Vote passed Yeas-4 Nays-none Absent–John Easterly

Under public input, no customers were in attendance, therefore Chairman moved to next agenda item.

Engineer, Roy Waggenpack reported on the DWRL new loan opportunities for a new application with DHH in order to give consideration for obligation of new loan funding for District expansion. He recommended and proposed an Engineering contract for the engineer work to be performed regarding this new loan and the expansion projects involved. This contract is needed for DWRL to give consideration in the near future.

Motion to approve the proposed engineering contract as presented regarding the Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund phases for 2019 and beyond as recommended by the Engineer with no public comment by J.McCoy seconded by S.Westmoreland Vote passed Yeas-4 Nays-none Absent-John Easterly

Engineer noted that the Stonebridge extension from south Highway 16 is out for bid with the award to be tabulated around November 8, 2019. He also noted that the Single Acres project planning design is complete and the plans are being reviewed by DHH presently for their approval. Manager explained the circumstances on this area and the need by the residents to assist the District.

Administrative Director reported that those interested in attending the Diggers Night Out event on October 17, 2019, can give her a reservation to attend.

Manager, Barry LeJuene, reported on the monthly customer update, noting that a total increase of 98 customers was realized for this month (year to date +525) resulting in a total customer count of 21,234.

Manager noted that a vehicle purchase was executed and delivered from the state bid contract 440010201 at a price of \$28,992.26 as previously adopted. Board discussed other vehicle needs in near future.

Motion to purchase two new vehicles from state bid contract 440010201 as per Manager's recommendation with no public comment by J.McCoy seconded by S.Westmoreland Vote passed Yeas-4 Nays-none Absent-John Easterly

Motion to advertise for bid the water service line work on the utility re-location project at Dunn Road to comply with the Parish Dunn Road widening project as per Manager's recommendation with no public comment by S.Spillman seconded by S.Westmoreland Vote passed Yeas-4 Nays-none Absent-John Easterly

Motion to purchase two new vehicles from stated bid contract 440010201 as per Manager's recommendation with no public comment by J.McCoy seconded by S.Westmoreland Vote passed Yeas-4 Nays-none Absent-John Easterly

Legal Counsel, Colt Fore, reported on research on providing health insurance coverage regarding two employees who are presently on workers compensation benefits. Legal Counsel summarized past procedures of other entities and noted the coverage is governed by an intergovernmental policy (District's internal policy). He recommended for District to continue same policy for these employees as followed before LWCC took the authority over them regarding health insurance. He explained the benefits to be covered until the worker compensation claim is finally settled. He noted if the employee cannot pay their portion as per District policy, then a cancellation was in order. Board directed Legal Counsel to send a letter on behalf of the District to the specific employees involved with a workers compensation claim explaining the current District policy on benefit coverage.

Motion to continue to honor and pay for health insurance benefits for employees involved with a workers compensation claim until the specific claim is settled as recommended by Legal Counsel with no public comment by S.Westmoreland seconded by J.McCoy Vote passed Yeas-4 Nays-none Absent-John Easterly

Motion to give an official 30 day notice to any employee receiving health insurance or other provided benefits involving premiums, stating that they must fully pay for their portion of health insurance premium or other benefit obligations incurred which are paid by the District, whereby also this notice instructs that the specific employee's coverage is subject to cancellation at the end of the 30 day period if the employee's obligation is not paid in full to the District as recommended by Legal Counsel with no public comment by S.Spillman seconded by J.McCoy Vote passed Yeas-4 Nays-none Absent-John Easterly

Legal Counsel noted that the agreement with the French Settlement Water Company draft is finalized with a potential closing set for 9-30-19.

He also reported on research regarding a state statute involving the size of boards via board appointments by local governments and subsidiaries of government. He noted that the Livingston Parish Council created the District by ordinance and was not created under the state statute as the case with some Districts. The Water District creation overrides the new statutes recently passed. He explained how ordinances created 5 board positions and that a new specific Louisiana statute would have to be legislated to expand the board size. He will meet further with Livingstontn Parish Council attorney.

A Financial report was presented by the Administrative Secretary for the month of August 2019, and a comparison of the period of operations and budget was given to the Board of Commissioners.

Under board comments, Stanley Spillman noted that the new grass cutting vendor appears to be catching up on all the overgrown conditions that were seen last month. Manager noted that the vendor is performing well in his opinion. Jimmie McCoy commented that quotes are in process for granting the painting contract for the Watson water tower with a Live Oak High School logo as per the specifications.

Motion to approve the payment of the bills as presented with no public comment by J.McCoy seconded by S.Spillman Vote passed Yeas-4 Nays-none Absent-John Easterly

Motion to adjourn the meeting with no public comment by J.McCoy seconded by S.Westmoreland Vote passed Yeas-4 Nays-none Absent-John Easterly



Randall Smith Administrative Secretary

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 7 PM