

The Commissioners of Ward Two Water District of Livingston Parish met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 7:00 pm at their Administration office on Carter Drive in Denham Springs, La.

Chairman John Easterly opened the regular meeting noting that public may comment on any agenda item.

Present: J.Easterly, S.Spillman, J.McCoy, S.McDaniel, J.Martone, S.Ball

Absent –David Strickland

Guests - Barry LeJuene, Manager
Agnes Killcrease, Administrative Director
Toby Fruge- of Owen & White
Legal Counsel, Hannah Callandro
Public-John Leblanc, customer
Trey Sanders, Luke Yoes, of Hannis T.Bourgeois CPA's
Several employees of the District

Motion to accept the minutes from regular meeting held on May 16, 2023, as mailed with no public comment by S.Spillman seconded by J.Martone Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-D.Strickland

John Leblanc, customer, addressed the board with a presentation on his view of water quality issues provided by the District. He gave a history of his health struggles and concern for water quality. He presented his personal testing results performed at his home and requested information from the District in the near future relating to overall water quality. Engineer volunteered to meet again with customer and explain the current procedures performed by District staff. Chairman summarized quality standards that have been followed. Chairman assigned Engineer to meet with Mr. Leblanc in order to answer technical questions.

Trey Sanders and Luke Yoes (H.T.Bourgeois CPA's) presented the 2022 financial audit, noting that a clean unmodified opinion was rendered and noted that all financial statements are fairly stated with no instances of deficiencies in internal control or material weaknesses noted during the audit. He communicated on the good support from the staff of Ward Two Water and Smith Accounting Services. He also reported on the 2022 AUP Audit results. Board thanked Mr.Sanders and Mr. Yoes for the report.

Motion to accept the 2022 Financial Audit and 2022 AUP Audit as presented with no public comment by S.Spillman seconded by S.McDaniel Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-David Strickland

Legal Counsel reported that there were no new legal issues to report.

Engineer, Toby Fruge, reported that the pre-construction meeting with BR Winwater representatives and their subcontractors was held. Engineer noted that the subcontractors are not W-2 employees. Contractor requests a notice to proceed and he agreed on this action to proceed.

Motion to grant the notice to proceed for the BR Winwater electronic meter purchase contract with a completion date estimated by August 2025 as recommended by Engineer with no public comment by J.McCoy seconded by S.Ball Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent- D.Strickland

Engineer explained there are some documents that Baton Rouge Winwater needs to complete to finalize the contract relating to LDH purposes (Brian Baker is the new representative at LDH for our projects).

Administrative Director commented that paperless customer level has reached 1287 customers to date which is an operational cost savings of \$1365 so far this year. She explained the management responses to the AUP audit findings.

Manager, Barry LeJuene, reported on the monthly customer update, noting that a total increase of 37 customers was realized thru May, YTD +125, resulting in a total customer count of 24,289.

Manager, Barry LeJuene, reported that two vendors submitted plumbing supply bids for July 1, 2023 through 12-31-23 period that he found acceptable.

Motion to accept the two responsive official bids (Baton Rouge Winwater and Coburns) for plumbing supplies as previously advertised for a six month period ended 12-31-23 as presented by Manager with no public comment by S.Ball seconded by S.Spillman Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-David Strickland

Manager noted that Verizon Corporation has revised lease agreement wording on a long term lease which Legal Counsel has reviewed and recommends.

Motion to renew the tower lease with Verizon as recommended by Legal Counsel, with no public comment by S.Spillman seconded by J.McCoy Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent- D.Strickland

Financial report was presented by the Administrative Secretary for the month of May 2023, and a comparison of the period of operations and budget was given to the Board of Commissioners.

Administrative Secretary summarized the favorable interest rates with the Louisiana Asset Management Program backed by the State and encouraged by our auditors. Board discussed the efficiency of using this organization for cash reserves.

Motion to accept the financial report as presented with no public comment by J.McCoy seconded by S.Ball Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent- D.Strickland

Motion to transfer \$2,000,000 of cash reserves to the District's Lamp account as recommended by Administrative Secretary with no public comment by J.McCoy seconded by S.Ball Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent- D.Strickland

Under board comments, Chairman appointed Steve McDaniel to the insurance committee.

Chairman also asked Manager to research cleaning the main water tower exterior.

Motion to pay the bills as presented with no public comment by S.Spillman seconded by J.McCoy Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent- D.Strickland

Motion to adjourn the meeting with no public comment by S.Ball seconded by S.Spillman Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent- D.Strickland



Randall Smith Administrative Secretary

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 18, 2023 at 7 PM

