

The Commissioners of Ward Two Water District of Livingston Parish met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at their Administration office on Carter Drive in Denham Springs, La.

Public Hearing was opened by Chairman for the purpose of public discussion on proposed Ordinance No. 200-10 for replacement of Ordinance 200-09

There were no public in attendance.

Chairman closed Public Hearing at 6:03 PM.

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman, John Easterly

Present – J. Easterly, J. McCoy, S. McDaniel, S. Ball, C. Taylor

Absent - J. Martone

Guests - Barry LeJeune, General Manager

Agnes Killcrease, Administrative Director

Toby Fruge, Owen & White

Legal Counsel, Blaine Honeycutt

Prayer was offered by Administrative Secretary and a pledge of allegiance was led by Shevis Ball.

Chairman noted that any public may comment on any agenda item during this meeting.

Chairman also reported that David Strickland has given his resignation recently due to health concerns from serving on the board and he thanked Mr. Strickland for his service.

Motion to accept the minutes from regular meeting held on May 21, 2024, as mailed by J. McCoy seconded by C. Taylor Vote passed Yeas-5 Nays-none Absent-J. Martone

There were no public comments so Chairman moved to the next agenda item.

Chairman noted that the 2023 Financial Audit report will be given at the July meeting and that he has met with the auditor and summarized items noted by the auditor.

Motion to adopt an ordinance (200-10 of 2024) to amend, re-enact, and re-establish water rate schedules, connection/tap fees, road bore fees, permit fee, customer deposits, cut-off charges, re-connection fees, transfer fees, private fire protection and sprinkler system fees, and fines and penalties for Ward Two Water District of Livingston Parish, Louisiana, as presented and discussed in a public hearing with no public comment by S.Ball seconded by J.McCoy Vote passed Yeas-5 Nays-none Absent-J.Martone

Legal Counsel commented that there were no new legal matters to discuss.

Toby Fruge of Owen & White gave an update regarding the Water Tank painting project. He noted that all vehicles were satisfactorily cleaned by the Contractor. He recommended to pay the application #1 payment in the amount of \$237,405.00 on contract 23-1475-37. Engineer also recommended to grant the substantial completion certificate.

Motion to disburse application #1 on contract 23-1475-37 to Worldwide Industries Corporation in the amount of \$237,405.00 as recommended by Engineer with no public comment by J. McCoy seconded by S. McDaniel Vote passed Yeas-5 Nays-none Absent-none

Motion to grant substantial completion on contract 23-1475-37 to Worldwide Industries Corporation as of 6-4-24 as recommended by Engineer with no public comment by S. McDaniel seconded by C. Taylor Vote passed Yeas-5 Nays-none Absent-none

Engineer reported on the AMI project and noted that installing is now in progress. He recommended to pay application #6 in the amount of \$302,150.41. He also discussed the proposal from a vendor (Pedal Valve Co.) of handling discarded meters. Manager commented on this proposal and noted the price quoted for purchasing the discarded meters was low. Board discussed and requested other options to be researched and therefore tabled this proposal.

Motion to disburse application #6 on project 1063039-06 to Baton Rouge WinWater in the amount of \$302,150.41 as recommended by Engineer with no public comment by S. Ball seconded by J. McCoy Vote passed Yeas-5 Nays-none Absent-none

Engineer stated that the Hwy 1024 line re-location is complete with pressure testing underway and that the pay application is pending due to a driveway issue. He noted also that the Eden Church Road at Lockhart roundabout line re-location is about 50% complete.

Administrative Director presented pay request #7 on the 2023 Water System Expansion DWRL series loan in the amount of \$307,914.80.

Motion to approve the submission of application #7 of the 2023 DWRL series loan in the amount of \$307,914.80 with no public comment by J. McCoy seconded by C. Taylor Vote passed Yeas-5 Nays-none Absent-J. Martone

Administrative Director gave an accounts receivable update noting that 2021-2022 past receivables total \$26,599. She stated that 2023 past due amounts are on 318 accounts, and at this time 192 customers agree to pay and 126 will be cut off for non-payment. She stated that there are 126 accounts past due relating to 2024 and that 83 accounts are being paid with 43 being cut off for non-payment.

She also discussed cyber-crime issues relating to the bank account (discussed previously with the Chairman) and proposed that preventative measures be made with the Positive Pay program at Hancock Bank.

Motion to authorize the use of the Hancock Whitney Bank Positive Pay Remote Capture program by the Administrative Director and assigned staff effective immediately with no public comment by J. McCoy and S. McDaniel Vote passed Yeas-5 Nays-none Absent-J. Martone

Motion to authorize the removal of Stanley Spillman, and the addition of Chris Taylor from the all banking accounts relating to signature authorizations with no public comment by J. McCoy seconded by S. McDaniel Vote passed Yeas-5 Nays-none Absent-J. Martone

Motion to amend the motion to include the authorization for the removal of Stanley Spillman, David Strickland and the addition of Chris Taylor from the all banking accounts relating to signature authorizations with no public comment by J. McCoy seconded by S. McDaniel Vote passed Yeas-5 Nays-none Absent-J. Martone

General Manager, Barry LeJeune, reported that 83 customers were added in April with a year to date gain accumulation of 277 and that 25,063 customers were billed in April. He also reported the receipt of bids for the previously advertised 6 month plumbing supply bids and recommended approval.

Motion to accept the two bidders (Baton Rouge WinWater, Coburns Supply) for six month plumbing supply bids for the 7-1-24 through 12-31-24 period as presented and recommended by Manager with no public comment by C. Taylor seconded by S. Ball Vote passed Yeas-5 Nays-none Absent- J. Martone

A financial report for the May 2024 period of operations was presented by the Administrative Secretary to the Board of Commissioners for their review noting budget line item comparisons to actual spending and revenues.

Under board comments, Chairman, John Easterly appointed the following committee members: Chris Taylor to Insurance, Retirement, and Technology Committees. Chairman also appointed Steven McDaniel to the Construction Committee.

Motion to pay the operational bills as presented for June, 2024, period with no public comment by S. Ball seconded by C. Taylor Vote passed Yeas-5 Nays-none Absent-J. Martone.

Motion to pay the 2023 Water System Expansion bills with no public comment by S. Ball seconded by C. Taylor Vote passed Yeas-5 Nays-none Absent-J. Martone.

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



Randall Smith Administrative Secretary

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at 7 PM