

The Commissioners of Ward Two Water District of Livingston Parish met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 17, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at their Administration office on Carter Drive in Denham Springs, La.

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

Present – J. Easterly, J. Martone, S. Ball, C. Taylor, W.Avara, M.Bennett

Absent - Stephen McDaniel

Guests - Barry LeJeune, General Manager

Agnes Killcrease, Administrative Director

Kate Gueavara, of Owen & White

Legal Counsel, Blaine Honeycutt

Citizen- Darrell Bennett

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. He welcomed Mrs. Melissa Bennett to the board as per her recent appointment. Mrs. Bennett shared his work experience, credentials, and that she looked forward to serving.

Motion to accept the minutes from regular meeting held on August 20, 2024, as mailed with no public comment by J. Martone seconded by C. Taylor Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Stephen McDaniel

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

Legal Counsel noted that there were no new legal matters to report.

Kate Gueavara of Owen & White recommended for application #9 on the AMI project contract 23-1475-01 to be paid to contractor, Baton Rouge Win-Water.

Motion to approve application #9 on the AMI project 23-1475-01 to Baton Rouge Win-Water in the amount of \$307,862.31 as recommended by Engineer with no public comment by J. Martone seconded by W. Avara Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Stephen McDaniel

Engineer recommended to grant substantial completion on contract 23-1475-26 to contractor Grady Crawford on the Highway 1024 waterline re-location project.

Motion to approve substantial completion on the Highway 1024 waterline re-location project 23-1475-26 to Grady Crawford Construction as recommended by Engineer with no public comment by S. Ball seconded by J. Martone Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Stephen McDaniel

Engineer recommended for payment of application #1 on contract 23-1475-09 with Allen Leblanc on the Eden Church Road waterline re-location project.

Motion to approve application #1 on the waterline re-location project at Eden Church Road contract 23-1475-09 to Allen Leblanc LLC in the amount of \$86,781.60 as recommended by Engineer with no public comment by C. Taylor seconded by J. Martone Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Stephen McDaniel.

Engineer explained the opportunity to apply for grants for emerging contaminants and funding from EPA through the DWRL program (100 % funds made available with zero match). She noted that the EPA adjusted the grant for treating iron and manganese levels in the water. She noted that the District's Bradford well area will be considered. Manager noted a space problem at the current Bradford well site, but a new well site will be pursued nearby. Board made comments on this grant program.

Motion to direct Engineer to pursue funding from the Emerging Contaminates grant program for well treatment funding by making application to the DRWL program with no public program by J. Martone seconded by W. Avara Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Stephen McDaniel

Engineer explained the second phase of the Water Sector Program funding potential that has 45 days to officially apply (80% grant 20% match) for infrastructure improvements.

Motion to direct Engineer to pursue funding from the Phase 2 Water Sector grant program for infrastructure improvement funding by making application to the DRWL program with no public program by S. Ball seconded by J. Martone Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Stephen McDaniel

Administrative Director presented pay request #10 on the 2023 Water System Expansion DWRL series loan in the amount of \$307,862.31.

Motion to approve the submission of application #10 of the 2023 DWRL series loan in the amount of \$307,862.31 with no public comment by S Ball seconded by J. Martone Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Stephen McDaniel.

Administrative Director gave an accounts receivable update as of 7-31-24 noting that 56 accounts have a balances over \$100 with 51 on cut off notice. Total Accounts Receivable equals \$17,341.76.

General Manager, Barry LeJeune, reported that 9 customers were added as of August with a year to date gain accumulation of 527 and that 25,202 customers were billed in August.

A financial report for the August 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, Shevis Ball requested if any progress has been made on the tap fee analysis issue previously discussed. Manager noted that progress on calculations are being made.

Chairman asked that an agenda item be inserted for the next meeting for the election of the position of Vice President.

Motion to pay the operational bills as presented for September, 2024, period with no public comment by S. Ball seconded by C. Taylor Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Stephen McDaniel.

Motion to pay the 2023 Water System Expansion Project bills with no public comment by S. Ball seconded by J. Martone Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Stephen McDaniel.

Motion to adjourn the meeting with no public comment by M. Bennett seconded by S. Ball Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Stephen McDaniel.



Randall Smith Administrative Secretary

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 7 PM