

South Toledo Bend Water District



3260 Little Flock Road • Many, LA. 71449



Malcolm Franks, President • Michael Walker, Vice President
Anna Ferguson, Secretary/Treasurer
Commissioners: Tim Collins • Michael Pitt

Minutes of South Toledo Bend Water Board January 27, 2022

Board Members Present: Malcolm Franks, Anna Ferguson, Michael Walker, Tim Collins (via phone), Mike Pitt
Others Present: Rick Leonard (Superintendent), Mark McCarty (Meyers & Associates)

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Malcolm Franks. A prayer was said, the roll was called and there was a quorum to conduct business.

A motion to adopt the agenda as presented was made by Mike Walker, 2nd by Anna Ferguson, motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The minutes of the December 2nd meeting were brought to the floor for approval. A motion to accept the minutes of the December meeting was made by Anna Ferguson, 2nd by Mike Walker, motion passed.
2. The treasurer's report for December was presented by Anna Ferguson. Bank balances were read aloud, and board members were provided with a copy of the Sinking Fund balance sheet. This account is for the refinance loan. Checks written from December 10 thru the end of January were #15075 thru #15126. Checks #143 (LDH Cash Management) & 144 (Griner Drilling Service) were written out of the asset replacement account. The payment to Griner Drilling was for the rebuild at Beaver Hill. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Mike Walker, 2nd by Tim Collins, motion passed unanimously.
3. A motion to authorize payment of the bills was made by Mike Walker, 2nd by Tim Collins, motion passed unanimously.
4. Grant Funds: For the record, Malcolm read aloud the letter that was received from Louie Bernard, State Senator for the State of Louisiana. It says, "Congratulations on the recent approval of your Water Sector Program (WSP) grant award. I know the planned improvements to the South Toledo Bend Waterworks District system will benefit the health and safety of the community. I wish you successful implementation of this project. If I can be of assistant with this or future projects, please do not hesitate to contact me." Malcolm stated that he also had another letter stating we were receiving a \$720,000 grant. Malcolm asked Mark, "How can we utilize those funds in lieu of the project we have going on here?" Mark stated that the scope of the money falls within what we're doing up at the Esto station. He would envision using that when we're doing our subsequent contract; whenever we're going to construct the remainder of the plant (i.e..putting the tank in, the piping and the electrical). There is going to be paperwork that will follow. There is a funding agreement that will need to be signed, but it's been approved. Anna stated that they will send us a contract that has to be signed and sent back. Malcolm asked Mark if he had any idea of a timeline and Mark said typically it's 2-3 months. This is not typical as it's being funded through this new water sector program. I don't know if you've heard from the Senator, but you've also been funded the bigger one. Malcolm stated that he had not heard that. Mark stated he didn't know if it was public knowledge yet, but that we were awarded the \$3.8 million also. It appears that it's in addition to the \$720,000, which was not what we expected going in as we thought they would consolidate it, but it looks like you're going to get both. Malcolm said that we weren't in the first wave of water districts to get notice but that he was told we would probably be in the second round. Mark said the 1st round were the projects they took out of the capital outlay to fund. You were in there as far as the \$720,000. You were not in there as far as the full amount that we asked. Malcolm stated that we can utilize that money against the wells. That the only thing with the \$3.8 is that it included some things like replacing the tanks at the booster stations. We have to replace our tanks. The insurance check that we got for the busted tank, we are obligated to pay for the Esto upgrades. We are committed to the Esto rebuild.

(A member of the public entered the building.) Mr. Joey Huval entered the meeting late. He wanted to see about getting an adjustment on his water bill. It was explained to him that we couldn't adjust his bill. He wanted to see about making a payment arrangement for his past due bill and get his water meter reconnected. After discussing his account, the board members agreed to extend a 12-month payment plan to Mr. Huval and have his water meter reconnected. Mr. Huval was informed that he must make his payments on time each month. He thanked the board for their time and left.

5. Year end financials: (Push to the next meeting)

6. Esto well project/rebuild update: Mark stated that the foundation for the 3 pumps is poured. The pumps have been placed on the pedestals. The piping looks complete from the tanks to the pumps. They also had installed the discharge headers in the ground going east where we have to tie-in to the existing main line. They ran into a conflict in that they hit the manhole which had a pressure sustaining valve. That has been moved out of the way. The tap on the main line has been made so it looks like they only have about 10-15 feet of underground piping that they need to make up. Malcolm stated that one of the things we went ahead and did was go ahead and make the provisions now so that when the well is up and ready that we don't have to shut anything down, that the tie-in is available. I don't think that was on the original drawing. Mark said we had a suction header for provisions to tie the two together. Malcolm said we made provisions for that tie-in. Mark said on the electrical side, it looks like he set the posts for the new electrical rack but that's the only thing that he saw electrically. He still has to finish hanging panels, the electrical wire, the conduit. Malcolm stated that it was his understanding that we got the larger VFD's in but the small one wasn't in yet. Malcolm asked if anyone had any questions, and all responded "no". A motion was made by Mike Walker to process the payment to Dennis Downs, 2nd by Mike Pitt, all agreed, motion passed.

7. Update on drilling process: Mark McCarty presented the members with the chemical process on the wells. The deeper well was at 410-430 and the shallower well was at 240-260. On the deeper well results it looked really good. The only thing we saw was the hydrogen sulfide number which was unexpected. The ph was 7.9. The corrosion looked good. The odor was the only thing that stood out. The "tthm" formation potential looked really good. If you were just looking at these results you would say we don't need the GAC. But, since they didn't have a very high residual when they did that test, Mark would like to have a repeat before he says we don't need the GAC because the total organic carbon at right about 0.84, that's usually right at the threshold that we are going to have an organic issue that we are going to have to address. Based on this I can't say that we won't have an organic issue. We very well might. We need to get that confirmed. Once we know that, we can decide what we want to do with the hydrogen sulfide. There are multiple things that can be done with that. Some of them are the same things that we would be doing with the organics. We need confirmation on the "tthm" formation. We had talked before the meeting that there were supposed to be samples set aside for us to not only use for this to rerun the "tthm" formation, but to do the GAC isoderm testing. Malcolm said they would check with Rick when he returned to work. Malcolm said the driller is ready to set casing and Mark confirmed. We can move forward with this well and Mark said, yes. Malcolm stated that what is being proposed is to go ahead and set the screen, do the pumping, evacuate the well as much as you can and also you can test what the production rate will be. Mark stated that the deeper aquifer seemed to be better quantity wise. Malcolm stated that what they would like to do is go ahead, set the casing, pump it down, take one more sample, one last look and that's where you guys are going to refine your recommendation. Mark said he felt we could go ahead with construction of the permanent well. Set the permanent screen; set the permanent casing. Once we are doing the test pump, a sample can be taken to rerun the "tthm" residual and that would determine how we treat the water. As far as the hydrogen sulfide levels, there are multiple ways to treat this and GAC is one of them. Malcolm asked what is the GAC? Mark stated it was the carbon filtering. If we find we don't have to do anything with the "tthm's" then we can try to be more aggressive with the hydrogen sulfide. Aeration is another possibility. Manganese green sand is another way of removing it. Malcolm stated that we are at the point to where we tell Mark to finish the well. He asked if all the members were ready to proceed with this and all agreed. A motion was made by Tim Collins that we move forward on the project to drill the well and accept the casing and run samples on the drawdown and quality, 2nd by Anna Ferguson, all agreed, motion passed unanimously.

8. Communications tower: A contract was provided to us, and Malcolm brought it to attorney Ronald Brandon to look over. Mr. Brandon said there was nothing prohibiting us from doing this. They were supposed to come by and survey an area to put the tower and Kurt said he noticed the flagging had been done. Malcolm said that the contract stated that they were going to pay us \$750 per month. There is a provision in there that if we ever want to sell the contract, we can. Malcolm said that we are ready to sign a contract with them. Anna asked into which bank account should the payments be deposited, and Malcolm told her the revenue account. It will be just like receiving a payment from a customer. Mike Pitt said he would like to look over a copy of the contract. Malcolm told him a copy would be provided to him. A motion was made by Anna Ferguson that we allow Malcolm Franks to speak on our behalf and to sign the contract with cingular wireless for the tower, 2nd by Mike Walker, all agreed, motion passed unanimously.

9. Swift 911: A motion was made by Mike Walker that we renew the Swift 911 contract with SwiftReach for \$2495.00, 2nd by Anna Ferguson and Mike Pitt, all agreed, motion passed unanimously.
10. Kurt Simoneaux presented the Superintendent’s report for December 2021 to the Board:
- All monthly State reports and samples sent to LADHH.
 - For the month of December, the plant processed 7,168,000 gals of water @ an average of 231,225 gals. per day and shipped out 7,092,158 gals. of water @ an averaging of 228,779 gals. per day. Used 75,842 gallons for backwashing.
 - Plant usage for production (chlorine, caustic, & polymer carrier waters) estimated @ 50,000 gallons.
 - 12 x 24 building delivery for park site

A motion to accept the superintendent’s monthly report was made by Mike Walker, 2nd by Anna Ferguson, motion passed.

11. Announcements/Comments: None
12. There was no other business and a motion to adjourn was made by Mike Walker, 2nd by Anna Ferguson, motion passed.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Thursday, February 10, 2022, AT 5:30 PM
South Toledo Bend Water Plant – 3260 Little Flock Road, Many, LA 71449
Prepared by: Betty Maupin – Administrative Assistant
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