

South Toledo Bend Water District



3260 Little Flock Road • Many, LA. 71449



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

Minutes of South Toledo Bend Water Board

January 12, 2023

Board Members Present: Malcolm Franks, Mike Walker, Mike Pitt, Donald Owen, Tim Collins
Others Present: Rick Leonard, Stephen Steinke

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 was made by Don Owen, 2nd by Mike Walker, motion passed unanimously.

No public present.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The minutes of the December meeting were brought to the floor for approval. A motion to approve the minutes of December 1st meeting was made by Mike Pitt, 2nd by Don Owen, motion passed unanimously.
2. The treasurer's report for December was presented by Mike Walker. A list of the checks written for the last quarter (October, November, December) was presented to each board member. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Tim Collins, 2nd by Don Owen, motion passed.
3. A motion authorizing payment of the bills was made by Mike Pitt, 2nd by Don Owen, motion passed unanimously.
4. Financials: Stephen Steinke presented the year-end financial report which covers through September 30th. The plant is financially sound and in a good position as far as revenue over expenses.
5. Grant funds update/Well Project: Bids were opened. We received one (1) bid on the well. A letter was penned stating that we were in compliance. We did all that we were supposed to do but that the workload was such that of the available licensed drillers within the core, only one responded. We also pointed out that had they let us do it as a change order, we would have saved our community \$240,000. The state has approved it and said we could proceed. As far as the grant, Traci Watts requested a little bit more information. The document was signed and will be transmitted to her tomorrow. It was just a verification of the prime contractor's eligibility and that we agreed. He is ready to start as soon as we give the go ahead. We have a pipeline that needs to be laid also. We received 3-bids on this. The 2 lowest bids will have to be reviewed. Some of the numbers on the bid sheets match to the penny. The 3rd bidder said they will challenge the other 2 bids for possible collusion. This was sent to the engineers (Meyers) attorney for an opinion, and also to Ronald Brandon for an opinion. What could happen is we would have to toss out the first 2 bids and go with the third bidder. This was a difference of about \$40,000. We have already started advertising for the next phase. (This ties in Item #5 & part of Item #7). This includes the strippers, the degassers and the 2 tanks at Esto, the tank at Beaver Hill and the tank at Park Site. Our infrastructure is going to be upgraded, except the lines in the ground. That is part of the bid package that is going out.
6. Amendment #4: As there was no opinion forthcoming, we will continue as we were doing. We should have a policy to address three things: (1) If the governor declares a disaster, we should probably forgive an individual's loss; (2) Death, we will forgive that loss; (3) An act of God; (4) Negligence is not covered on forgiveness. Malcolm said that everyone that he has spoken with were going by this. Malcolm will write up a policy on this, with a Motion, for the next meeting in February.
7. 3rd phase project update: We will need to move our operations over to the new location. We will need to define a building for that facility by the next meeting. All agreed that a 40x80 size would be good.

8. Disposal of Bobcat excavator: We have to put this out for bid. It has to be put in our local paper, but it is recommended that it be put in outside newspapers, also. A motion was made by Mike Pitt, 2nd by Don Owen that we start the advertising process to bid out and dispose of the old excavator, all agreed, motion passed unanimously.
9. Magnolia Water contract: They purchased Water & Wastewater Utilities, and the contract is up for renewal this month. They asked that we send the contract to them so they can have their attorney review it. A motion was made by Don Owen, 2nd by Mike Walker, that we renew the contract with Magnolia Water at the rate outlined in the contract, all agreed, motion passed unanimously. Malcolm signed the contract, and it will be emailed to them, per their request.
10. Rick Leonard presented the Superintendent's report for December 2022 to the Board:
 - All monthly State reports and samples sent to LADHH.
 - For the month of December, the plant processed 8,044,000 gals of water @ an average of 259,483 gals. per day and shipped out 7,975,132 gals. of water @ an averaging of 257,262 gals. per day. Used 68,868 gallons for backwashing.
 - Purchased (SRA) 9,027,000 Sold 4,051,000 Difference 4,976,000 % 50.4
 - HACH renewal
 - 10-inch main
 - Dodge 3500...def system went out.
 - RAVE

Rick informed the board that we are having problems navigating the RAVE system. We attempted to contact their tech department and got no response. Mike Pitt said that Pendleton Water was using Rural Water Impact and that it worked great. Information is posted on their website and alerts were sent out in a timely manner. All board members agreed to Rick checking into this system as an alternative. Let's run them both at the same time and see what happens. If need be, Rick can pen a letter to RAVE about the problems that we are having and see about canceling the contract with them. Hopefully, we can recoup the money that was paid for the contract. All board members agreed.

A motion to accept the superintendent's monthly report was made by Don Owen, 2nd by Mike Pitt, motion passed.

11. Announcements/Comments: Plant operators were out on Christmas repairing a leak. The board expressed their deep appreciation for their work and time during the holidays.
12. There was no other business and a motion to adjourn was made by Don Owen, 2nd by Mike Walker, motion passed.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Thursday, February 9, 2023, 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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