

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 November 4, 2021

Board Members Present: Malcolm Franks, Michael Pitt, Anna Ferguson, Michael Walker, Tim Collins
Others Present: Rick Leonard (superintendent), Mark McCarty (Meyers & Assoc.)

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 Mike Pitt, motion passed.

No public was present.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The minutes of the October 14th meeting were brought to the floor for approval. A motion to adopt the minutes of the October meeting was made by Tim Collins, 2nd by Mike Walker, motion passed.
2. The treasurer's report for October was presented by Anna Ferguson. Checks written from October 15 thru November 4 were #15029 thru #15054 and checks #137 thru #142 were written out of the asset replacement account. All of those were either related to the loan or the project itself. We received \$101,856.72. This was put in the asset account and the invoices were paid out of that account. A journal was created for reference. Malcolm said that when we met at the kickoff meeting, it was our understating that we would be signing off on this and then drawing against a fund at the State level. Apparently, that is not happening because they sent us the check and obviously, we paid the invoices. Do you see this as a continuance on the balance of this project? Mark said that's the way it will happen from now on and if he attends a meeting, he will bring the invoices for the board to approve if not, he will get them to us ahead of time. Mark told the board that these are sent to the state (the state engineer who is our project manager) and if he approves it, he will send it to the state treasurer who will send you a check for the cumulative amount. Malcolm said we would be receiving a check after all people have signed off on it and Mark said that was correct. The invoices will be paid directly from the funds received from the State. A journal was created for all the invoices, for auditing purposes. Anna stated that a copy of the check is put with a copy of the invoice. Also, there were 2-invoices that were paid way before we got this check. (One to Pelican & one to the clerk of court.) That's why you have the paper that shows the money was moved from the asset replacement to water revenue. A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Mike Walker 2nd by Mike Pitt, 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. Esto well project/rebuild update: Rick talked to Dennis, and he has most of the parts. He is supposed to be there tomorrow (Friday) to start doing things. Mark said he happened to talk to Dennis and he said the pumps were in and he was heading to Shreveport to pick them up but the VFD's were not in yet. Rick said they were over there yesterday breaking up one of the concrete pads, the one the pump was located on, and that they are getting ready to work on the one that is all steel.
5. Update on drilling process: Malcolm asked Mark to give us a rundown. They have completed the drilling at the 750 foot level, per the contract. They found 2-sands. (Mark provided the board members with a "drilling log" and an "E-log" after they drilled the hole.) The shallower sand is at about 200 to 260 and the deeper sand is about 360 to 430. He felt good that they did find some sand with some water in it but that we found 2. It's also shallower. By digging the well down to the 750 foot depth and by the bottom of the well, being worst case 430 foot, we save all of that casing costs. Now, there is an additional cost for sampling the 2nd sand, but with the casing savings versus the additional testing, we are about \$10,000 to the good. Mark's recommendation was that we plug up to the 430 feet, based on the

information that we have on the well aquifers from the USGS. What we were targeting was the Sparta aquifer and based on the comparisons that appears to be what we found. There is a possibility that we could go deeper and get in the Wilcox aquifer, but we don't know of anyone around here who has a well in it. What the USGS is saying is that we are in the zone of potential salt water incursion. Malcolm asked in the Wilcox? And Mark said yes. It is possible that we could drill deeper and find another sand, but they are at least providing caution to us that there is a significant probability that we could find salt water. So, our recommendation is to have the driller plug up to the 430 feet, have him test the sand in the 400 foot range and then pull up and also test the 200 foot range. Tim asked what depth does he test at? Rick told him you would pick a point. Those tests are very expensive. You wouldn't want to do a bunch of tests. They have 2-tests. You have the standard test, which was bid at \$6,000 for that test, and then you have the complete test, which is bid at \$8,000, so you are looking at \$15,000 for the 2-tests, so you wouldn't want to pull a whole series of these. Mark said the biggest expense comes with the construction of the test well. It's like \$45,000, was the bid item for that. So, if you look at how much it's going to cost, to just go sample the sand, you are looking at \$45,000 plus the \$15,000 so you are looking at around \$60,000. Malcolm asked what would happen if we said, okay, let's test the lower sand, which is apparently the aquifer we were targeting (we thought it would be deeper) but based on USGS information we feel like it has been found at a lot shallower depth. Mark said they provide a range, and he thinks they provide it in 500 foot increments. He felt both sands were out of this aquifer. Mark's recommendation would be to test them both and pick which one would be the best. He felt it was worth it. Malcolm said that is \$60,000 per test. Rick asked Mark as far as the contract goes, what would be the cost difference in doing a 4" instead of a 6" and Mark said "none". Rick asked if he didn't think a better capacity of flow would help? And Mark said, "Not on a test well". Mark said he would still test them both. Malcolm said if we test the lower sand, and we find that we've got some really, good water and it meets the standards.... and Anna said, "So, you're wanting to test the lower sand and forget about this other one?"...and Malcolm said if it meets the standards. Mark stated he would still test both of them. Rick said you may want to test both sands since you want to eventually put in a 2nd well. It may be beneficial to have different wells in different sands of the aquifer and you might want to think about that. Malcolm said in the report it stated that at the bottom of the well there was lignite. He asked Rick if it was dark lignite? Was it brown? And Rick stated it was pretty dark and hard, like sand. Malcolm asked Mark if there was some tinting, what could be done.? If it's only color versus color with some other items, it would depend. Malcolm asked the board members what they thought, and all agreed to go ahead and test both sands. Anna asked how long the testing would take and Mark told her about a month. Mark was told to go ahead and give the green light to the drilling company. We probably won't have the results until the January board meeting.

6. Communications tower: Rick informed the board members that the plant was contacted by a representative asking about leasing some of the water plant property on Little Flock Road. They want to install a communications tower for Verizon and are offering \$700 monthly to lease the property next to the plant. All were asked if they were agreeable to this possibility as this would generate revenue for the water district. All members agreed. Also, check with them and see if they would allow us to go 100 feet up the tower and put a "yaggi". This would allow information to be received from the booster stations. Mike Walker stated we needed to check and see what the process is for leasing a public entity property. Malcolm asked Rick to get more information about this and let the board know.
7. A motion to enter EXECUTIVE SESSION was made by Mike Walker, 2nd by Tim Collins, motion passed. A motion was made by Mike Walker and 2nd by Tim Collins to come out of SESSION, motion passed. NO MOTIONS OR ACTIONS WERE TAKEN WHILE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.
8. COLA review: A motion was made by Mike Walker to approve a 5.5% cost of living adjustment for the employees, 2nd by Mike Pitt, agreed by all, motion passed unanimously.
9. Rick Leonard presented the Superintendent's report for October 2021 to the Board:
 - All monthly State reports and samples sent to LADHH.
 - For the month of October, the plant processed 8,268,000 gals of water @ an average of 266,709 gals. per day and shipped out 8,149,749 gals. of water @ an averaging of 262,895 gals. per day
 - Plant usage for production (chlorine, caustic, & polymer carrier waters) estimated @ 50,000 gallons.
 - Beaver hill station
 - Building
 - Sanitary Survey (week of 15th)

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

10. Announcements/Comments: Christmas party is December 9th in Florian.

11. There was no other business and a motion to adjourn was made by Mike Walker, 2nd by Mike Pitt, motion passed.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Thursday, December 2, 2021, AT 5:30 PM

South Toledo Bend Water Plant – 3260 Little Flock Road, Many, LA 71449

Prepared by: Betty Maupin – Administrative Assistant

Published Sabine Index – December 15, 2021

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