

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 • Shawnette Newby

Minutes of South Toledo Bend Water Board

April 4, 2024

Board Members Present: Malcolm Franks, Michael Pitt, Tim Collins, Shawnette Newby

Absent: Michael Walker

Others Present: Rick Leonard, Mark McCarty, Jeremy Greer

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 Mike Pitt, 2nd by Shawnette Newby, motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Dan Meidinger was present and asked about an update on the wells. The board provided him with a project update.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The minutes of the March 7th meeting were brought to the floor for approval. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Tim Collins, 2nd by Mike Pitt, motion passed unanimously.
2. Update on project: Mark McCarty provided a project update sheet. LDH pay request #19 was received. We are waiting for pay request #20 to be approved. Pay request #21 will be signed tonight. WSP pay request #8 was approved. This includes Apeck's December and January pay requests. WSP pay request #9 will be submitted for the WSP portion of Apeck's February invoices once we receive approval of LDH pay request #20.
Beaver Hill has been in operation since mid-February. No update on the bladder tank, yet. Park Site tank has been installed. Contractor is setting pumps today. Electrical panels have been installed and we hope to be operational in roughly 2-weeks. At Esto, Apeck is nearly complete with the underground piping. Connections have been made to the new tank and the wells. One of the two main line meters has been installed. Aerators and towers are scheduled to ship Friday. Testing and control panels are supposed to be complete by that date as well. An updated delivery sheet and an email from Coastal have been provided. The Change Order No. 1 for Contract A-1 with Layne Christensen was approved by LDH.
3. Jeremy Greer (Winwater): Jeremy is the meter specialist for south Louisiana. Jeremy was here to discuss the Legacy water meters. We are having an abnormal amount of failures in our system. It appears that there are about 350 or so that have failed. Jeremy stated that he had discussed this with Master Meter. With our current registers, during the first 10 years if something happens to the meter, master meter replaces it free of charge. After 10 years, it is pro-rated by the list price which would be about \$100 per register. Due to the availability of materials, we may not be able to get any registers until around August. Master meter would like me to propose to you our new system, our 4G system, which is digital. They would like to upgrade you to this so they can get the materials to you quickly. We could get the Allegra registers to you in about 3-weeks. Master meter wants to give you the Allegra registers, the reading equipment and the software to replace the 350 or 400 or whatever that number is, they want to give you that material to replace it. They want the old 3G registers back. There is a new radio, new management software, and there will be training involved as far as the meter reader and the billing office. We will take the existing laptop and send it back to Master Meter and they will put everything you need in there and you will have 2-antennas instead of the

one you have now. At that point, if you have old registers that fail, they are going to give you a discount on replacing those with Allegra registers, or you can decide if you want to replace the existing 3G register under the warranty. The Allegras are the upgrade, and they are going to give you those for the failures that you are currently having. A brand-new Allegra register is about \$300 but they are offering you a discount of \$215 per register. The warranty for it is the same. 10 years replacement at no charge; after 10 year prorated. It's about \$100 a register to replace the old 3G meters after the 10-year period. If we make the transition, Master Meter will replace the 350 or so defective registers to move you into the 4G. Any additional beyond that would be about \$215 per unit and would come with the 20-year warranty. Jeremy said he could hold that price for about a year and then revisit it. Also, they will be willing to upgrade our system now, at no charge, and it's going to read both systems. Master meter wants to change out the defective material now and will give you the replacement registers, the radio and the software upgrade at no costs. They will have to apply for an FCC license and that could take a few weeks, so if we decide to do this, let him know so that he can apply for the license. To upgrade the laptop, it will take about 2 weeks so they would do it in between billing cycles.

The board members stated that they will have a full discussion on this and get back with him.

4. Treasurer's report: Board members were provided a bank balance sheet for their review. The CDARS account is up for renewal. All agreed to renew the account. A motion was made by Tim Collins to accept the treasurer's report as presented, 2nd by Shawnette Newby, all agreed, motion passed.
5. A motion authorizing payment of the bills was made by Mike Pitt, 2nd by Shawnette Newby, motion passed.
6. Authorization of signature for permits for construction: A motion was made by Mike Pitt to give Rick Leonard authorization to sign off on the sanitarian permits related to the construction of the building, 2nd by Tim Collins, agreed by all, motion passed unanimously.
7. 3rd phase project update: Waiting on permits so the contractor can proceed.
8. Vehicle review: The new vehicle has been ordered at a price of \$51,085.32.
9. Rick Leonard presented the Superintendent's report for March 2024 to the Board:
 - All monthly State reports and samples sent to LADHH.
 - For the month of March, the plant processed 10,192,000 gals of water @ an average of 328,774 gals. per day and shipped out 8,232,000 gals. of water @ an averaging of 265,548 gals. per day. Used 109,590 gallons for backwashing.
 - Purchased: (SRA) 8,351,000 Sold 3,501,000 Difference 4,850,000 % 50.9

A motion to accept the superintendent's monthly report was made by Tim Collins, 2nd by Shawnette Newby, motion passed.

10. Announcements/Comments: NONE

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

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Thursday, May 2, 2024, 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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