

Choctaw Utilities Board of Trustees Meeting – October 10, 2014

Substantive Motions Approved in this Meeting –

John Foote made a motion for Choctaw Utilities to join the County's effort to collect unpaid sewer usage fees. Rick Harnett seconded. Roll call vote: Ernie Sparks yes, Tim Good yes, John Foote yes, Rick Harnett yes, Bob McKinley yes.

John Foote made a motion to approve funding to perform the well pump tests, update the drawings and prepare a report for EPA approval. Bob McKinley seconded. The Board discussed the value in doing the tests now or in the future. A roll call vote was taken: Ernie Sparks yes, Tim Good no, John Foote yes, Rick Harnett yes, Bob McKinley yes.

Call to Order:

The Board of Trustees meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. in the CLPOA conference room.

Present: Ernie Sparks, Tim Good, John Foote, Rick Harnett and Bob McKinley.

Excused: none.

Jim Moran, Mike Hexamer, Tom Taylor & Nathan Peters with Madison County, Bill Laney Township Trustee, Mark Forrest County Commissioner, David Dhume County Commissioner, Steve Pronai County Prosecutor, Tom Boyd and Craig Smith were also present.

Special Notice

Steve Pronai was present to address the Utilities Board. He stated that the County Commissioners have recently passed a resolution concerning the sewer district in an attempt to collect \$49,000 in unpaid sewer usage fees. The resolution allows the sewer district to shut off the sewer of those people who don't pay their delinquent usage fees after they have been contacted. They have spoken to Jim Moran and know that the utilities have unpaid water bills. He feels the two lists match up. They want to see if the Utilities Board would like to join the County in sending out these notices and shutting off the water and the sewer at the same time if they did not pay their delinquent bills. They would allow 15 days to make arrangements to pay the delinquent bill. If they did not, the County would shut off the sewer and contact the Health Dept. because they would be in violation of Health Dept. regulations. An injunction would be filed in Common Pleas Court to remove them from the house since they would have no working sewage. Hopefully it would never come to that.

Jim Moran confirmed that he had spoken with the County concerning this issue.

Nathan Peters reported that 197 of the 850 accounts at the lake are past due. David Dhume stated that the County would like to partner in this issue of unpaid bills. They do not want to be harsh to the residents in the collection process. If the Board decides to join, a cross-check would

be made against those delinquent on their water bill and a letter would be sent explaining how the resident is to respond. There was discussion of how to handle shared grinder pumps with respect to electric service.

John Foote made a motion for Choctaw Utilities to join the County's effort to collect unpaid sewer usage fees. Rick Harnett seconded. Roll call vote: Ernie Sparks yes, Tim Good yes, John Foote yes, Rick Harnett yes, Bob McKinley yes.

The group discussed handling different cases of providing electric service short-term and long-term. Mike Hexamer requested that he is kept informed of shut-offs.

The group also discussed maintenance easements and access to grinder pumps. Tom Taylor will make a survey of properties with access issues and contact the owners to address them.

Property Owner's Time:

There were no property owners present.

Minutes:

Tim Good made a motion to accept the July minutes. Bob McKinley seconded. The Board approved the minutes.

Financials:

The Board reviewed the financials. Jim Moran reported that the small water tower was repaired, painted and is back online. The total project cost was \$39,900. Mike Hexamer requested that an article be prepared for *The Peace Pipe* explaining the work done to both towers and the projected timeframe it would last.

Old Business:

Jim provided an update on the plant capacity study. The EPA requested information on the #3 well and high service pump. They want well tests on #3 pump (24 hour test at capacity) and re-tests performed on #1 & #2 pumps. Jim has asked for a letter from the engineering firm stating what has been done up to this point, when the application was filed with the EPA and what has transpired. The engineering firm has quoted to test the wells and high service pump for \$30,000. There is no guarantee that the results will satisfy the EPA to certify an increased capacity.

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Manager's Report:

Jim reported on recent water testing for phosphates. Results are within limits.

The Board discussed the pressure drop that occurred when the small water tower was shut off for maintenance.

New Business:

There was no new business to discuss.

The meeting ended at 7:58 pm. The next meeting is set for Monday, January 5, 2015 at 7:00 pm.