

Meeting Minutes
Choctaw Utilities, Inc.
Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting
Monday, October 29, 2018

Call to Order: 7:00 pm

Role Call in Attendance: Dave Lohrer, Bob O'Connor, Doug Orange, Scott Kutzley, Kent Feliks, Greg O'Brien, Jim Moran – Plant Manager
Excused: Andrew Beckman
11 Home owners in attendance and CU Office Manager

Minutes from July 30, 2018

Motion to accept minutes as submitted approved – passed 6-0

Old Business

Copper Corrosion/Bonding of Water Lines - Dave

From the July 30th meeting minutes: 2 homes exceeded; none of the pipes were bonded and grounded sufficiently. It was recommended that an electrician come in to correct issue and re-test. They would perform grounding/bonding inspection, make repairs, retest in 2 months.

Still trying to get electrician out to the two houses to correct issue and re-test. They do not want to help. Dave will continue to contact.

Hydrants - Bob: Increase of \$385 from last year – must install three a day. BoT approved 6 new hydrants. Jim will spot 6 locations – one was already identified where cloudy water and low spot needs correction on the Itawamba curve. Hydrants installed for better flushing purposes. Bob will get with JJ Schlaegel and Jim to map out locations and start work this winter.

Chief Eades handling the getting the hydrants ISO certified for insurance purposes. All hydrants are within 1,000 feet of every home to be rated as a fire hydrant. Early next year final certification will be possible. Bob will set-up a meeting date with Schaegel.

New Plant/EPA – Dave: As we have gone through the plant approval process, the EPA sent us a projected strategies checklist for our source water protection; one item completed this past time on the checklist was to take opportunities to inform residents and neighbors about drinking water protection – this was briefed at the last Property Owners meeting last Thursday. Well #3 was fully approved by the EPA.

New Plant Engineering – Scott: No comments in the review of drawings and specifications from Somerford or London; so we have approval to proceed. All of the comments from the EPA have been addressed through our engineers and those responses have been sent back; we're waiting to see if the EPA has additional comments. We've been talking with people about SCADA - \$20,000 alone, \$25,000 with partial signal, \$35,000 if towers included. About \$28,000 for a good working system.

3 addendum issued for the drawings and specs for the contractors; re-issued drawings and added minor details to bidding documents. Bid opening Thursday 11/1 at 2:30 at water plant. Opening will only allow for apparent low bidder; all other paperwork will have to be reviewed before issuing a contract. Spoke with Tonka and ms Consultants – have had a good response and interest in bidding the project.

Lagoon – still in the contractor's package; considered having Jim Moran handle the expansion if possible. \$3,000 for the pit to mitigate freezing.

Engineers been very responsive. Pricing from Tonka stayed consistent – only changed the thickness of the tanks as a corrosion protection allowance (increased) and the EPA mandated flow meters. Cost to move the flow meters \$9,200 – final price \$475,000.

Scada and Ayecka are syncing up to rework the price. Scada feature on the new plant will allow us to drain the towers down, turning the water inventory over and reduce the age of the water in the tanks.

Special Meeting Friday, November 2 was suggested to formally approve bid to contractor and award the bid/recommendation 6:30pm – conference room at Lodge.

MOTION for special meeting – motion passes 6-0

Plant Manager

Jim met with Patrick of Wallace and Turner for commercial insurance review and 3-year term renewal quote. Brought policy up to date and corrected BoT.

Lead and copper: did testing - lead less than 15 (less than detectable limits), copper was 454 in the 98% (max is 1350)- consumer notices were mailed and EPA paperwork was concluded at the time. All is well for lead and copper for 2018. 10 samples collected and picked the second to highest. Most were below the 454. Highest was 1,000.

Generator – auxillary power. Jack Kerwin/Catapiller came out to evaluate usage for new plant. It can be converted to 480v; circuit breaker can be adjusted. At 480v, only capable of 120 amps – not sure if it will match up with the new system. Unit has historical fuel pump problem with diesel pump with pin hole leak. \$4,000 to fix the weepole. Current unit is about 10-years old. Look into natural gas if replacing. Scott will take it to the engineer and see if it will work. EPA also wants to make sure there is enough fuel stored on sight.

Scott will get the recommended size of generator from engineer; BoT will meet with Catapiller to review.

Current filters performing like they should. Last week took some tests and waiting for answer.

Final water testing in the last quarter for nitrate and nitrite.

Treasurer Report

\$738,000 in all accounts

\$351,000 long term accounts

\$43,000 in receivables

\$55,000 payables

First billing with new rate; everything flowing good. Good response from residents to be able to pay online. 14 people that Marti is following up for past due.

New plant expenditures will roll into loan.

EPA having bi-weekly conferences to make sure we are getting them everything they need to go forward with the loan. For example, the last meeting minutes were presented which initiated the rate increase to show that the loan can be paid for. Environmental report found nothing significant. Currently posted on both the HOA and CU websites for the 30-day comment period. Still looking to meet the November 6th EPA meeting to get loan approved. Get on the EPA agenda for December 6th meeting (OWDA) for final approval and lock-in interest rate. One BoT member should be there to represent.

New Business

Need to appoint a new Vice President – change the bank signature card.

MOTION was made for Kent to be Vice President – motion passes 6-0

Special Meeting – as notated above

Tree clearing at the fence line – Jim will get with Bob and coordinate a scope of work with the lagoon work.

Audience Discussion/Questions

After extensive conversation on the new water plant vs. the County possibly supplying water from the State Prison plant (soon to be purchased from the State by the County), Dave Wheatley, Dave Lohrer, and Scott Kutzley will meet with Rob Slane in mid-November to get our questions answered by the County for the possible purchase of water from the County instead of building the new plant. By December 1st we need the County to deliver all answered questions and give us a binding contract for water.

Meeting adjourned 8:38pm