

July 12 meeting Minutes

Choctaw Utilities Inc.

In attendance: Dave Rodgers, Jeff Avery, Dave Rankin, Bill Platter, Bob O'Connor, Dave Lohrer

Operator: Mike Casimir

Not in attendance: Bill Price

Members attending: Verlyn Baily

Call to order: 6:04PM

Verlyn: here for update on engineering study

Minutes: motion to accept as filed except amend item VI to change "'completed' to 'commenced.'" Lohrer Motion, Rodgers second. Passed 6-0

Manager discussion: discussion on collection rate and expenses. Collections a few points back from this time last year, expected to catch up. Discussion of clear well emptying, remedial correction, and resolution due to lightning strike. Next steps include checking tank float for ground looping and verifying suction pressure setting on high service pump is correct.

Sediment issue discussion. Discussed ongoing issue w/ quality concerns with customer on E Choctaw. Suggestion to notify community on what our plant does, proper softener settings (22 grains per gallon of hardness), and suggested maintenance. Mike and Dave to draft for Peace Pipe release.

Treasurer's report: Discussion on creation of analytic to match costs to customer charges. Discussion on budget matching daily operations & future capital needs. Continued discussion on inflationary economy and whether future capital needs are still realistic based upon monetary environment. No action taken.

Engineering study: summary of first meeting from 7/7. Engineers gathered information on system: topography, SCADA data pumping rates, pressures and built WaterGEMS model. With model complete, analyzed distribution system with 7 main criteria. Good news is the system has no fundamental flaws such as too small pipes, no high/low pressure areas. Took several recommendations on how to operate plant: 25% daily tank turnover (and associated psi settings) to improve water age, suggestion to increase plant production rate to allow tower to be primary pressurization source. From there, discussion went to distribution operation and maintenance. First, three additional flushing hydrant locations were recommended. With these installed, a unidirectional flushing protocol (UDF) is being created for our system. UDF is a maintenance program that involves shutting off valves and isolating parts of the system to allow water to only flow thru pipes in one direction, at a high flow rate – high enough to scour the bottom of the pipes and pick up sediment that normally doesn't move. . The engineers have calculated the pipe volume required to be flushed in this program, and turned that into a flush time. (Flush time for initial UDF flush is calculated to allow 3x the pipe volume to be flushed. Subsequent UDF flush times can be shorter. However, due to UDF never being accomplished here, first flush needs to be longer.) With pipes thoroughly flushed, plant can operate at higher flow rate without stirring sediment up, filling the

tower up sooner, thus improving water age and quality issues. Will follow up for next meeting date w/ engineers.

Adjourn: Rankin, Avery second 7:27P.M.