

# **Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission**

**December 9, 2013**

## **Minutes**

The Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission held its regular meeting at 4:00 PM on Monday, December 9, 2013, in the Rogers Water Utilities Administration Building. Present were Commissioners Don Kendall, Roger Surly, Travis Greene, Kathy McClure, and Jene' Huffman-Gilreath. Rogers Water Utilities staff in attendance were Joyce Johnson, Johnny Lunsford, William Evans, Jordan Waterhouse, Jennifer Lattin, Robert Moore and Earl Rausch. Others in attendance were Mayor Greg Hines, Deputy City Attorneys Jim Clark and Chris Griffin, and John Gore of the Morning News. Chairman Don Kendall called the meeting to order at 4:06 PM.

Deputy City Attorney Jim Clark introduced Deputy City Attorney Chris Griffin as the new general counsel to the Water and Sewer Commission. Deputy City Attorney Jim Clark will be retiring on January 3, 2014.

Chairman Kendall recognized Earl Rausch, Interim Utility Superintendent for the resolution to cost-share with the City of Rogers' Human Resources Department. Rausch stated that the Rogers Water Utilities is very excited about the HR sharing with the City of Rogers. Mayor Hines was present to answer any questions from the Commissioners. Mayor Hines stated he appreciates the opportunity to do the HR sharing. This process has been a coordinated effort for a couple of months. We want to provide the highest HR services to our employees and the citizens of Rogers. Chairman Kendall stated Johnson and Rausch have visited the City of Rogers on numerous occasions preparing for this change. Joyce Johnson, Utilities Controller and Casey Wilhelm, City Financial Officer, worked together to design the new HR reorganization. Surly asked what was the overall budget cost. Johnson stated RWU is going to ask for a budget amendment for the remainder of our fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. We will be asking for \$25,000 in the water department and \$25,000 in the sewer department. This amount is for one half of the year. Our water budget profit for the year is \$46,000 and the \$25,000 expenditure will leave RWU in a positive situation. Rausch stated the payments will be made twice yearly just as we pay the city attorney's office. Johnson stated the reason for the two payments is our budget year end is June 30 and the City of Rogers year end is December 31. Chairman Kendall asked the percent of our share. Johnson stated it is 35 percent. In the water department, we have two different payroll divisions (one for water and one for sewer) and the personnel policies are different. This Director of Human Resources will need to be aware of all these differences which is why we recommend the 35 percent share as a fair approach. There was a motion by McClure, second by Surly to

approve a resolution for the consolidation of the Rogers Water Utilities Human Resources functions with the City of Rogers Human Resources department. All in favor, motion carried. There was a motion by Greene, second by Huffman-Gilreath, to amend the 2013-2014 budget for the HR cost sharing. All in favor, motion carried.

Chairman Kendall recognized Johnny Lunsford, Sewer Field Operation Supervisor. Lunsford presented the request to purchase the Flygt pump used in the pilot study at the Shadow Valley lift station. The pilot study was supposed to be a 60 day study but has turned into a 5 month study. The Flygt pump from Jack Tyler Engineering was installed in the Shadow Valley lift station where we were having the problems. The pump has not clogged during the pilot study so RWU would like to purchase the pump. Surly asked if this pump is in place now. Lunsford stated yes. Chairman Kendall asked what makes this pump work better. Lunsford stated the pump impeller design is different and the impeller pulls the rags through the pump. Lunsford stated the Pollution Control Plant uses Flygt pumps in the main lift station. Moore stated that the Flygt pumps were installed in 2005 and there have been no problems. Chairman Kendall asked do we need the pumps in all the lift stations. Lunsford stated we do need these pumps at our three rag problem lift stations (Shadow Valley, Cross Creek and Rollers Ridge). RWU would like to start budgeting pump replacements and have construction specification reflect Flygt pumps. There was a motion by Surly, second by Huffman-Gilreath to approve the purchase the Flygt pump for \$23,118.94. All in favor, motion carried.

Chairman Kendall adjourned the meeting at 4:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Earl Rausch, Acting Secretary  
Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission  
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