

## **Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission**

**October 17, 2022**

### **Minutes**

The Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission held its regularly scheduled meeting at 4:00 PM Monday, October 17, 2022, in the Rogers Administration Building located at 601 S 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Present were Commissioners Roger Surly, Travis Greene, Kathy McClure, Mike Watkins and Peter Farmer. Rogers Water Utilities staff present were Jennifer Lattin, Dana Daniel, Tony Kinion, Aaron Short, Johnny Lunsford, Todd Beaver, Brent Dobler, Jerry Roegner and Debbie Putman. Also in attendance was Robert Frazier.

Brent Dobler introduced our new IT Manager, Jerry Roegner to the Commission.

Chairman Watkins called the meeting to order at 4:03PM. Commissioner McClure made a motion, seconded by Roger Surly to approve the minutes from the September 19<sup>th</sup> meeting as submitted. All in favor, motion carried.

The RWU annual audit review was not presented as John Evans was unable to attend. After a brief discussion, Chairman Watkins tabled this item until the November meeting.

Chairman Watkins recognized Jennifer Lattin for the Financial Reports. Jennifer stated that she did not have the full reports completed due to our ongoing software conversion/implementation but would send them immediately upon completion. Overall revenues have increased, and she stated that we experienced very favorable water and sewer numbers in September. Reserves are very healthy at \$45.4M. She also gave an update on the software implementation with Tyler Technologies and some of the obstacles RWU has been facing. In spite of the utility billing module implementation taking much longer than anticipated, the financial reporting and payroll modules have experienced good implementations.

Chairman Watkins recognized Jerry Roegner to go over the IT reports. IT has been helping with the implementations. The office, the plant, and our water towers now all have new security cameras onsite. The Administration and RPCF offices now have new access controls as well. The list that the team had assembled under Jene' is still being followed and will continue to be. He mentioned that he does not anticipate any major deviations from this path.

Chairman Watkins then recognized Johnny Lunsford to present the Operations Report. Johnny has been attending many conferences such as WEF in New Orleans since he is the WEF delegate for AR. Crews are performing tasks safely and productively. We are seeing the supply chain issues easing and now have all of the materials available. Commissioner Farmer asked if we were having trouble obtaining mechanical joint fittings, and Johnny responded that we had not had trouble obtaining these fittings at this time.

Chairman Watkins recognized Todd Beaver to present the RPCF reports. Dry weather has been very helpful with plant operations. Industrial pretreatment has been moving right along and our team has informed some of them of better management practices that we have noticed along the way. FOG inspection has been doing well by Amber and Patrick. Still waiting on one of the solids hauling contractors to get their incorporation in AR. Commissioner Greene asked what that consisted of Robert

Frazier elaborated. Frazier said that it was a very easy requirement to obtain, not sure why the contractor has not done this yet. Dry weather resulted in very low I&I.

Mr. Beaver then went on to ask for a motion to continue with an engineering change order for the Solids Handling Project that is in design. This amendment covers the extra design cost of a not to exceed price of \$68,500 to take the two dryer options to 15% completion. Greene asked if this seemed online, and Beaver responded with a "yes". Greene then went on to make a motion to approve, Surly seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Watkins recognized Aaron Short to make a motion to approve engineering services for a parallel 24" sewer line with an estimated cost of \$15M. This motion is to approve Crafton Tull to provide design plans. A not to exceed cost of \$689,660. Commissioner Greene asked if there was a "rule of thumb" for reviewing the cost of an engineering services contract. Mr. Short responded that it really depends on the complexity of the project and went on to briefly state what was unique with regard to this project such as a bore underneath I-49 and some of the adjacent landowners as an example of some potential obstacles that may or may not result in a higher cost to engineer. McClure made a motion, seconded by Surly. Motion approved unanimously.

With no further business, Chairman Watkins adjourned the meeting at 4:34PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brent Dobler', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Brent Dobler, Acting Secretary/djw  
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