

Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission
April 21, 2025
Minutes

The Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission held its monthly meeting at 4:00 PM, April 21, 2025, at the Rogers Water Utilities Administration Building located at 601 S 2nd Street.

Present were Commissioners Paige Sultemeier, Travis Greene, Kathy McClure, Jene' Huffman-Gilreath and Chairman Jerry Carmichael. Rogers Water Utilities staff present were Jerry Roegner, Jered Sigmon, Debbie Putman, Johnny Lunsford, Aaron Short, Dana Daniel and his wife Marilyn, Jennifer Hoffman, Todd Beaver, Brian Sartain, Mario Morales and Brent Dobler. Robert Frazier from the Frazier Law Firm was in attendance as was Chris Buntin with HDR Engineering.

Chairman Carmichael called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Chairman Carmichael then called for action on the minutes from the March 17, 2025, Water and Sewer Commission meeting. Commissioner McClure made a motion to approve the March 17, 2025, minutes. Commissioner Sultemeier seconded. All in favor, minutes were approved.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Jered Sigmon to present the financial reports. Billed revenue in the Water department for March 2025 was up 9% from March 2024 at \$1,367,249. Water consumption was up 4% at 215,985,969 gallons. The Water department reported a net income of \$42,447 for March 2025 and YTD income of \$4,492,493. The percentage of Fiscal Year Passed is at 75%. Water revenues are 81% of budget and expenses are 77% of budget. Capital spend is 38%.

The Sewer department billed revenue for the month of March 2025 is up 12% from March 2024 at \$1,647,642. Sewer consumption was up 4% at 180,030,100 gallons. The Sewer department reported a net income of \$382,213 and a YTD income of \$7,226,327. The percentage of Fiscal Year Passed is at 75%. Sewer revenues are at 79% of budget and expenses are at 73% of budget. Capital is at 29%.

Unrestricted cash reserves for March 2025 in Water are \$26,543,974 and in Sewer are \$23,501,232. Restricted funds in Water are \$3,200,966 and in Sewer are \$2,122,342. Total restricted and unrestricted cash reserves are \$55,368,514. This is an increase of \$6,493,352 from March 2024. The 12-month rolling average for lost water remains at 6%.

Mr. Sigmon explained that the lower net income numbers for both departments were due to journal entries to record bad debt expense catch-up and depreciation expense true-up. Instead of impacting once a year, we would like to spread this out over the year. RWU realized this after the budget was approved last year so the historical \$3,000 was still in place. So instead of waiting until the end of the fiscal year to true-up this number, RWU feels that it is more accurate to bill this when it occurs.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Brian Sartain to present the Engineering Reports. Mr. Sartain stated that our plan review remains stable. RWU has had pre-design meetings with Trekk to install permanent flow metering stations in the collection system to better calibrate our sewer model. The joint contract with Bentonville on the 48" emergency construction is ongoing. We are in the process of the sewer model update with Freese and Nichol. Smoke testing on the east side will resume later in the summer when we have dryer conditions. Our GIS allows us to

specifically overlay and target uprooted tree damage from the tornado with our shallow sewer mains inside the same area. He then gave a brief presentation on the Rogers Executive Airport west side water and sewer master plan. Part of this plan could be a connection to a 54" x 18" tee RWU currently has installed on the 54" Benton Washington Regional Water Treatment Plant transmission main. Brian then showed the Commissioners our updated GIS map now available on the RWU website. This will give viewers access to real time GIS information including proposed projects and projects currently under construction.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Todd Beaver to present the Rogers Pollution Control Facility reports. Todd went over the DMR's, Industrial Pretreatment Activities, and the FOG program. No issues to report. Todd informed the Commission that the EPA had approved the 2022 303d list without additional watersheds. This was a marked difference from the earlier report that included the Little Osage creek on the 303d impaired list. The plant treated 315.1 MG in March, treating approximately 36.1 MG of I&I. The average daily flow for the month was 10.2 MGD. These flows included 2.2" of rain over 6 events. The historical average rainfall for March is 3.53".

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Jered Sigmon to present the Property Insurance Renewal for 2025-2026. RWU is currently in a three-year rate lock with Cincinnati Insurance. Jered went over the changes in future insurance coverage for RWU. After the Memorial Day tornado and our experience now from working with FEMA, we took a more critical look at our current insurance coverage. For instance, a tornado would not catastrophically affect the RPCF. However, an earthquake could. Therefore, RWU proposes increasing our earthquake insurance coverage from \$2M to \$25M. After increasing this coverage and doing away with other insurance deemed not required by RWU, we arrive at a \$2400 increase in annual property insurance. RWU staff recommends approval of property insurance renewal with Rogers Insurance for \$94,545 with a \$10,000 deductible and with optional earthquake coverage costing \$7,588 for a combined premium of \$102,133. Commissioner Huffman-Gilreath made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner McClure. All in favor, motion carried to renew property insurance.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Robert Frazier to present RESOLUTION 25-08. A RESOLUTION APPOINTING AN ORGANZATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR ANTICIPATED LITIGATION; AUTHORIZING FILING OF CLAIMS REGARDING UTILITY EASEMENTS AT THE GREENS AT BLOSSOM WAY GOLF COURSE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Mr. Frazier stated that this was in reference to a potential dispute at the Blossom Way Golf Course with regard to easement restoration obligations by each party. Commissioner Huffman-Gilreath made a motion to approve, RESOLUTION 25-08. A RESOLUTION APPOINTING AN ORGANZATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR ANTICIPATED LITIGATION; AUTHORIZING FILING OF CLAIMS REGARDING UTILITY EASEMENTS AT THE GREENS AT BLOSSOM WAY GOLF COURSE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Commissioner Greene seconded. All in favor, Resolution 25-08 passed.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Jerry Roegner to present RESOLUTION 25-09 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ROGERS WATER UTILITIES TO PURCHASE DELL SERVERS THROUGH THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICIALS (NASPO) VALUEPOINT COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM; WAIVING ANY FURTHER REQUIREMENTS OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING; APPROVING THE NASPO VALUEPOINT COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR FUTURE PROCUREMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Mr. Roegner explained that RWU needs an additional five servers to house virtual servers for RWU and the RPCF. This is both for redundancy and our

new SCADA software deployment. This will provide for virtualization for both RWU and the RPCF. Commissioner Greene made a motion to approve RESOLUTION 25-09 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ROGERS WATER UTILITIES TO PURCHASE DELL SERVERS THROUGH THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICIALS (NASPO) VALUEPOINT COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM; WAIVING ANY FURTHER REQUIREMENTS OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING; APPROVING THE NASPO VALUEPOINT COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR FUTURE PROCUREMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Commissioner McClure seconded. All in favor Resolution 25-09 passed.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Aaron Short to present a request for additional back up lift station generators. Mr. Short explained that RWU has contract pricing from Sourcewell that lists Riggs Caterpillar generator installations. This is for both the Lakeview and Biltmore lift station sites. This contract includes the concrete foundations, transfer switches, and installation of the generator. The only item not included is the connection to natural gas service. RWU staff recommends approval of the Sourcewell state contract price of \$187,473.95 for generator installations at both Lakeview and Biltmore. Commissioner McClure made a motion, Commissioner Huffman-Gilreath seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Dobler then recognized Dana Daniel and his wife Marilyn who were in attendance. Dana had recently retired from RWU the previous Friday but had not gotten to say goodbye to the Commission. Dobler stated that Mr. Daniel had left a huge mark on RWU and was instrumental in establishing the current culture. He then wished him the best in his retirement.

With no further business, Chairman Carmichael adjourned the meeting at 4:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Brent Dobler, Acting Secretary
File: rwwscmin04212025