

South Sangamon Water Commission
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
October 21, 2019
Water Plant, 9199 Buckhart Road, Rochester, Illinois

Commissioners:

Present: Lee Bloome, Cindy Morris, Dave Johnson

Absent: none

Quorum: yes

Others Present:

Stephen Bivin, Kevin Canham & Laura VanProyen (SSWC), Randy Segatto (Barber, Segatto, et al), Max Middendorf (MECO Engineering), Jamie Headen (Benton & Associates), Mike Southworth (Hart, Southworth & Witsman)
Darlene Judd, Beckie Ethell

Proceedings:

- The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by chairman Lee Bloome and roll was taken.

MOTION by Bloome, second by Morris to move agenda item #8, Selection of a bond refinance company, to the top of the agenda at #2.

Roll call vote: Morris – yes Johnson – yes Bloome – yes Motion carried.

Selection of a Bond Refinance Company:

- Attorney Mike Southworth who served as local bond counsel for the commission during its original bond process, shared his input regarding the current refunding proposals and answered commissioners' questions.
- Both companies offered substantial savings and were capable of handling our needs.
- Rates and fees would be similar with both.
- Piper Jaffray is a larger company; Bernardi Securities is more Illinois based.
- The refinancing was a good idea with potential to save millions of dollars over the lifetime of the debt.

Attorney Southworth left the meeting.

- Discussion continued:

- While both had pros and cons, commissioners liked Bernardi Securities' presentation, that they were Illinois based and that their fee structure included additional and ongoing help beyond the placement of the debt.

MOTION by Bloome, second by Morris to engage Bernardi Securities to help us toward the goal of refinancing the bonds.

Roll call vote: Morris – yes Johnson – yes Bloome – yes Motion carried.

- Attorney Segatto would contact Southworth to discuss next steps and about sending written notice to Chatham and New Berlin.

Operating Report by Stephen Bivin:

- Stephen's computer went down, so no printed report was distributed.
- Everything was within regulations, and September was a fairly quiet month at the plant.

BOP CPUs:

- A CPU went down causing a shut-down. Personnel were on site and so were able to restart manually.
- To purchase an identical replacement, ready to plug and play, would cost \$20,000 to \$21,000. A current CPU, which would require programming, would cost about \$5,000 to \$6,000 plus an unknown amount for the programming.
- Bivin recommended buying two for redundancy.

MOTION by Bloome, second by Johnson to purchase two units, including programming, not to exceed \$15,000.

Roll call vote: Morris – yes Johnson – yes Bloome – yes Motion carried.

Lead and Copper Violation Notice:

- PDC Laboratories thought they sent results to EPA but actually had not sent them.
 - The results were undetectable for lead and copper and were given to EPA the same day Bivin became aware they had not been received.
 - The violation notice was not because the results were problematic, but because they did not receive the original hard copy results by mail in time.
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- Discussion regarding solutions for the future:
 - The state lab is really the only other option and is about twice as expensive.
 - There is no confirmation of receipt by EPA that would allow us to know results were not received ahead of the violation notice itself. Once corrected, another letter from the EPA would state it had been resolved but the violation would still remain on our record.

Engineering Report by Max Middendorf:

Pigging Stations:

- Work was complete on pigging station; they were holding off painting until hatch revisions are complete and pig is inserted.
- Bivin had begun the process to purchase a pig.
- Bivin made revisions to standard operating procedures that would open the discharge and use that velocity to keep the line scoured out somewhat without inserting a pig. This would extend the time between piggings reducing down time.

New Berlin Master Meter:

- Revised permit for the meter pit had been received from EPA.
- We were waiting on easement documentation. SCADA work was waiting on static IP from AT&T. Bivin spent five hours one afternoon on the phone with AT&T who said they cannot do what is needed. He began working with Advanced Automation Controls regarding the cellular controls required.
- Morris asked about the need for a new pit rather than using the existing one. The old pit was not large enough to easily accommodate necessary retrofitting. Down time should be shortened by about one week.

Public Comments:

- Commissioners heard questions and concerns regarding:
 - Lead and copper violation notice reporting:
Bloome and Bivin further explained the testing process.
- Bond refinancing:
Bloome explained the general goal was to take advantage of lower interest rates to save what should be a substantial amount of money and eliminate the ramped repayment schedule without changing the length of the repayment period. Having just engaged a financing firm, details were not yet available and would all need to be researched and discussed before specific questions could be answered.
- Chloramine conversion time frame:
Bloome stated SCADA programming was completed recently and it is ready to go live. Jamie Headen requested a meeting with Bivin to discuss conversion details, public notice coordination, etc.
- Complaints of chlorine smell in the water:

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION by Morris, second by Bloome to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2019 regular meeting as presented.

Voice vote: Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report by Laura VanProyen:

- There were no questions regarding draft financial reports previously emailed to commissioners.

Approval for Payment of Invoices:

- VanProyen distributed a list of open invoices totaling \$66,816.63 for approval and payment along with a list totaling \$4,869.75 of amounts for telephone, utilities and trash hauling that were prepaid to meet due dates.

MOTION by Bloome, second by Morris to approve payment of all invoices on the list presented totaling \$66,816.63.

Roll call vote: Morris - yes Johnson – yes Bloome - yes Motion carried.

Approve Ordinance 19-03 regarding Purchase Orders:

- Attorney Segatto stated this would change only the purchase order section; the rest of Ordinance 10-14 remained the same.

MOTION by Morris, second by Bloome to approve Ordinance 19-03, an ordinance amending Ordinance 10-14 regarding Purchase Orders.

Roll call vote: Morris – yes Johnson – yes Bloome – yes Motion carried.

Old Business:

- Segatto reported the collections suit against the greenhouse had been filed.

New Business:

- There was no new business.

At 6:37 p.m.:

MOTION by Bloome, second by Morris to move into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters per Section 2(c)(1).

Voice vote: Motion carried.

Commissioners returned from Executive Session at 6:57 p.m.

Adjournment:

- The next regular meeting of the South Sangamon Water Commission will be held Monday, November 18, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at the water plant at 9199 Buckhart Road, Rochester, Illinois.

MOTION by Bloome, second by Johnson to adjourn.

Voice vote: Motion carried.

- The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Laura VanProyen, Clerk