

South Sangamon Water Commission  
Minutes of Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
March 8, 2017; 3:30 p.m.  
Water Plant, 9199 Buckhart Road, Rochester, Illinois

**Commissioners:**

Present: Lee Bloome, Craig Hall, Joel Sander

Absent: none

Quorum: yes

**Others Present:**

Marc Thomas, Dan Held & Keith Sommers (Woodard & Curran), Max Middendorf (MECO Engineering), Randy Segatto (Berber, Segatto, et al), Laura VanProyen (SSWC), Bill Brown (Crawford, Murphy & Tilly), Patrick McCarthy, Matthew Mau & Terry Fountain (Village of Chatham), John Reynolds (State Journal-Register)  
Darlene Judd, Beckie Ethell, Bonnie Bileck

**Proceedings:**

- Meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Chairman Joel Sander and roll taken.

**Public Comments:**

Commissioners heard questions regarding:

- Timing of phosphate feed change – It was on the agenda to be decided at this meeting.
- Amount needing to be borrowed to cover capital improvement projects – There is nothing being borrowed at this time for the projects which are in process. Operating funds and funds transferred from the Depreciation, Repair and Replacement account have been used with plans to reimburse the Replacement account from revenues over a period of time.
- Status of items to be completed in response to Curry's MCPE report – One of the thirteen items remains open.

**Approve Minutes:**

MOTION by Hall, second by Bloome to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2017 regular meeting.

Voice vote: Motion carried.

MOTION by Sander, second by Bloome to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2017 special meeting.

Voice vote: Motion carried.

**Approve Payment of Invoices:**

- VanProyen presented the list of invoices to be paid noting the AT&T and Comcast invoices had already been paid to avoid late fees.

MOTION by Hall, second by Sander to approve for payment all items remaining open on the list totaling \$84,403.81.

Roll call vote: Hall – yes Bloome – yes Sander – yes Motion carried.

**Approval of Payment Application #4 to Prairie State Plumbing & Heating:**

- Max Middendorf stated all that remains to be paid following this payment is \$10,496.75 retainage.

MOTION by Sander, second by Hall to approve Payment Application #4 to Prairie State Plumbing & Heating in the amount of \$7,702.20 from the Depreciation, Repair and Replacement account.

Roll call vote: Hall – yes Bloome – yes Sander – yes Motion carried.

**Discuss and Authorize Bidding of Insurance:**

- Following Attorney Segatto's suggestion to review and get quotes for insurance about every three years, commissioners agreed to request quotes from both Nicoud and Troxell for review and approval at the April regular meeting.

MOTION by Bloome, second by Sander to authorize RFP for insurance from Nicoud and Troxell to have in time for discussion and approval at the April 18 meeting.

Roll call vote: Hall – yes Bloome – yes Sander – yes Motion carried.

**Discuss and Approve Phosphate Feed Rate Change:**

- Commissioner Bloome explained the change requested is to increase the phosphate feed rate from 1 part to 1.5 parts per million gallons at an increased cost of \$7,000 to \$10,000 per year.  
- Marc Thomas stated testing has shown a range from slightly scale-forming to slightly corrosive. After previously reducing from 1.5 parts to 1 part per million gallons, there had been no noticeable impact on water quality. He indicated 1.5 parts per million gallons is a common feed rate.

MOTION by Bloome, second by Sander to approve an increase in the phosphate feed rate from 1 part to 1.5 parts per million gallons.

Roll call vote: Hall – yes Bloome – yes Sander – yes Motion carried.

- Woodard & Curran will follow up with Chatham regarding implementation of the change.

**Discuss Water Rate Study and Wholesale Rate Increase:**

Commissioners discussed reasons for a rate increase including:

- Projections of increased water usage due to growth especially in the Village of Chatham
- Eventual need for an elevated tower
- 110% coverage requirements in the bond ordinances and increasing bond principal payments
- Repair and replacement of aging equipment

- Commissioner Hall believed including the amount for an elevated tower and the related fourth train of membrane filters would create savings on utilities, equipment wear and tear, response time and overtime.
- Commissioner Bloome thought we should look at the existing plant for choke points and opportunities for improvements for now while monitoring growth and demand before considering the addition of these capital improvements.
- Commissioner Sander was concerned about the timing needed to have the improvements in place to stay ahead of the demand. Annual monitoring of Village growth and water demand will be absolutely necessary to make sure we are prepared.
- Discussion regarding one-time increase vs three-year tiered increase.
- Commissioners agreed we want and expect more customers.

MOTION by Bloome, second by Sander to have Attorney Segatto prepare an ordinance for approval at the March regular meeting to increase wholesale water rates beginning June 1, 2017 for the remainder of fiscal year 2018 to \$8.26 per 1,000 gallons, for fiscal year 2019 to \$8.68 per 1,000 gallons and for fiscal year 2020 to \$8.82 per 1,000 gallons.

Roll call vote: Hall – no Bloome – yes Sander – yes

Motion carried.

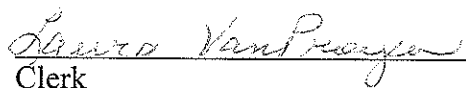
**Adjournment:**

MOTION by Hall, second by Sander to adjourn.

Voice vote: Motion carried.

- The meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Clerk