

MINUTES

Regular Meeting
Cleveland County Water Board Room

December 8, 2020
Tuesday, 7: 00 P.M.

Present: Chairman Donald Melton; presiding, Vice Chairman Dewey Cook, Secretary Bill Cameron, Commissioners Amy Bridges, Tony Brooks, Bruce Martin and John Taylor and General Manager Brad Cornwell, and Attorney Tim Moore.

Chairman Donald Melton called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, welcomed all who were in attendance and recognized Commissioner Tony Brooks who gave the invocation and Commissioner Bruce Martin led the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

A. Approval of agenda:

Chairman Melton asked Commissioners if anyone had any questions related to the adoption of the agenda as amended to include item C-5. Chairman Melton requested a motion to adopt the agenda.

ACTION TAKEN: Upon a motion by Mr. Cook and second by Mr. Martin, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the agenda as amended.

B. Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

C. Consent Agenda:

Action Taken: Chairman Melton presented the Consent Agenda Items. Upon a motion by Mr. Brooks, second by Mr. Cameron, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda consisted of the following items:

- 1) Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 10, 2020
- 2) Approval of the Minutes of the Closed Session of July 14, 2020
- 3) Approval of the Minutes of the Closed Session of August 11, 2020
- 4) Approval of the Minutes of the Closed Session of September 8, 2020
- 5) Consideration of Resolution Number 34-2020 A Resolution Ratifying the Purchase of Real Property from Gwendolyn L. Turner and Sue L. Rippy

D. Unfinished Business:

- 1) Consideration of Ordinance Number 13-2020 An Ordinance Amendment for a Capital Project Budget Ordinance and Budgets for Cleveland County Water's Centrally Located Operations Center

Mr. Cornwell explained that this ordinance was to amend the project ordinance and budgets for the Centrally Located Operations Center. The USDA has requested an environmental assessment of the property location, this report has been completed and has been shared with USDA. This ordinance will amend the budget to include the additional expenses for the environmental assessment.

Action Taken: Upon a motion by Mr. Cameron, second by Mrs. Bridges, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to adopt Ordinance Number 13-2020 *An Ordinance Amendment for a Capital Project Budget Ordinance and Budgets for Cleveland County Water's Centrally Located Operations Center*

- 2) Consideration for Ordinance Number 14-2020 An Ordinance Amendment for a Capital Project Ordinance and Budgets for Cleveland County Water's Raw Water Weir Replacement Project

Mr. Cornwell explained that this ordinance was to amend a budget ordinance and budgets to increase the budget for additional expenses related to the Raw Water Weir Replacement Project. These expenses would include items to be discussed in closed session later in the meeting.

Action Taken: Upon a motion by Mr. Martin, second by Mr. Cameron, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to adopt Ordinance Number 14-2020 *An Ordinance Amendment for a Capital Project Ordinance and Budgets for Cleveland County Water's Raw Water Weir Replacement Project*

3) Consideration of Ordinance Number 15-2020 An Ordinance Amendment for a Capital Project Ordinance and Budgets for Cleveland County Water's Marion Street Pump Station Project

Mr. Cornwell explained that this ordinance was to amend a budget ordinance and budgets related to the Marion Street Pump Station project. This project was tabled during the process of researching location opportunities. Mr. Cornwell will be presenting a prospective location during the closed session of this meeting. If the location and price of the property is not approved in closed session this budget ordinance will once again be tabled for further location research

Action Taken: Upon a motion by Mrs. Bridges, second by Mr. Brooks, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to adopt Ordinance Number 15-2020 *An Ordinance Amendment for a Capital Project Ordinance and Budgets for Cleveland County Water's Marion Street Pump Station Project*

E. New Business:

No new business was discussed during this time.

F. General Manager's Report:

Mr. Cornwell began with the financial report. The November salaries include the yearly employee longevity payments. There have been some unexpected expenses in the pump station repairs. The Marion Street and the Belwood pump stations required repairs. Mr. Cornwell noted that revenue received from GovDeals sales would be appropriated to offset these pump station repairs. There were three vehicles retired from the company fleet and sold on GovDeals. The out of warranty scrap water meters were also sold on GovDeals. The necessary ordinance for these revenues will be presented at the January board meeting. Mr. Martin inquired about the legality of selling the scrap meters at the scrap yard. Mr. Cornwell explained it was perfectly fine to sell the scrap meters at the scrap yard. The price per pound for disposal from the scrap yard was reviewed. There are companies that purchase scrap meters and refurbish them to re-sell the meters overseas. Mr. Cornwell consulted with Attorney Moore concerning the proper disposal process for the scrap meters and the opportunity to sell the scrap meters on GovDeals was researched and it was determined that the scrap meters may bring more revenue on GovDeals. The maintenance, water plant and billing reports are included in the meeting packet unless there were questions from the members. The Griffin Road line extension installation has been completed and the meter for the customer that

requested the line installation has been set. The radio meter installation for route six has been completed. This route covered the Highway 18 and Double Shoals area. The Recreation Trails Grant for the Stagecoach Greenway at Lawndale Park was not funded. Mr. Cornwell shared the explanation letter received from the NC Division of Parks & Recreation. CCW was invited to apply again for future funding. The representatives reviewing these applications would be invited to the area for a tour and introductions. The master plan information boards for the Stagecoach Greenway are available for viewing at the meeting. Mr. Cornwell shared an advertisement from the USDA for the Weir project that will soon be published in the Shelby Star. The advertisement shares contact information for questions and comments from the public and provides a deadline for these questions and comments. The USDA has not officially notified the District but the funding for the Centrally Located Operations Center and the Raw Water Weir project is believed to be funded. The official notification will be released sometime during the first weeks of January. The only requirements not completed at this time is the advertisement for the Raw Water Weir project and the response time for the public questions and comments. The environmental assessment has been submitted to the USDA, but no response has been received from the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians. The USDA will be contacting them for a response. Mr. Cornwell updated the members on the interest rate situation with Hometruster Bank and NC Capital Management Trust. The funds in the Electronic Funds account will remain in the account to gain interest revenue because that account is earning more interest revenue than the funds in other accounts. Mr. Cornwell noted that if the funds were needed the money would be transferred. The scheduling of the 2021 retreat was discussed. Mr. Cornwell suggested that the retreat scheduling be postponed because of the conditions with the COVID pandemic. The retreat is an advertised meeting that the public must be made aware of and because of COVID the guidelines for meetings and gatherings are changing frequently. The damage claim with Duke Energy that was discussed during the last meeting has been resolved with no liability on the part of Cleveland County Water. The final Lattimore Tank project numbers were explained, the project finalized below the original budget which saves money on the yearly debt payments. Mr. Cornwell shared information concerning his future foot surgery and time he expected to be out of the office. The Clearwell project bid will be advertised in December. Mr. Cornwell shared information for the Town of Lawndale Master Plan. The consultant for the Greenway Project and Mr. Cornwell will be attending the January board meeting of the Town of Lawndale. Mr. Cameron asked about the Town of Kingstown. Mr. Cornwell shared that the Local Government Commission is assisting the Town of Kingstown with their situation.

G. Board Members Announcement and Remarks

The members noted appreciation for the work being done. Mr. Cook asked about a situation with a customer requesting a line extension. Mr. Cornwell noted that the line extension had been added to the list for installation and that the customer had purchased the corresponding water taps. The eight-inch line will be installed between Carpenters Grove Church Road and Pete Mauney Road.

H. Closed Session

- 1) To establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating the price and other material terms of a contract or other proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange or lease in accordance with NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (5)

Action Taken: Upon a motion by Mr. Brooks, second by Mrs. Bridges, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to go into Closed Session at 7:31 PM.

Action Taken: Upon a motion by Mrs. Bridges, second by Mr. Martin, the Board of Commissioners returned to Open Session at 7:50 PM.

Action Taken: Upon a motion by Mr. Brooks, second by Mr. Cook, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to ratify the discussion held in closed session regarding the property transactions and to authorize the General Manager to proceed with the property transactions as discussed in Closed Session.

I. Adjournment

Action Taken: Chairman Melton called for a motion to adjourn. Upon a motion by Mr. Brooks, second by Mr. Taylor the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:52 PM.



Respectfully submitted,
Bill Cameron
Bill Cameron, Secretary