

**WEIRTON AREA WATER BOARD
REGULAR SESSION- 2022 AGENDA**

April 14, 2022

A regular session of the Weirton Area Water Board was called to order at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 14, 2022, in Room 201 of the City Building, with James Shockley, Chairman, presiding.

Those members in attendance were: James Shockley; Don Gianni, Jr.; Rocky Bragg; George Ash; Ron Jones (phone); and Flora Perrone.

WAWB Staff present were Butch Mastrantoni; Jasen Havens; Lori Veltri; Brent Reckner; Brian Kuntz; Jeff Bertha; Chuck Tenaglio; and Dan Guida.

Also attending were Jesse Alden of Thrasher Engineering; Mark Miller of the BHJ; and Craig Howell of the Weirton Daily Times.

Mr. Ash asked to amend the agenda regarding #7 Executive Session. He recently learned that it cannot appear on the agenda that way. The agenda must list what will be discussed in the Executive Session. Mr. Guida stated that it will no longer appear on the agenda, but if it is determined during discussion of an item that an Executive Session is needed, the Board always has that option if it meets the exceptions. Mr. Ash made a motion to remove item #7 from the agenda. Mr. Gianni seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

Mr. Ash made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2022, meeting. Mr. Bragg seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Jones stated that the minutes were not included in his packet. Ms. Veltri replied that due to waiting for Mr. Mastrantoni and Mr. Havens to review them, last minute resolutions for the packet, and payroll, she forgot to put the minutes in the packet before she ran copies. Mr. Shockley stated that several Board members had been able to review the minutes before approval, and if Mr. Jones had any concerns he could bring them up at the May meeting.

REPORTS

Administrative Report - With no discussion from Board members regarding the Administrative Report, it was approved as submitted.

Finance Report: Mr. Kuntz reviewed the finance report, which was included in the Board packet. Mr. Gianni asked about activity for the month of March. The Main Cash account had a large expense of \$686,000.00. He stated that \$160,000.00 would have been the truck that we bought, but he asked if Mr. Kuntz knew what the other expenses were. Mr. Kuntz replied that we had an extra payroll this month. Even though the pay date was 4/1, the

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payroll company pulls out the money a day early. That would account for \$65,000.00. Mr. Bragg made a motion to reimburse the General Fund for our shared expense in the amount of \$3,276.00 for the month of April 2022. Mr. Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Delinquent Report: Mr. Reckner gave the delinquent report. The shut off date for the February bill run was March 30, 2022. The 30 day cycle ends on April 29, 2022. Total accounts to be collected or terminated as of the March 30, 2022, shut off date were 976. Of this number, 141 were more than one bill past due, 52 have paid in full, 19 made partial payments and still have an outstanding past due balance, 14 have been shut off, 5 paid and were reconnected, 59 received time extensions and will be collected in regular procedure should they fail to pay as agreed, 13 customers received pledges, and 14 customers are under multi-payment contracts. MRAP applications are coming in slowly. At least nineteen customers have applied. Five hundred seven single bills are past due. The number of customers still not paying the garbage charges is still persisting – sometimes two to three charges past due.

Citizens' comments and communications: There were no citizens' comments or communications.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Radio Read Meter Project – Mr. Alden stated that there was not much to update. We are still in the holding pattern of waiting until the time frame lapses on the sea container. Mr. Guida asked when that would be. Mr. Alden replied that he thought the Board put a value of \$2,500.00 on the container and that Mueller was being charged \$50.00 per day. He felt that we were getting close to the value of the container. Mr. Mastrantoni stated that we are still trying to get it moved off the street. We are having difficulty finding someone who can move a 40 foot container. Mr. Guida stated that he would like to pinpoint the exact date. He asked Mr. Alden to check on it and email him and Mr. Mastrantoni. Mr. Bragg asked if we could use it for storage once it is moved. Mr. Reckner stated that they could. Mr. Shockley asked if we should at least see how much it will cost to get it moved. Mr. Mastrantoni stated that he had not done that yet because he was holding out hope that Mueller would take care of moving it.

Update on the WTP Expansion Project – Mr. Alden reported that they are still working through their quality control review. They are near complete on that. They are going to

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come back up and do another review. There are still a couple of things that they haven't dealt with yet. One of those is the SCADA. They are going to try to coordinate a meeting with the SCADA programmer and staff to make sure that is all ironed out. They attended the work session with City Council as well as the Council meeting on Monday evening to discuss the ordinance regarding the rate increase. Mr. Mastrantoni stated that he would like to give Council recognition and his personal thanks for moving forward with both ordinances to upgrade the water and sewer plants. The rate increase for sanitary will take place 45 days after the enactment of the ordinance. The effective date will be May 26, 2022. In order to lessen the impact on customers, it was decided that the water increase will take effect August 31, 2022. He is currently working with Smart Bill and the Finance Department to get phase one rates instituted for sewer in May. He will follow up with the water increase in August. Since water had a rate increase with the 234 legislation relatively recently, the Water Board was a little better from a cash flow perspective than the Sanitary Board. Mr. Shockley suggested sending a letter to each council person from the Water Board. Mr. Mastrantoni stated that he would have that taken care of.

Mr. Miller presented Draw #23 in the amount of \$6,488.65 to BHJ-MPC. This dates back to when Ms. Zimnox was here. They had run out of admin money and had just been setting invoices off to the side. He got with Jesse since they are starting to wrap up. There was extra money in other items, so he got permission from Marie Prezioso to move some funds around. This brings them up to date. Mr. Gianni made a motion to approve Draw #23. Mr. Ash seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Resolution #202 – To Authorize the Utilities Director to Secure W.C. Weil Company for Purchase of 6” and 2” Pressure Reducing Valves and 2” Pressure Relief Valve for the Country Club Pit** - Mr. Bragg asked if that was the brand that was in the pit right now. Mr. Bertha replied that they were Golden Anderson. Mr. Bragg asked why we were going with these. Mr. Bertha replied that they were more reliable. He explained that Golden Anderson pistons get in that set position and then they stick and won't operate when the hydrants come open. Mr. Bragg asked if we have had good success with these in other pits. Mr. Tenaglio replied that we have. Mr. Havens stated that this was a line item in this year's budget. Mr. Bragg made a motion to approve

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Resolution #202 in the amount of \$19,996.00 from the R & R Account. Mr. Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- 2. Resolution #203 – To Authorize the Utilities Director to Renew the West Virginia National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Yearly Permit Fee** – Mr. Bragg made a motion to approve Resolution #203. Mr. Gianni seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 3. Resolution #204 – To Authorize the Utilities Director to Secure Two American Darling Fire Hydrants** – Mr. Ash made a motion to approve Resolution #204 in the amount of \$6,629.76 from the General Fund. Mr. Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 4. Resolution #205 – To Authorize an Increase in the Utility Director’s Spending Limit** – Mr. Ash made a motion to approve Resolution #205. Mr. Gianni seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 5. Resolution #206 – To Authorize the Utilities Director to Secure Total Equipment to Repair/Install Texas Street Vertical Turbine Pump** – Mr. Mastrantoni stated that due to the confusion at the last meeting, he had members of staff here that could discuss what we are buying and paying for. Mr. Mastrantoni stated that we had previously approved a new motor at \$13,000.00. That morphed to an additional \$7,000.00 once they took the motor apart. There was some additional work that had to be done. Mr. Havens reported that the \$23,182.00 that was approved last month was for the motor repair. We did not go with a new motor because there was a 15-17 week lead time. When the Board rescinded the previous motion of \$13,000.00, that actually included \$7,971.00 to repair the pump. The \$23,000.00 had nothing to do with the pump, but they both needed rebuilt. The Board has already approved the motor. They just need to approve the pump repair, which is Resolution #206. Mr. Bragg asked if they had done anything over this past month. Mr. Havens reported that it was installed yesterday. Mr. Bragg made a motion to approve Resolution #206 in the amount of \$7,971.00 to come from the R & R account. Mr. Gianni seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 6. Next Meeting Date – May 12, 2022**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

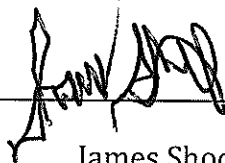
- 1. Information Report on Status of Board Expense Funding** – Mr. Mastrantoni reported that we have been doing a great deal of upgrading equipment recently. He wanted the Board to have a list to keep track of all the upgrades and expenditures. The upgrades have been made consistent with what will work within the design theme that Thrasher has been anticipating for the upgrade.
- 2. Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program – Started March 28, 2022** – Mr. Havens stated that the program is through the state. Ms. Willson in Collections has already received some voucher promises that money will be paid out of that fund for customers.
- 3. Chief Operator - Chuck Tenaglio** – Mr. Mastrantoni introduced Chuck Tenaglio as the new Chief Operator. He held this position previously, left the department for 2 ½ years, and returned in 2017.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before this April 14, 2022, Regular Session of the Weirton Area Water Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m. Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Gianni and seconded by Mr. Bragg. The next Regular Session of the Weirton Area Water Board was set for May 12, 2022.



James Shockley, Chairman