

MABE Meeting Minutes November 30, 2021

In Attendance:

Darrell Gibble
Steve Keech
Lori Sifford
Floyd Jennelle
Jim Freeze
Keith Showalter, Systems Design Engineering
Charlotte Gehman

Absent:

Stephen Kalis, Fox Rothschild

Others in Attendance:

Dave Friedman, EEMA
John Dean

Meeting called to order at 7:02p.

Approve Minutes of October 26, 2021, Board Meeting – **Motion by Jim to approve the Minutes of the October 26, 2021, Board Meeting. Second by Floyd. Motion approved.**

Public Comment

None

Correspondence/Communication

Twin Valley Fire Company Drive – Motion to approve a \$100.00 donation. Board will raise the donation to \$125.00 for each of the two fund drives in 2022.

Borough Council Letter – Board will notify Council of new rates as they always do.

Operator's Report

Average flow for October was 77,000/gpd. UV bulbs replaced and spares were ordered. Clarifier lines and aeration basin piping were flushed. Light bulbs on the tank, blower room and ballasts were replaced. Lakeside auger channel was deep cleaned. Two sections of the screening need to be replaced. Brad is putting quotes together for replacement screens. Return sludge line needs to be changed to pvc. **Motion by Floyd to approve up to \$600.00 to replace the original cast iron return sludge line piping with pvc. Second by Steve. Motion approved.**

Bearings and rubber seals purchased. John will purchase a few additional keys and get a keyed padlock to replace the one that broke off in the lock. HVAC Improvement Proposal – on hold until Brad can identify the parts needed.

Engineer's Report

PA Small Water & Sewer Grant – will be ready to go out to bid in January.

Blue Rock Project – Revised as-built plans are still in process. These are needed to close out the project.

Corbett Easement – Fence posts are in, and fencing will be put in tomorrow and inspected by SDE.

Easement Plans/Right of Way Project – Charlotte still needs to identify any outstanding easements.

Capital Improvement Plan – Review of the revised CIP. Keith says it is a fluid document that can be modified at any time. Discussion of potential additional projects that can be added. **Motion by Jim to approve revised Capital Improvement Plan. Second by Floyd. Motion approved.**

Board will add an additional train and nitrification to the County Urban Center Improvement Inventory List. Keith will work on a description and cost estimates.

Solicitor's Report

Thiel Project Construction Escrow Improvements Agreement – Waiting for the financial security to be clarified before Stephen can finalize the agreement.

Old Business

Grant Opportunity Subcommittee Report – Merle is waiting for additional information on grants.

2022 Rate Schedule – Discussion of the draft budget and fees to support the budget and continuing repayment of the debt.

Motion by Darrell to approve the following rate changes for 2022. Second by Jim. Motion approved.

- Monthly sewer rate approved from \$230.00 to \$240.00 per quarter.
- Finance charges will be added after the 30th day.
- Tapping Fee will be increased from \$6,000.00 to 6,500.00.

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New Business

Low Income Housing Water Assistance (LIHWAP) Program - **Motion by Floyd to approve participation as a vendor for the LIHWAP program. Second by Steve. Motion approved.**

Motion to approve the MABE Board meeting dates for 2022 by Steve. Second by Darrell. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report

Approve October Payables per Check register presented – **Motion by Darrell to approve the payables for November as presented. Second by Floyd. Motion approved.**

Lori is planning to finalize the budget before the December meeting. Planning to try to refinance the loan prior to November 2022.

Admin Update

None.

Executive Session

Motion by Floyd to approve Charlotte's salary increase by \$1.25 hour and allow three additional PTO days in 2022. Charlotte has permission to modify her schedule as needed. Second by Darrell. Motion approved.

Meeting Adjourned 8:12p

Next scheduled MABE Board meeting is Tuesday, December 28, 2021, at 7:00p.

Respectfully submitted by Charlotte Gehman