

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Warner Village Water District Commissioners
At 9:00 A.M. on
January 11, 2016 at the Treatment Plant

Present: Peter Newman, Peter Savlen, and Dan Lavoie, Commissioners; Ray Martin, Administrator; Jim McLaughlin, Clerk; and Chuck Come, Superintendent.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the Commissioners' regular meetings held on November 23, 2015 and on December 14, 2015 were both approved as submitted.

North Village Road Wells

Ray has not received any new information from the PUC.

Superintendent's Report

Chuck reported that the Denny Hill storage tank was cleaned and was found to be in reasonably good condition. The process took the contractor 6 hours to complete. No final report has yet been received.

Chuck said that work on Well #1 was completed and it is ready to go back on line, once water quality test results have been received.

Chuck reported that Pump #2, original to the plant, needs to be rebuilt. The Commissioners voted to engage Chase Electric to do this work at an estimated cost of \$5,995. This is substantially lower than level of costs for similar work by Triple A Pump and the firm was recommended by Joe Damour. Discussed Pump #3, the newest pump that has been causing problems. The consensus is that the pump is not correct for the work it is expected to perform. Chuck said he hopes that the muffin monster adjustment will solve the problem of material passing into the system and clogging this pump.

Chuck reported on a problem with a pump in the head works building, where the variable frequency drive has worn bearings. Replacement parts, recommended by Joe have been ordered (\$500).

Chuck advised that he is operating both clarifiers and will continue this practice through the winter, thus avoiding problems associated with freezing. He said that it has taken some trial and error to get the flows out of each unit, but that was achieved today. Chuck continues to fine-tune the system. No problems with the discharge to the Warner River.

Chuck is working with Kay Steen to make sure her water supply doesn't freeze this winter. He is waiting for Mike Chadwick to install a bleeder set-up.

Chuck reported that he failed the Operator 2 license, but Stan passed his Operator 1 exam. The Commissioners agreed to have Stan's license replace Joe Damour's son's license as a back-up for the plant. Chuck will continue to study and retake the exam this year.

Administrator's Report

Ray reported a balance of \$18,200 left unspent in the Rural Development grant to the District. He has discussed with RD the possibility of using \$8,200 of these funds for the purchase and installation of sludge blanket monitors in each clarifier. These items were in the original grant/loan application, but were dropped due to budgetary constraints. Ray also made the argument that the remainder of these funds be used to help defray the cost of the new plow truck to be purchased this year. Ray said that RD was favorably disposed and the Commissioners agreed with both of these proposals. Chuck said that he planned to get the alarm systems working better as a part of the monitor installation process.

Ray reviewed the December financial reports. Ray said that the District will have to find a

different insurance carrier for the coming year, since the Municipal Association has been barred from continuing to provide property and disability insurance coverage. Primex will be the likely carrier. Peter S. asked that Ray explore the possible coverage of breaks in the distribution and collection systems under a new carrier.

Ray gave an update of the proposed solar array project. The District's treatment plant property is 16.4 acres in area. The proposed location for the array would be partially within the fenced portion on the eastern side and would extend beyond to provide sufficient space for the array.

With a State grant of \$75,000, a successful CDBG grant of about \$70,000, and a 2.75% RD loan, Ray explained that the District would realize a saving of between \$7-10,000 each year between the annual loan repayment costs and the electricity cost, if no solar array project were implemented. Approval for the project will have to be voted at the annual meeting.

The Commissioners discussed personnel in the 2016 budget. They approved a 5% increase in Ray's hourly reimbursement due to his contributions to the District since he started in 2013.

February 4th is the date for the next budget committee meeting considering the District's budget.

The Commissioners also approved a \$2.00 per hour raise for Stan, in view of his passing the Operator 1 license exam. Chuck will receive a 2% pay increase.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 A.M.

The next Commissioners meeting – Monday, January 25, 2016 at 9:00 A.M.

Recorded by Jim McLaughlin, Clerk