

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

Present: Peter Newman, Peter Savlen, and Dan Lavoie, Commissioners; Ray Martin, Administrator; Chris Perkins, Treasurer; Jim McLaughlin, Clerk; Chuck Come, Acting Superintendent; Joe Damour, Superintendent. Also David Mercier, Underwood Engineers.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the Commissioners' regular meeting held on March 14, 2016 were approved as submitted. Also the minutes of the District's Annual Meeting on March 15, 2016 were approved unanimously.

Underground Injection of Treatment Plant Effluent

David Mercier with Underwood Engineers provided the Commissioners with information on the new EPA copper and phosphorous limits imposed as part of its NPDES permit and a preliminary look at generalized soils conditions in the area south of the plant, as mapped by USDA's NRCS. These soils are characterized as being poor as to suitability for absorbing the injection of effluent into the ground. He said that the District might want to look to an array of possible actions to respond to the new limits. One of the first steps he recommended was to have the river water sampled and tested by a clean sampling methodology to determine the background levels of copper and phosphorous, both upstream and downstream of the plant. He offered to perform some calculations to see what target levels of these two contaminants would apply to the District. Dave said that test pits and soil borings would be needed to assess the suitability of the land being considered for injection to give a definitive answer.

Discussed the steps required to put together a request for quotes from a number of engineering firms in order to be compliant with federal grant and loan regulations (CDBG and RD). Joe Damour said he would prepare a list of engineering firms for the Commissioners to interview regarding the next step in addressing the new rules and to develop a request for qualifications. Joe said he feels that the District will not be able to meet the new copper limits, regardless of the method chosen to treat the effluent for discharge to the river.

Administrator's Report

Ray reported that the truck purchase papers are ready to be taken to Sugar River Bank to get the loan. He will then provide Rural Development with this evidence of purchase in order to get the additional grant money of about \$10,000 to lower the cost of the truck to the District.

Ray said he will meet with George Horrocks of Harmony Solar tomorrow to discuss the extent of tree removal needed to accommodate the solar array.

Ray also advised that he is strongly considering not pursuing a loan from RD for financing for the solar project, due to the cost of securing this loan and issues raised by RD about the process used to select this company. He indicated that he wanted to wait until the reprogrammed RD grant money has been approved. Joe offered the view that many communities are following the route of getting financing from commercial banks as opposed to Rural Development because of the expense and difficulty of meeting federal requirements.

Ray distributed and discussed the revenue and expense reports for January, February and March. He observed that there were a number of expenses early in the year that resulted in the total exceeding an average quarter's expenses. This should change as we move on so that the total expenditures will reach more normal levels.

The Commissioners discussed revenues and the impact of an older resident base on the quantity of water used.

Concerning the McDonald's pump station, Ray said he will prepare a memo to the Planning Board stating the District's position that they will not undertake any other pump station installations for potential new commercial entities in the Exit 9 area. Chris Perkins suggested that the District should examine the surcharge fee now being charged the customers who use the pump station to see if it shouldn't be raised, in view of the need to address the continued maintenance and possible replacement of this facility.

Superintendent's Report

Chuck reported that the treatment plant process is working well.

He said that Well #1 is causing some concern because of the way it is being operated to control flows. He said the District needs to invest in variable frequency drives for both wells, and particularly for this well, to allow a less stressful method of operation. Chuck will investigate the cost estimate for VFD's for further consideration.

Chuck reported that he has not started hydrant flushing because he doesn't have the new truck. He emphasized the importance of getting this vehicle as soon as possible, for this and other tasks. The old truck is no longer safe to operate.

Discussed the problem with the new clarifier and that Apex has committed to sending someone to inspect the tear in the mechanism. Chuck affirmed that the problem was caused by faulty installation of the device. He said he wasn't too hopeful that Apex would come through on this issue. Chuck expressed confidence that he could do the necessary repairs once the clarifier had been emptied.

Other Matters

Joe asked the Commissioners to assign official responsibility authorization of the NPDES Permit to Ray Martin and sign this authorization. The Commissioners approved of the assignment of responsible official authorization to Ray.

Jim McLaughlin advised that he has put the District's meeting minutes for 2016 on the Town's web site, in response to a request from the public at the Annual Meeting. Joe Damour suggested that the Community Confidence Report due to be distributed to all customers in July of each year could be put on the site as well. This would satisfy NHDES requirements and ease the burden on Ray. Jim said he would check into this step.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 A.M.

The next Commissioners meeting – Monday, April 25, 2016 at 9:00 A.M.
Recorded by Jim McLaughlin, Clerk