

MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING of the BOARD OF TRUSTEES of the
CATERPILLAR TRAIL PUBLIC WATER DISTRICT of WOODFORD
COUNTY ILLINOIS on July 10, 2023 at 7:00 PM, via GoTo and at
404 TEN MILE CREEK ROAD, EAST PEORIA, IL 61611-9240

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sutton called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, noting a Quorum was present.

ROLL CALL / ATTENDEES

Physically present – Bob Sutton, John Bellisario, Jason Howard, Greg Long, Patti Pitcher, Christine Slagel, Tiffany Stanley, Zach Taylor, Kay Webber, Josh Zulu

via Teleconference – N/A

Excused – Angie Keil

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The regular CTPWD meeting for June was cancelled due to lack of quorum; therefore, tonight's meeting will cover data from both May and June.

Zach announced their son was born on May 31st. Mom and baby are doing well.

Chairman Sutton acknowledged the recent passing of Kay's great nephew.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kay Webber moved to approve the May 8, 2023, Minutes; seconded by Christine Slagel.

Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

LEAK ADJUSTMENT(S)

Chairman Sutton approved a \$325.00 credit for 423 Bayside Drive after a water heater check valve failed, resulting in a reading seven times their typical usage. In the letter he also clarified this is a one-time per year exception, asking them to be vigilant going forward.

DISTRICT BILLING REPORT

Patti reported a total of 2,034 bills with a read date of May 24, 2023, were sent totaling 10,131,293 gallons.

Water billed was \$130,224.95. Loan service billed was \$10,142.01 and penalties billed were \$1,804.56, for a grand total billing of \$142,171.52 for the month of May.

Patti reported a total of 2,036 bills with a read date of June 26, 2023, were sent totaling 15,923,822 gallons. Water billed was \$193,344.08. Loan service billed was \$10,152.34 and penalties billed were \$1,873.68, for a grand total billing of \$205,370.10 for the month of June.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

TRANSACTION LIST BY VENDORS / BILLS PAID

No objections regarding the May expenses totaling \$141,037.48.

Christine Slagel moved to approve the bills paid in May; seconded by Zach Taylor.

Motion passed unanimously.

No objections regarding the June expenses totaling \$641,345.98, including a \$300K loan payment to IEPA.

Kay Webber moved to approve the bills paid in June; seconded by John Bellisario.

Motion passed unanimously.

BALANCE SHEET / PROFIT & LOSS / CASH FLOW

The C/R for May was 1.66.

Net Income for May was \$218,933.26. Cash flow balance at the end of May was \$893,025.63, including \$130K in metered sales due to the dry weather – a record month!

Jason Howard moved to approve the financial reports as presented; seconded by Josh Zulu.

Motion passed unanimously.

The C/R for June was 1.25.

Net Income for June was \$298,861.71. Cash flow balance at the end of June was \$524,926.08.

Kay Webber moved to approve the financial reports as presented; seconded by John Bellisario.

Motion passed unanimously.

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

USAGE REPORT

Greg reported 14,451,000 gallons were pumped in May. The Bacterial test was good and the average fluoride level was .734 (target 0.6-0.8). Hardness was 4.9 grains per gallon during May.

Grains will likely increase.

The PLC module in the lime silo failed near the end of the month and was replaced in June.

Greg reported 17,685,000 gallons were pumped in June. The Bacterial test was good and the average fluoride level was .752 (target 0.6-0.8). Hardness was 6.0 grains per gallon during June.

Grains are starting to gradually decline but our water quality remains intact.

Another leak was repaired at 113 Murphy Lane – the third one in five years. No boil order was needed, but it did require opening the road and digging underneath the pavement.

PLANT / SYSTEM UPDATES

MTCO fiber optic upgrades at the office and plant have been completed.

WELL NO. 5 UPGRADE – The new pump arrived June 6th. Layne Christensen Co. began installation on Monday, June 19th and the upgrade was completed June 23rd. Greg praised the expertise and experience of the Layne Christensen crew.

The column pipe had rusted and was thinning in spots, so it was good we replaced it even though it may have had four or five years of life remaining. After the screen was cleaned, it looked brand new. For the record, Well No. 4 and 6 each have a 30-foot screen; Well No. 5 has a 20-foot screen.

The pump was tested and samples collected June 26th and 27th were clean. The drawdown was also better than expected. Greg submitted our IEPA Operating Permit application and is awaiting approval. Upon receipt, Well No. 5 will be put into service so staff can determine its chemical composition. After that, CTPWD will be ready for the Solar Array system.

The bleach concentration used for screen cleaning is 150 parts per million. For comparison, the ratio for drinking water is 4 parts and for swimming pools, 6 parts. Greg also noted pumps should be pulled and inspected every ten (10) years. His records indicate Well No. 5 was pulled in 1995, again in 2005 to replace the motor and most recently in 2023 to install the new pump.

Well No. 6 performance has started to decline slightly, indicating the pump should be pulled and inspected and the screen possibly cleaned. We may also want to replace the column pipe depending on its condition. Since Well No. 6 will be our backup well after the Solar Array is operational, this maintenance can be done as the budget allows.

Greg has Layne Christensen's current Certificate of Insurance and will forward to Tiffany.

Chairman Sutton complimented Greg on his decisions to replace the column pipe and to opt for the bleach-cleaning method (rather than pressure-wash). CTPWD is also appreciative of Greg's expertise and experience.

SOLAR ARRAY

Status – Our solar panels have shipped. As for the construction start date, it has finally been verbally communicated to us as November 1st. Ameren has completed the survey but has yet to install the switch, the last component required before the Solar Array system can be installed. As such, and because CEDG hasn't been transparent, Josh will require this date in writing, along with other "milestones."

Conversation with R. Spain – Due to the ongoing frustration with CEDG, Chairman Sutton has spoken with State Representative Ryan Spain about this situation. Rep. Spain is ready and willing to speak to Ameren on our behalf. Chairman Sutton drafted a letter containing key information; however, CEDG now claims Tri-Tech is making progress, slowly but surely, so Rep. Spain's assistance is currently on hold.

In the meantime, Chairman Sutton has spoken with Homefield Energy again and was offered 6.7¢/kWh as compared to our current 12.4¢/kWh. Chairman Sutton selected a 4-month contract, likely for July/August/September/October 2023.

OLD BUSINESS

Valley View Project Status – All paperwork has been submitted and their loan approved, although a Loan Agreement is not yet in hand. Valley View's Bylaws have also been updated and submitted for approval. After approval, bids can be let.

Germantown Hills Athletic Complex – Greg has not had any updates for several months, although he has been contacted by both Tobin Bros. and G.A. Rich indicating bids have been let. Mr. Mair has told Chairman Sutton that Greg and the (Chicago-based) engineers have worked out a solution to the State Police Headquarters' service line issue, but Greg denies this. CTPWD's stance on requiring a new service line from Townhall Road – and abandoning the line under the proposed soccer field – continues to be met by the engineers' desire to simply dig the line deeper. After a brief discussion regarding the details, the Board fully supports Greg's suggested idea would be in everyone's best interest and the most cost-effective long term. This issue will be re-visited when the final plans are presented requiring CTPWD's approval.

NEW BUSINESS

Part-time Employee – Christina Howard, wife of Board Member Jason, has been hired for this previously advertised, part-time office position. She assists Angie with administrative duties and covers the office while Angie is off for a few days.

Insurance Renewal – Mine Subsidence / Flood Coverage – Chairman Sutton explained it was originally thought mine subsidence coverage was required by the State but that was not correct. Since there's no history of a mine in Germantown Hills, and only naturally-occurring flooding incidents qualify for flood coverage, neither rider is necessary. Chairman Sutton may drop both riders, which could result in a small savings for CTPWD.

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

Chairman Sutton referenced a piece of mail received from the Citizen Utility Board (CUB) suggesting their focus is shifting to include acquisition of community water systems such as ours. We had been approached by Illinois American Water Co. in the past but declined.

ADJOURNMENT

Jason Howard moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:55pm; seconded by John Bellisario.

Motion passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, August 14, 2023, at 7:00pm. Please call to be excused if you're unable to attend.

P. Pitcher
Board Secretary