

Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission

September 23, 2024

Minutes

The Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission held its regularly scheduled meeting at 4:00 PM Monday, September 23, 2024, in the Rogers Administration Building located at 601 S 2nd Street. Present were Commissioners Jerry Carmichael, Kathy McClure, and Travis Greene. Rogers Water Utilities staff present were Jered Sigmon, Brian Sartain, Todd Beaver, Johnny Lunsford, Dana Daniel, Aaron Short, David Ingram, Mario Morales, Jerry Roegner and Brent Dobler. Robert Frazier, with the Frazier Law Firm, was also in attendance as was Nick Landes, Brent Hawer and Greg Simmons with Freese and Nichols Engineering.

Chairman Carmichael called the meeting to order at 4:00PM. Chairman Carmichael then asked for a motion to approve the August 19, 2024, Water and Sewer Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Greene made a motion to approve, and Commissioner McClure seconded. All in favor (Greene, McClure, Carmichael), motion carried.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Jered Sigmon to present the financial reports for August 2024. August Income in the water department was \$734,490.95. August Income in the Sewer department was \$629,651.46. Billed revenue for the month in the Water department was \$2,063,321 a 10.2% YOY increase. Billed revenue for the month in the Sewer department was \$1,659,006 a 7.9% YOY increase. Water consumption was up 5.5% YOY at 409,924,900 gallons, and Sewer consumption was up 7.0% YOY at 221,140,700 gallons. With 16.7% of the year passed, revenues in the Water department were at 19.9% and expenses were at 15.7%. In the Sewer department, revenues were at 14.7% and expenses were at 11.4%. Total unrestricted and restricted funds are at \$52.1M, versus \$49.6M in August of 2023. The 12-month rolling average for lost water stands at 7.2%. Mr. Sigmon also stated that \$133,200 were collected in access and impact fees. He also stated that the audit was just about to wrap up and we will be able to present audited numbers for FY24.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Brian Sartain to go over the Engineering reports. Mr. Sartain stated that the department had reviewed 156 total plan sets including 21 large scale developments. He mentioned that the large-scale development plans will be replaced with site development and public improvement plans under the new Unified Development Code. RWU is also now reviewing sign permits. This is important since signs, in many cases, share the same placement as our water and sewer lines. Commissioner Carmichael asked Brian how we can see these permits, and Mr. Sartain explained that this is due to the Cityworks platform that allows the sharing of this information with RWU. He then briefly elaborated on the 5th & Walnut project and the difficulty we are experiencing with procuring a contractor. No bids have been received on this project. Final numbers have now been received on the new Solids Handling Facility. The final numbers were \$33.1M, well below the \$36.3M GMP anticipated. Brian explained that this was due to tax exemptions and reduction in contingencies with the 90% plans. The contractor is still on schedule for an October start date with an April 2026 completion date. He then briefly showed the Commission some conceptual designs for the RWU facility expansion since Field Operations has outgrown the existing facility. The Pinnacle sewer project is moving forward with the new sod contractor. Brian also shared the before and after pictures of the sewer pipe restoration underneath I-49 and Blossom Way Creek and how pleased RWU is with the results.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Todd Beaver to go over the RPCF reports. He went over the DMR summary and then the FOG program. The dryer maintenance is now complete, although it did take longer than anticipated. There is now an issue with a rotary joint, but we have been able to work around this. The search continues for a new maintenance technician since our last one moved out of the area. The RPCF treated 293.8 MG in August, meaning we treated 14.8MG from I and I. These flows included 3.05" of rain over 7 events. The historical average rainfall for August is 3.34".

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Brian Sartain to present an Engineering Proposal for the ARDOT Hwy 112 Utility Relocations. This specifically applies RWU utilities that must be relocated for a proposed roundabout at Pleasant Grove and Hwy 112. Most of this will be reimbursable by ARDOT. Reimbursable fees for the design are also reimbursable. Chairman Carmichael requested a motion for authorization to enter into a contract with the Arkansas Department of Transportation for the acquisition of preliminary engineering services and also to enter into an agreement with Craton Tull & Associates, Inc., for the design of water and sewer utility relocations within the proposed highway corridor, at hourly rates and expenses not to exceed \$125,000 and to authorize RWU to negotiate the final form and content of both agreements. Commissioner Greene made a motion to approve, Commissioner McClure seconded. All in favor (Greene, McClure, Carmichael), motion passes.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Brian Sartain to present a service agreement for scheduled inspections for RWU's water storage tanks. KLM has proposed having an inspection schedule for all our water storage facilities to maintain compliance with AWWA and ADH. This agreement requires KLM to submit an annual statement of qualifications each year and RWU can cancel this agreement at any time. Commissioner McClure made a motion to approve the service agreement with KLM Engineering, Inc. for the scheduled inspection of water storage tanks in accordance with the schedule provided as well as authorization RWU to negotiate the final form and content of the agreement. Commissioner Greene seconded. All in favor, (Greene, McClure, Carmichael), motion passes.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Jerry Roegner to present an agreement for professional services for the evaluation of the RWU SCADA system. Mr. Roegner elaborated on this proposal for consulting assistance in evaluating our current SCADA system which will help us determine our next SCADA system software. Commissioner Greene made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner McClure to approve an agreement with Garver Engineers for the evaluation and conceptual design of SCADA upgrades for water and sewer operations and the RPCF. All in favor, (Greene, McClure, Carmichael), motion passes.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Todd Beaver to present RESOLUTION 24-27 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A CERTAIN REPLACEMENT PART FOR THE SLUDGE DRYER AT THE ROGERS POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY; AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE; WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING: AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Mr. Beaver stated that the rotary joint on the existing sludge dryer has been leaking, and having exhausted all other alternatives, replacement is the only option. There is only one manufacturer for this joint. Commissioner McClure made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Greene to approve RESOLUTION 24-27 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A CERTAIN REPLACEMENT PART FOR THE SLUDGE DRYER AT THE ROGERS POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY; AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE; WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING: AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. All in favor, (Greene, McClure, Carmichael), resolution passes.

Brent Dobler then introduced Nick Landes to present the Rogers Pollution Control Facility Capacity Improvements Project. Mr. Landes presented the design basis for the improvements (hydraulic and flow capacity), timelines, estimated costs and ultimately a conceptual design of what these capacity improvements would look like on the existing site. Powerpoint presentation in CivicClerk. This was a presentation only; no vote was required.

With no further items, Commissioner Carmichael called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner McClure made a motion and Commissioner Greene seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brent Dobler/Secretary

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