

Western Townships Utilities Authority
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 23, 2022
WTUA MIDDLE ROUGE CONFERENCE ROOM
40905 Joy Road, Canton, MI 48187

The regular meeting of the Western Townships Utilities Authority Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, May 23, 2022 in the WTUA Middle Rouge Conference Room, 40905 Joy Road, Canton, Michigan 48187. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by the Alternate Chairperson, Jerry Vorva.

Present:

Jerry Vorva
Anne Marie Graham-Hudak
Mark Abbo

Absent:

Kurt Heise

Also present were:

Aaron Sprague
Suzanne Balan
Jack Polhill

WTUA
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The first order of business was the acceptance of the agenda: Following discussion and upon hearing no objections; it was

R-22-05-26 Resolved to accept the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Vorva, Graham-Hudak, Abbo
Nays: None
Absent: Heise

The next order of business was the minutes of the regular meeting of April 25, 2022. Following discussion and upon motion by Graham-Hudak, supported by Abbo; it was

R-22-05-27 Resolved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of April 25, 2022.

Ayes: Vorva, Graham-Hudak, Abbo
Nays: None
Absent: Heise

The next order of business was Approval of WTUA Bills. Following discussion and upon motion by Abbo, supported by Graham-Hudak; it was

R-22-05-28 Resolved to approve the schedule of disbursements for May 2022 of \$778,007.58 and pre-approved payroll for June 2022 of \$23,191.09.

Ayes: Vorva, Graham-Hudak, Abbo
Nays: None
Absent: Heise

The next order of business was the Operations and Maintenance Report for the month of April 2022. Following discussion and upon motion by Graham-Hudak supported by Abbo, it was

R-22-05-29 Resolved to receive and file the Operations and Maintenance Report for the month of April 2022.

Ayes: Vorva, Graham-Hudak, Abbo
Nays: None
Absent: Heise

The next order of business was the Directors Report for the month of May 2022: Following discussion and upon motion by Graham-Hudak supported by Abbo; it was

R-22-05-30 Resolved to receive and file the Directors Report for the month of May 2022.

Ayes: Vorva, Graham-Hudak, Abbo
Nays: None
Absent: Heise

The next order of business was Financial Statements For The Six Months Ended March 31, 2022: Following discussion and upon motion by Abbo supported by Graham-Hudak; it was

R-22-05-31 Resolved to receive and file the financial statements for the six months ended March 31, 2022.

Ayes: Vorva, Graham-Hudak, Abbo
Nays: None
Absent: Heise

The next order of business Flow Meter Purchase: WTUA uses a network of sanitary flow meters located throughout the system for the purpose of analyzing the flow from each community and billing for WTUA's costs. Historically, each flow meter had a dedicated location and when that meter failed a spare meter was installed at that location while the dedicated flow meter was repaired/replaced. Upon completion the spare meter was removed, and the dedicated meter was reinstalled. This process resulted in the cost of the meter rental as well as an additional site visit by meter maintenance staff for the removal of the spare and reinstallation of the dedicated meter. Several years ago, WTUA abandoned the dedicated meter concept; WTUA purchased five (5) spare flow meters to be stored and managed by Martin Controls (now HESCO). When a meter fails now, it is replaced immediately from the stock of spares and remains in place. The removed meter is evaluated, repaired and placed into the spare inventory, if cost effective. WTUA's spare inventory has been depleted due to meter failures. HESCO provided a quote for three (3) Isco 2150 meters and three (3) sensors for a cost of \$23,247.00. Following discussion and upon motion by Abbo supported by Graham-Hudak; it was

R-22-05-32 Resolved to concur with the recommendation of the Director of Operations to purchase three (3) Isco 2150 meters and three (3) Sensors for a total cost of \$23,247.00.

Ayes: Vorva, Graham-Hudak, Abbo

Nays: None

Absent: Heise

The next order of business was Installation of SCADA Radio Communication: WTUA utilizes a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system for the day-to-day operations of its various facilities. A critical component of this SCADA system is the communication between those facilities, allowing for the staff to monitor and operate the facilities from either Middle Rouge or Lower Rouge, and in order to make informed operational decisions based on the conditions at each of the facilities. Over the past 10 plus years, we have utilized internet connections (with a VPN funnel) to accomplish these communications. We currently utilized a DSL connection at Middle Rouge and cable internet at Lower Rouge. At each facility we utilize the business connection (cable at both) as the failover, should the primary SCADA connection stop working for any reason. Unfortunately, our DSL connection is no longer available and the redundancy at Lower Rouge is suboptimal (ideally the primary backup connections should be separate methods and providers). As such, WTUA staff and the IT consultant have been searching for alternatives to provide the communications while maximizing stability. We have reached out to various providers (cellular, satellite, cable, radio); in fact, we contracted with a satellite provider for provision of the primary SCADA communications at Middle Rouge. Unfortunately, that installation ran into issues and was canceled. We did receive one price proposal for installation of radio communications (from Trendset Communications Group, Clinton, MI) between the facilities (multiple radio providers were contacted), for a cost of \$23,120.57. The installation will be guaranteed; if it does not work, WTUA will not pay for it. Additionally, this solution has very limited ongoing costs (limited to annual or semi-annual preventative maintenance), as opposed to the monthly costs of the current and other alternative solutions. This cost is only for the communications between Middle and Lower Rouge; we are still working with the provider to identify a means to add in the Hines Drive Pump Station. Following discussion and upon motion by Abbo supported by Graham-Hudak; it was

R-22-05-33 Resolved to concur with the Director of Operations to engage Trendset Communications Group (Clinton Township, Michigan) for installation of radio communications between the Middle Rouge and Lower Rouge Facilities for a cost not to exceed \$23,120.57; and

Further, that the Director of Operations sign the Agreement on behalf of the Authority.

Ayes: Vorva, Graham-Hudak, Abbo

Nays: None

Absent: Heise

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The next order of business was public comments: There were none.

The next order of business was Commissioners' Comments: There were none.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the regular meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Vorva,
Alternate Chairperson



CHAIRPERSON

6/27/22