

Western Townships Utilities Authority
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, November 21, 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, November 21, 2022 in the WTUA Middle Rouge Conference Room, 40905 Joy Road, Canton, Michigan 48187. The meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m. by the Chairperson, Kurt Heise

Present:

Kurt Heise
Anne Marie Graham-Hudak
Mark Abbo

Absent:

Also present were:

Aaron Sprague
Suzanne Balan
Jack Polhill
Pete Howell

WTUA (via phone)
WTUA
JACOBS/OMI
JACOBS/OMI

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

R-22-11-69 Resolved to accept the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Heise, Graham-Hudak, Abbo

Nays: None

Absent: None

The next order of business was the minutes of the regular meeting of October 24, 2022. Following discussion and upon motion by Abbo, supported by Graham-Hudak; it was

R-22-11-70 Resolved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of October 24, 2022.

Ayes: Heise, Graham-Hudak, Abbo

Nays: None

Absent: None

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

R-22-11-71 Resolved to approve the schedule of disbursements for November 2022 of \$605,589.50 and pre-approved payroll for December 2022 of \$34,785.72.

Ayes: Heise, Graham-Hudak, Abbo

Nays: None

Absent: None

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

R-22-11-72 Resolved to receive and file the Operations and Maintenance Report for the month of October 2022.

Ayes: Heise, Graham-Hudak, Abbo

Nays: None

Absent: None

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

R-22-11-73 Resolved to receive and file the Directors Report for the month of November 2022.

Ayes: Heise, Graham-Hudak, Abbo

Nays: None

Absent: None

The next order of business was WTUA Schedule of Meetings for Calendar year 2023: Article VIII of the By-Laws of the Western Townships Utilities Authority states "Regular meetings of the Commission shall be held at such time and place as shall be prescribed by resolution of the Commission".. Following discussion and upon motion by Abbo, supported by Graham-Hudak; it was

R-22-11-74 Resolved to approve that the proposed WTUA Schedule of Meetings for the 2023 calendar year be approved as presented; and

Further, to direct WTUA staff to post the Schedule of Meetings for the 2023 calendar year within the three member communities and on the WTUA website.

Ayes: Heise, Graham-Hudak, Abbo

Nays: None

Absent: None

The next order of business was Employee Compensation: This year, the budget included a 3% raise for staff. The increase results in a total cost to the Authority of \$4,171 for both the Accountant and the Administrative Assistant. Comparison of the proposed 3% increase results in wages that compare reasonably with similar positions at the Townships. Following discussion and upon motion by Abbo supported by Graham-Hudak; it was

R-22-11-75 Resolved to concur with the Director of Operations to approve a salary matrix increase of 3% effective for the pay period beginning December 26, 2022 which has a pay date of January 13, 2023.

Ayes: Heise, Graham-Hudak, Abbo

Nays: None

Absent: None

The next order of business was Lower Rouge VFD Replacement: The Lower Rouge South Pump Station utilizes six (6) pumps to send flow to the onsite storage and/or the North Pump Station. Four of those VFD's were replaced as part of the DeMaria expansion project in approximately 2010 (the other four were replaced in 2006, two of which were modified for the new pumps supplied by DeMaria in about 2010). The four replaced during the expansion have problematic, and two have recently failed. Repair attempts have been unsuccessful and component replacement is cost prohibitive. As such, we requested pricing for replacement of two (2) VFD's from three trusted vendors; Utilities Instrumentation Services (UIS of Dexter), Outbound Technologies (New Hudson), and McNaughton-McKay Electric Company (Mc&Mc Ann Arbor). Quotes were received back from two of the three vendors (UIS and Outbound) for in-kind replacement (Allen Bradley), with pricing ranging from \$66,940 to \$143,437. UIS provided the lowest cost as well as two other options (different brands) ranging from \$53,290 (Yaskawa) and \$70,500 (Square D). I am still hopeful we will receive pricing from Mc&Mc. We have no experience with Yaskawa VFD's, so we are checking references. We have been told lead-time on these VFD's is approximately 10 months. As such, I am requesting approval to issue a Purchase Order not to exceed \$66,940 (the lower cost for the in-kind replacement) for the purchase and installation of two (2) new VFD's. Jack and I will evaluate the Yaskawa drives for reliability, and should we be satisfied will instead order the lower cost drives (for less than the proposed not-to-exceed price). If we are not satisfied with the reference checks, we will order the Allen Bradley drives from UIS, unless Mc&Mc provides a lower cost proposal. Following discussion and upon motion by Abbo, supported by Graham-Hudak; it was

R-22-11-76 Resolved to concur with the recommendation of the Director of Operations to issue a Purchase Order for replacement of two (2) Variable Frequency Drives for a fee not to exceed \$66,940; and

Further, that the Director of Operations sign the Purchase Order upon completion of analysis of the Yaskawa brand VFD.

Ayes: Heise, Graham-Hudak, Abbo

Nays: None

Absent: None

The next order of business was Middle Rouge Pump 3 Repair: The Middle Rouge North Pump Station utilizes six (6) pumps to send flow to YCUA; Pumps #3 and #4 are the day-to-day pumps, with the remaining pumps being used primarily only in wet weather. These pumps began operation in 2009. As you may recall, Pump #4 failed to start this summer and was pulled and repaired by Kennedy Industries. Following completion of those repairs, Pump #4 was installed and Pump #3 was removed for inspection. Initial inspection indicated that the pump needed to have some minor adjustments, so the pump was taken to Kennedy for further inspection. Upon inspection, the pump was determined to have many of the same issues as Pump #4, although not to the point of failure. These issues include: heavily worn impeller and wear plate; seal sleeves are showing signs of wear; contaminated bearings, which round loudly on test run; mechanical seals allowed leakage to oil housing; damage to terminal board due to leakage; failed leakage

sensor. Kennedy will replace the impeller and wear plate, mechanical seals, bearings, terminal board and leakage sensor. The stator was washed, baked and passed electrical testing and will be reused. The rotor is in good condition and will be reused. Kennedy prepared a quote to repair the pump for \$74,320, including delivery and reinstallation. This is slightly higher in cost to repair than Pump #4, primarily due to the cost of the new impeller (we used a spare impeller for Pump #4 repair). Pump #4 took approximately five (5) weeks and we expect a similar schedule for this pump. At our request, Kennedy also provided a cost for a new replacement pump of approximately \$218,000 (plus installation). Following discussion and upon motion by Abbo, supported by Graham-Hudak; it was

R-22-11-77 Resolved to concur with the recommendation of the Director of Operations to authorize the repairs to the Middle Rouge Pump #3 by Kennedy Industries (Wixom) for a fee not to exceed \$74,320.

Ayes: Heise, Graham-Hudak, Abbo

Nays: None

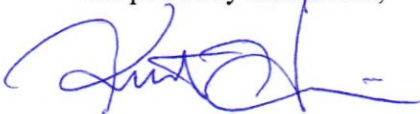
Absent: None

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 3:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kurt Heise,
Chairperson