

Western Townships Utilities Authority
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, January 23, 2023
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, January 23, 2023 in the WTUA Middle Rouge Conference Room, 40905 Joy Road, Canton, Michigan 48187. The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by the Chairperson, Kurt Heise.

Present:

Kurt Heise
Anne Marie Graham-Hudak
Chris Roosen (Northville township Alternate)

Absent:

Mark Abbo

Also present were:

Aaron Sprague
Suzanne Reel
Jack Polhill
Martin Olejnik
Keith Szymanski

WTUA
WTUA
JACOBS/OMI
Plante & Moran
Plante & Moran

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

R-23-01-01 Resolved to accept the agenda as presented.

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

The next order of business was the minutes of the regular meeting of December 19, 2022. Following discussion and upon motion by Graham-Hudak, supported by Roosen; it was

R-23-01-02 Resolved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of December 19, 2022.

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

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

R-23-01-03 Resolved to approve the schedule of disbursements for January 2023 of \$698,142.74 and pre-approved payroll for February 2023 of \$23,887.00.

Ayes: Heise, Graham-Hudak, Roosen

Nays: None

Absent: Abbo

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

R-23-01-04 Resolved to receive and file the Operations and Maintenance Report for the month of December 2022.

Ayes: Heise, Graham-Hudak, Roosen

Nays: None

Absent: Abbo

The next order of business was the Directors Report for the month of January 2023: Following discussion and upon motion by Graham-Hudak supported by Roosen; it was

R-23-01-05 Resolved to receive and file the Directors Report for the month of January 2023.

Ayes: Heise, Graham-Hudak, Roosen

Nays: None

Absent: Abbo

The next order of business was 2022 JACOBS Annual Report. Following discussion and upon motion by Graham-Hudak supported by Roosen; it was

R-23-01-06 Resolved to receive and file the 2022 Annual Report by Jack Polhill, JACOBS/OMI Project Manager.

Ayes: Heise, Graham-Hudak, Roosen

Nays: None

Absent: Abbo

The next order of business was Audit; Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2022: On May 23, 2022, Plante & Moran was authorized by the WTUA Board of Commissioners to perform an audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022. Plante & Moran has completed the Audit and it was reviewed by the Finance Committee on January 11, 2023. Keith Szymanski and Martin Olejnik of Plante & Moran were present to answer questions from the Board. Following discussion and upon motion by Graham-Hudak supported by Roosen, it was resolved that

R-23-01-07 Whereas, Article IX, Section 5 of the By-Laws of the Western Townships Utilities Authority require that The Authority shall cause an annual audit to be made of its financial transactions by a certified public accountant; and

Whereas, Plante & Moran, certified public accountants, was authorized by the Board of Commissioners to perform such an audit and has prepared and

presented to the Authority the audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022;
and

Now, therefore be it resolved, that the audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, as prepared and presented by Plante & Moran, is hereby accepted.

Ayes: Heise, Graham-Hudak, Roosen

Nays: None

Absent: Abbo

The next order of business was SCADA Improvement; Check Valve Automation: Each of the 11 pumps at the Lower Rouge Pump Stations are equipped with electric check valves. These check valves are automated and operate such that the pump starts against a closed valve and stops against a closed valve, in order to avoid excessive water hammer and the potential of stalling a pump due to excessive pressure. The current automation scheme opens and closes the valves gradually, allowing for a smooth transition during both the start and the stop sequence of the pump. The current programming and equipment; however, only allow for the valve to be completely open or completely closed (other than during the transition stage). While this operation scheme has proven over time to be effective for the South Pump Station, we have found that the pumps in the North Pump Station operate better (exhibited by lower vibration levels) when the pressure against which the pumps operate is increased (under certain conditions, primarily lower, day-to-day operations). In order to achieve this, because the electric check valves currently must be fully open or fully closed, the secondary isolation valves must be manually operated (i.e. closed slightly). While this has proven to be effective when flows are consistent, fluctuations in flow (especially during rain events) result in the need to manually tweak these valves. During the Master Plan Improvement construction project, we requested pricing from the instrumentation and controls sub-contractor (PCI) for modifications that would allow the electric check valves to automatically modulate during operation to achieve a user selected pressure within the volute to minimize vibrations and wear and tear on the pumps. Unfortunately the pricing proposed by PCI was determined to be high (almost \$65,000) so we decided to wait until that project was completed to move forward with the modifications. Historically, WTUA has utilized KISM (a branch of Kennedy Industries) for our direct hire SCADA needs. KISM did the original installation of the current SCADA software/programming and at the time was the only VTSCADA “partner” in the area. Prior to our request to KISM for pricing for the proposed improvements, the person at KISM that fully knows our system moved on to Outbound Technologies (New Hudson). In addition, UIS has hired/trained staff and is now capable of providing SCADA programming for VTCADA. As such, we requested quotes from Outbound and UIS to do the work for comparison with the price previously provided by PCI. UIS provided a rate sheet and is interested in entering into an agreement for SCADA improvements and maintenance, but elected not to provide pricing for the work in question (while we believe UIS has the capability of performing SCADA work, their staff have no preexisting knowledge of our system and we anticipated that any price provided would be high in order to evaluate our existing programming and determine the best modifications to be made). Outbound provided a quote for \$19, 261.00. Following discussion and upon motion by Graham-Hudak supported by Roosen; it was

R-23-01-08 Moved to concur with the recommendation of the Director of Operations to award the Check Valve Automation project to Outbound Technologies (New Hudson) for a fee not-to-exceed \$19,261; and

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

Ayes: Heise, Graham-Hudak, Roosen

Nays: None

Absent: Abbo

The next order of business was 2023 SSOM Work Plan Update: Since 1992, WTUA is required to update the annual Sanitary Sewer Operations & Maintenance (SSOM) Program Work Plan under the Abatement Order by February 1st of each year. The SSOM is a guidance document in performing maintenance on the WTUA system and providing general information on procedures should a sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) discharge ever occur in the system. Following discussion and upon motion by Graham-Hudak supported by Roosen; it was

R-23-01-09 Moved to receive and file the annual 2023 SSOM Work Plan Update prepared by the Director of Operations.

Ayes: Heise, Graham-Hudak, Roosen

Nays: None

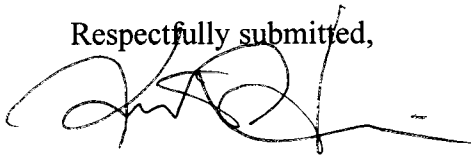
Absent: Abbo

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 3:37p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kurt L. Heise,
Chairperson