



Mire-Branch Water Corporation

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August 9, 2022

MEETING MINUTES

ROLL CALL: James Alleman, Ken Arceneaux, Eddie Savoie, Danny Richard, Kyla Hill, Kristin Romero

ABSENT: Paul Guidry, Chris Savoy
Called to order at 6:02 pm by James.

READING OF THE MINUTES Motion by Ken, seconded by Danny to approve the minutes; motion passed.

VISITORS: Stephanie Briggs, Sellers & Associates
Curt Landry

Motion by Ken, seconded by Danny to move into executive session at 6:06 pm. Motion passed.

Motion by Ken, seconded by Danny to return to regular meeting at 6:17 pm. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Sick Pay-** Curt Landry requested to be paid out for his accumulated sick leave. Motion by Danny, seconded by Ken to follow the handbook policy which states that sick leave is not paid out upon termination or separation, so no monies will be paid out to Mr. Landry. Motion passed.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

- **Act 410-Water Sector Program-** Stephanie reported that if we use ARPA match funds from the Acadia Parish Police Jury to pay engineering fees, then we have to follow federal procurement laws to select an engineer. If Sellers & Associates prepares the application, they are barred from bidding on the job.
- To avoid this situation, we can increase our local funds match to \$417,418 to make a 51% match. This would also increase our points for the application.
- Motion by Ken, seconded by Eddie to increase our local funds match to \$417,418 to make the 51% match and pay engineering fees out of those funds. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Bushhogging at property** – The board opened bids for bushhogging at the property:
- Matt Savoy with Savoy Service: \$625 per cut for 3 cuts per year; \$275 per cut monthly

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This institution is handicap accessible.

- John Blake Sonnier with GOP Enterprise LLC: \$550 per cut for 3 cuts per year; \$300 per cut monthly
- Will Clayton with Lawnboss Plus LLC: \$275 per cut monthly
- Motion by Eddie, seconded by Ken to accept the bid from John Blake Sonnier with GOP Enterprise LLC because the prices were close. Motion passed.
- New field employee – James asked about Chad Hebert, the new field operator. Kristin reported that his work was going well; he passed his Level 1 certifications. Daryl will take call for one more weekend, and then Chad will begin taking call and driving the truck.

WATER LOSS REPORT BY KRISTIN ROMERO:

- 5% Loss

MAINTENANCE REPORT BY KRISTIN ROMERO:

- Flush out list 1&2 are completed
- Changed out 17 broken meters
- 5 new meters
- 7 24-hr notices, 6 disconnects and 4 meters still locked
- We did an abbreviated disconnect this month because it was Chad's first day.
- Lightning hit the plant a couple of weeks ago and damaged some equipment & sensors. Jim with MCS came out and repaired the sensors. The cameras at the plant are not signaling the app on the phones, so Bryce with Johnson Controls is coming to look at it this week.
- Delivery of warranty replacement meters is several months behind. Kristin requested permission to order 50 registers to keep on hand to do the current changeouts. Motion by Danny, seconded by Ken to approve the order of 50 registers.
- Adam with Core & Main is sending a tech out in September to ride around with Kristin at meter reading to see why the meters are going out so frequently.
- Kenny Daigle with LRWA came by the office. He did an energy efficiency survey in 2019 and wanted to follow up with us. His recommendation was to add variable-frequency drives, or VFDs, to our motors and service pumps to create a "soft start" and adjust according to demand. This would save money on electricity each year. The board decided to revisit this topic after we find out whether we are approved for the Water Sector Project.

BOOKKEEPING REPORT BY KYLA HILL:

- **General Cash Account**

Beginning Balance \$186,296.02

Ending Balance \$177,153.15

Billing 7/31/22 \$99,288.36

Meters Billed 3018

- **Short Lived Asset Replacement:**

Beginning Balance \$140,418.16

Ending Balance \$142,905.16

- **Billing Adjustments:** -119.00

Remove LC -119.00

Motion to accept the financial report by Ken , seconded by Eddie; motion passed

- Kyla reported that USDA conducted a compliance review at the office and it went well. We had no violations.

Motion to adjourn by Eddie, seconded by Danny; motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm.