

Oct 10 2017 minutes
WEST MADISON UTILITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
October 10, 2017

BE IT REMEMBERED that the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the west Madison Utility District was duly convened, held and conducted on October 10, 2017, in the Kearney Park Community Center at 443 Livingston Vernon Road, Flora, MS, as follows to wit:

The President of the Board, Larry Bennett, presided and called the meeting to order.

The following members were present:	Absent
Commissioner Larry Bennett	Commissioner Louvella Lawson
Commissioner Evelyn Brown	Commissioner Letitia Reeves
Commissioner Scott Colson	

The Board President announced that the members of the Board present constituted a quorum and declared the meeting duly convened. Commissioner Brown opened the meeting with a prayer.

In re: Approval of the October 10, 2017 Agenda:

Commissioner Colson motioned and Commissioner Brown second, to approve the Agenda for the October 10, 2017 meeting for the Board of Commissioners of the west Madison Utility District. The vote on the matter being as follows:

Commissioner Scott Colson	Aye
Commissioner Evelyn Brown	Aye
Commissioner Larry Bennett	Aye

The matter carried unanimously and the Agenda for the October 10, 2017 meeting is hereby approved.

Re: Approval of September 12, 2017 Minutes and the End of Month Report

Commissioner Scott motioned and Commissioner Colson second to approve the Minutes for September 12, 2017 meeting and the EOM report. The vote on the matter being as follows:

Commissioner Scott Colson	Aye
Commissioner Evelyn Brown	Aye
Commissioner Larry Bennett	Aye

The matter carried unanimously and the Minutes for September 12, 2017 and the EOM Report was approved.

RE: Customers Issues:

(1) Maranda McDaniel billing for September, 2017, was \$236.00. Maranda was allowed to pay \$118.00 which would leave a balance of \$118.00. Maranda received a new meter and her October bill was \$45.00. Maranda is requesting that the balance of \$118.00 be waived since there was nothing wrong with her meter. Comm. Bennett said her issue would have to be discussed among the Board members and we would let her know of our decision.

(2) Tammy Donerson was on the Agenda but did not attend meeting.

(3) Dorothy Moore was there on behalf of her mother, Mrs. Essie Moore. Mrs. Moore's October's billing was \$74.00. Mrs. Moore bill for August was \$63.00 and for September was \$74.00. All of her prior bills were generally \$25.00 to \$28.00 per month. Mrs. Moore is an elderly lady that lives alone and does very little cooking and washing

Oct 10 2017 minutes
of clothes. KT changed her meter. Therefore Mrs. Moore is asking for
a reduction in her bill for October. Comm. Bennett said the Board would
discuss and let her know of our decision.

RE: Operator's Report

- Item 1) There were no violations on either the water or wastewater system testing.
- Item 2) The Health Dept. ordered a lead test for the customer in attendance at last meeting who indicated her child had been exposed to excessive amounts of lead. As of this meeting the results are not back.
- Item 3) The lead and copper test that was collected in July had good results that showed none of the results came close to violating the lead and copper standards.
- Item 4) Joyce Taylor and Carolyn Roberts have new connections to the sewer system.
- A 1000 gallon septic tank has been installed in front of the grinder station. There was an additional cost of \$1,000.00 for the septic tank. Both customers had installed thin wall PVC from their house to the sewer line. It is highly recommended that WMUD suggest to each of them that they replace the thin PVC pipe with a more durable PVC.
- Item 5) It was voted and confirmed by the Board during the September meeting that no adjustments would be made to the late payment policy. A \$20.00 late fee would be added to all unpaid balances after the 10th of each month, regardless of the amount of the unpaid balance.
- Item 6) From time to time some customers bill will increase. It is often impossible for WMUD to know the reason why the bill has increased. As always we will do a reread for the customer. However, if the meter reading is consistent with the last reading we recorded, the bill must stand. Unless, there is a clear error on WMUD part there will be no adjustments to any water bills without specific authorization from the board to do so.
- Item 7) The policy for a customer requesting to speak to a Board member to adjust their bill. It should be communicated to customer that no one Board member can make a decision to make any adjustments on their bill. That customer should go thru the correct steps to get on the Board's Agenda at the next meeting.
- Item 8) (a) LaShunda Grant is requesting that the late fee be removed from her June bill. Ms. Grant said she paid the bill on time. Unfortunately, there is no record of Ms. Grant having paid. After checking the bank deposit sheet it was not found. Unless Ms. Grant can produce a cancelled check or a money order receipt, WMUD cannot make an adjustment.
- (b) Byron Devault water usage increase was due to WMUD "blow off" to clear up pipes. therefore it is motioned by Comm. Brown and second by Comm. Colson to deduct part of the water usage from his bill.
- Item 9) See attached list of new meters installed for September, 2017
- Item 10) See attached list of Purchase Order request from August thru October, 2017.

Oct 10 2017 minutes

RE: Other Customer's Concern

1. Kay Rethea McField asked the Board if they would consider changing the bill due date from the 10th to the 15th. Ms. McField explained that quite a few customers get paid on the 15th of the month and senior citizens don't get checks until the middle of the month. Comm. Bennett said it would be discussed when all Board members were present. WMUD would advise her of that decision.
2. Jackie Mitchell - 109 Terry Road, requested a hardship form for her October bill of \$120.00. Comm. Bennett told her to come over to the office on Wednesday morning to pick up a form.

Executive Session

All customers were asked to leave the room because the Board was going into Executive Session.

RE: After Executive Session ended.

RE: Bill Adjustments

Before customer were permitted to return to the meeting, the three Board members discussed Maranda McDaniels and Essie Moore's request to reduce their bills. It was agreed that unless a customer could show that they did not use the water or there is there was a a fault on WMUDt side then there would be no adjustments made to bills. WMUD had no way of knowing if the water was or was not used by the customer. The matter would be further discussed with all Board members being present to vote on the matter.

Maranda McDaniels and Dorothy Moore returned to the meeting and Comm. Brown told them that there would be no adjustments made to their bills. Ms Moore expressed her disappointment and left. Mrs. McDaniels said she was going to sue WMUD and that her lawyer would be sending a letter on her behalf. Then she stormed out of the room. Mrs. McDaniels' fiance appologized for Maranda outburst and asked if the Board could possible reconsider their decision. He said that there was no way they could have used 10K gallons of water in one month. Again, Comm. Brown stated that there was no way to determine if they did or did not use the water. WMUD could only go by what the meter reading was. This was the third time Maranda McDaniels had asked for a reduction on her water bill. She currently was on an installment plan to pay off a previous balance.

RE: Old Business

Doors for the Community Center was still pending for purchase at a price of \$3,250.00.

Oct 10 2017 minutes

RE: New Business

There was no new business to discuss. Comm. Colson motioned to adjourn and
Comm. Brown
second.