

WEST MADISON UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 8, 2022

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 March 8, 2022, 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:

Commissioner Larry Bennett
Commissioner Letitia Reeves
Commissioner Scott Colson
Commissioner Carolyn Andrews
Commissioner Joyce Monroe

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

RE: Approval of the March 8, 2022 Agenda

Commissioner Colson motioned and Commissioner Monroe seconded to approve the Agenda for the West Madison Utility District. The vote on the matter being as follows:

Commissioner Larry Bennett	Aye
Commissioner Scott Colson	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn Andrews	Aye
Commissioner Letitia Reeves	Aye
Commissioner Joyce Monroe	Aye

The matter carried unanimously and the Agenda for the March 8, 2022 meeting is hereby approved

RE: Approval of Agenda Consent Items:

Commissioner Colson motioned to approve the Consent Agenda, and Commissioner Monroe seconded the motion. Consent Items are listed as follows:

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Acknowledgement and Acceptance of EOM RVS Report for February, 2022
5. Acceptance and Approval of the February 8, 2022 Minutes
6. Ratification of Board Action authorizing Horne to handle WMUD's financials.

The vote on the matter being as follows:

Commissioner Larry Bennett	Aye
Commissioner Scott Colson	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn Andrews	Aye
Commissioner Letitia Reeves	Aye
Commissioner Joyce Monroe	Aye

The matter carried unanimously and the Consent Items for the March 8, 2022 meeting are hereby approved.

RE: Customer's Concerns and Issues

1. Katina Palmer; Account #188; 690 Livingston Vernon Road

Ms. Katina Palmer presented the Board with a letter regarding her water bill that became due February 10, 2022. For some reason, she had a high charge of \$115.70 when her bill usually runs between \$25 - \$50. She presented a list of when she read her meter beginning Feb. 6 through March 1, 2022 which reflects a large usage on Feb. 10, 2022 in the amount of \$3,150 gallons. She is the only one at the residence as her daughter is in college and she has had a couple of plumbers check for leaks. No leaks were located.

K. T. Newman informed the Board that they had checked the meter and could not see anything wrong. There is no explanation as to why she is experiencing intermittent large water usage. The Board asked K. T. to replace Ms. Palmer's meter. Commissioner Bennett informed Ms. Palmer that the Board were as much at a loss as she in determining why she is experiencing erratic water usage. Commissioner Bennett asked K. T. Newman to be sure to keep an eye on Ms. Palmer's water usage to see if he could detect anything out of the ordinary.

2. Rondal Bargerhuff; Account #661; 589 Livingston Vernon Road

Mr. Bargerhuff stated that he knew he was late paying his water bill as it had slipped his mind, but he had paid it online through NexBillpay on the website and had received a confirmation that it was paid. Somehow, NexBillpay tried to run his payment through Bankplus, and he does not have an account with Bankplus so the payment was refused and WMUD's accounting service charged a \$37.00 payment return fee. Mr. Bargerhuff was requesting a refund of the \$37.00 return fee as he felt he had put in all the correct documentation online and it was NexBillpay's error. Commissioner Andrews stated that this had happened to her before with some bill payments online to Entergy and she had contacted her bank as it had made the error regarding the payment. She had received a refund of the charge back fee from the bank, which she had previously paid to Entergy. Mr. Bargerhuff was instructed to contact NexBillpay to discuss the issue with them as they would be the entity that would owe him the \$37.00 charge back fee. Commissioner Reeves took Mr. Bargerhuff's telephone number and stated she would contact Mr. Bargerhuff to provide him with NexBillpay's contact telephone number.

RE: Engineer's Report

Morgan Sims asked if anyone had heard anything from the County or the Madison County Wastewater Authority regarding the ongoing discussions of the lagoon, etc. To date, none of the Board Commissioners have heard anything new. Mr. Sims stated that he did not have anything to update the Board about except for some issues that the Operator would mention in his report.

RE: Operator's Report

See report. Water samples passed all standards set by the Dept. of Health for February, 2022. WMUD received a perfect 5.0 capacity rating by the Health Department during its inspection.

During an earlier meeting, it was mentioned that fluoride was not being added to WMUD's water. It would cost approximately \$6,000.00 (\$3,000.00 per well) for the cost of installing the fluoride dispensers. However, K. T. was informed that fluoride is going to be very difficult to find so if the Board opted to install the dispensaries, we may be unable to find the chemical. Since fluoride is now present in toothpaste, etc., the customers still have a way of receiving the fluoride. The Board stated that it did not wish to purchase the dispensaries at this time, but would revisit at a later date perhaps when fluoride would be easier to acquire.

There are a few prospective houses to be built in the area that will require water service and some will require sewer service as well.

1) Chip Estes has discussed a 30-lot development on the parcel he owns in the Kearney Park area. He met with K. T. and Morgan regarding the development and wants our engineer to draw up the specifications for the development. Commissioner Reeves stated that usually a developer has his own engineer draw up the specifications and they are reviewed by the utility district engineer. Morgan and K. T. both addressed the Board and stated that it would resolve a lot of potential issues if Morgan prepared the specifications. Commissioner Bennett stated that the cost of this should be passed on to the developer if our engineer was billing for time preparing specifications for this development as well as inspections performed during the construction phase. Essentially, there are two options: WMUD can require the development to draw up his own specifications and submit them to our engineer for review and our engineer will have to also inspect placement, etc., at times during construction; or, WMUD can enter into an Agreement with the developer wherein the developer agrees to reimburse WMUD for its engineering expenses incurred for drawing up the required specifications and inspections during construction. Commissioner Reeves was given the responsibility of contacting the Board attorney to ask about this situation.

2) Mr. Marco Harrington is building a home near The Woodlands subdivision and he contacted K. T. regarding manholes situated on his property. K. T. and Morgan are to inspect the area to determine where any old inactive water/sewer lines are located as well as the active water/sewer lines.

3) Robert Crawford had spoken with K. T. regarding the construction of three homes at the end of Bradshaw Lane. Mr. Crawford had wanted to run a water line from Livingston Vernon direct to the homes instead of coming up Bradshaw Lane's right-of-way. Commissioner Reeves asked if Mr. Crawford had frontage property on Livingston Vernon Road and K. T. stated that he was unsure. Commissioner Reeves stated that if he owned property and planned to construct a road off of Livingston Vernon Road, a water line could be run along the road right-of-way. Commissioner Bennett stated that since there are three homes, a meter would have to be set for each home. Commissioner Reeves stated that she did not agree to run a water line in the middle of a pasture as it causes so many future issues. It needs to have some type of demarcation to keep large vehicles, etc. off of the line as well as ease in location should there ever be a necessary repair. K. T. stated that he was unsure of the exact location of the intended structures, etc., at this time, but had wanted the Board to be aware of this matter for future consideration.

K. T. Newman stated that the Board was aware that there is an issue at 115/117 Norris Street where the sewer line goes to a point and three homes are hooked into the main line so that it is impossible to determine who keeps stopping up the sewer line. There is a manhole across the street and the line goes from this manhole. K. T. suggested that the Board spend the money to install three separate 4 inch lines hooking into the three separate private sewer lines in order to eliminate the issue as it seems to be reoccurring. Commissioner Colson stated that he thought it should be eight-inch lines. The Board asked K. T. the projected cost and he stated that the cost would be less than \$3,000.00 for labor and pipe, etc. Commissioner Colson made the motion to install the lines with a cap cost of \$3,000.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrews with all Board Commissioners voting "aye." The motion carried.

Commissioner Colson made the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss legal matters. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrews, with all Commissioners voting "aye" The Board entered Executive Session to discuss legal matters.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board exited Executive Session.

Commissioner Colson made the motion to proceed with the required action regarding quieting title to WMUD's water well located on Lep Childress south of Livingston Vernon Road (now called Hank's Trail). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Monroe with all Commissioners voting "aye." The motion was carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

There being no other business to discuss, Commissioner Colson made a motion to dismiss the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Andrews. All commissioners voted "aye," and the meeting was dismissed.

Minutes Prepared by: Commissioner Letitia Reeves, Vice President