

**WEST MADISON UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING DATED  
APRIL 9, 2019**

**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 April 9, 2019, 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 Evelyn Brown

Commissioner Scott Colson

Commissioner Letitia Reeves

Absent: Commissioner Valencia Buggs

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.

Commissioner Bennett reminded attendees to hold comments until after the meeting and asked for the sign in sheet with any names of persons wishing to address the Board.

**RE: Approval of the April 9, 2019 Agenda:**

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

Commissioner Scott Colson     Aye

Commissioner Larry Bennett     Aye

Commissioner Letitia Reeves     Aye

Commissioner Evelyn Brown     Aye

The matter carried unanimously and the Agenda for the April 9, 2019, meeting is hereby approved.

**RE: Town of Flora**

No one from the Town of Flora attended the meeting.

**RE: Consent Items:**

Commissioner Colson motioned to approve the consent agenda Commissioner Brown second the motion. All Commissioners voted "Aye" and the consent items listed as follows were approved:

5. Acknowledgement and Acceptance of EOM RVS Reports for February and

March, 2019

6. Acknowledgement and Acceptance of the January 31, 2019 and February 28, 2019 Financial Reports
  7. Acceptance of the February 12, 2019 Minutes
- NOTE: There was no meeting in March, 2019.

**RE: Engineer's Report**

Morgan Sims with Engineering Service addressed the Board and stated that comments had been received from the Department of Health and as soon as those were answered they would be ready to advertise for bids for the projects. He also stated that he had included the provision in the bid packet that a hydro-pneumatic (pressure) tank be provided by the successful bidder while the elevated tank was being repaired and repainted. Scott Colson made a motion to advertise for bids for the projects which motion was seconded by Commissioner Letitia Reeves, with all present voting "aye."

**RE: Operator's Report**

- a) Quarterly wastewater samples were collected from the lagoon in March and all of the sample results are within the limits of our NPDES permit. There are no violations to report at the wastewater facility.
- b) The annual inspection of the water supply was conducted in March, 2019, and West Madison Utility District received a capacity rating of 4.3 out of a possible 5.0 due to the fact that the elevated water tank remains a deficiency. There was a second deficiency noted regarding the barbed wire at the front of the fence at the back up well. The guidelines require three strands of barbed wire with one strand of razor wire at the top of the barbed wire. Commissioner Bennett asked KT if that was something that he could do and he replied he was not sure. However, Commissioner Colson said he would be able to do the job.
- c) Generator Update: Atmos indicated they are ready to bore the service line for the generator and Dorothy Thompson, the owner of the property adjacent to the well site, has agreed to allow Atmos access through the pastureland. Ms. Thompson did request that K.T. meet her onsite to show her the specifics. According to our vendor, Cummins, the generator should be ready for delivery between early and mid-May. However, prior to deliver we must pour a concrete slab for the generator to sit on at an estimated \$1100 for labor/and concrete; install conduit/wire from the generator to the transfer switch at an estimated \$650 labor; and install a gas service line from the generator to the Atmos meter at an estimated \$100 labor. It may or may not be necessary to widen the fence opening depending on where the generator will be placed. The estimated labor cost for the above referenced work totals \$1850, which includes the concrete. Most of the other materials should be locally available and will be billed separately.

- d) West Madison Utility District currently has approximately 500 water customers. The system has a capacity to serve 1174 customers, so it is currently at 43% capacity. There are approximately 370 sewer customers. The system has a capacity to serve as many as 500 customers. The lagoon is currently operating at around 75% capacity.
- e) K.T. asked the Board regarding a convenient time to view the sewer truck. Commissioner Bennett and Commissioner Colson stated that either a Saturday or late evening would be a good time to see a demonstration regarding the truck.
- f) K.T. asked if a customer dies and the remaining heir/care taker (spouse, child, etc) wishes to place the account in their name, would there be a fee to change the name. Commissioner Reeves stated that there is not a fee but the person must execute a water user's agreement to place the account in their name and assume the previous responsibilities of the deceased. She further stated that this was the policy previously used by the Board and she would make sure it was stated in West Madison Utility District's Policy and Procedures.
- g) K.T. presented the new meter installations.
- h) K.T. presented the purchase order report for March and partial list for April.

#### **RE: Customers**

a) Account #145; 150 Willow Way Drive; Kristen Dukes and Wayne Oettinger. These two people are divorced, the ex-wife lives on the property but the utility bill was in the name of Wayne Oettinger and he would not give permission to West Madison Utility District to change the utility bill to his ex-wife's name. Commissioner Reeves will look into the matter to see if the property regarding title and ask the attorney if there are any issues in this regard. NOTE: The property reflects title in the names of Wayne Michael Oettinger and Kristen Oettinger by virtue of deed recorded in Book 3468 at Page 25. Mr. Herring stated that he sees no issue with changing the name on the utility bill to Ms. Kristen Dukes, formerly Oettinger, as long as she fills out a water user's agreement.

#### **RE: Back Up Well Site at End of Lep Childress Road**

Bruce Craft was there regarding the property where the back-up well is located at the end of Lep Childress Road. The property has been subdivided into several lots and there is a 12 acre lot near the back-up well site. Mr. Craft's request is that West Madison Utility District remove the tank at that site as he feels it is an eyesore. Also, when the water line is flushed the water runs all over the neighboring lot and he wanted to know if there was another location where the water could be flushed out of the line. K. T. Newman stated that they can now run flush the water through a fire hydrant at the new well near Virililia Road so it no longer has to be flushed at the Lep Childress location. Commissioner Colson wanted to know about the tank itself. K.T. stated that the tank is not hooked up to

anything as West Madison Utilities had no need of the tank. It was previously used by the Town of Flora prior to purchase by West Madison Utility District. To use the tank elsewhere, it would cost more than it is worth because the tank would have to be rehabilitated and pass inspection by the Department of Health. Commissioner Bennett stated that to for West Madison Utility District to remove the tank, it would incur some kind of cost and that money needed to be used elsewhere. Mr. Craft said that he would help facilitate the removal of the tank by removing it himself and cutting the ends off and using it on his farm as a culvert somewhere. He just wanted to get permission for removal and find out about the liability should some one gets hurt. Commissioner Bennett said we would have to talk with our lawyer and get back with him. Also Commissioner Reeves stated that the value of the tank needed to be determined.

### **Re: Executive Session**

Commissioner Bennett asked if there were any other comments from the customers, and if not, West Madison Utility District would enter into executive session to discuss those items listed on the agenda under Executive Session as follows:

- a) Bryan W. Estes, Proposal regarding development
- b) Change in Policies and procedures regarding Renters and Payment Plans;  
and
- c) MCWA Litigation Update

Commissioner Reeves motioned to close Executive Session and return to Board meeting. Commission Brown seconded the motion with all commissioners voting “aye”.

### **Re: Policies and Procedures**

Commissioner Scott Colson made the motion to add wording to the Policies and Procedures Manual that renters will not be allowed to be placed on a payment plan due to losses suffered by West Madison Utility District due to them moving away owing money. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Reeves with all present voting “aye.”

### **Old Business**

None.

### **New Business**

Commissioner Reeves asked the Board about ordering more folding chairs for the Community Center and possibly a community bulletin board. Commissioner Bennett stated he did not want a community bulletin board as West Madison Utility District may be held responsible for anything posted on the board and we would have no control over what was placed on it. Commissioner Reeves stated that she had counted the chairs in the Community Center and there were 75 folding chairs and about 36 of the old stacking chairs that were falling apart, and the 6 new

stacking chairs the Board had recently ordered. Commissioner Bennett motioned to order 20 new folding chairs and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Colson with all present voting “aye.”

Commissioner Bennett stated that if there was nothing further to discuss, a motion to adjourn can be made. Commissioner Reeves motioned and Commissioner Brown seconded to adjourn the meeting. All present voted “aye” and the meeting was adjourned.