

WEST MADISON UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING
MAY 10, 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 May 10, 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	Absent: Commissioner Scott Colson
Commissioner Letitia Reeves	
Commissioner Joyce Monroe	
(Commissioner Carolyn Andrews arrived during the Operator's Report)	

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 May 10, 2022 Agenda

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

Commissioner Larry Bennett	Aye
Commissioner Letitia Reeves	Aye
Commissioner Joyce Monroe	Aye

The matter carried unanimously and the Agenda for the May 10, 2022 meeting is hereby approved

RE: Approval of Agenda Consent Items:

Commissioner Reeves 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 April, 2022
5. Acceptance and Approval of the April 12, 2022 Minutes
6. Acceptance of the January, February and March, 2022 End of Month Financials
7. Acceptance of the Form RD442-3, RD 442-2, Supplemental Data sheet and estimated 2022 Budget prepared by the CPA for submission to Mr. Timothy Baker at the Department of Rural Development.
8. Ratification of Board action to approve repairs on Woodridge Drive manhole and Cedar Creek Drive manhole.

The vote on the matter being as follows:

Commissioner Larry Bennett	Aye
Commissioner Letitia Reeves	Aye
Commissioner Joyce Monroe	Aye

The matter carried unanimously and the Consent Items for the May 10, 2022 meeting are hereby approved.

RE: Customer's Concerns and Issues

1. Sterling Blair; 244 Middle Road; Flora, MS; Sterling Blair appeared before the Board and stated that her water had been muddy and dark for several months. Commissioner Bennett asked her if she had contacted the office regarding the situation and she said "no." K. T. Newman stated that Ms. Blair is the only customer on the ¾" line so there is an issue with water sitting in the line. He suggested that they periodically flush the line at her outside faucet and deduct the water that they flush from her meter readings. Mr. Newman said that this would be the easiest solution to the issue. Commissioner Bennett told Ms. Blair to be sure to call the WMUD office if she has any issues with her water so that someone will know there is a problem and work on resolving the problem.

RE: Engineer's Report

Morgan Sims stated that he is assisting K. T. Newman in locating leaks and manholes on WMUD's systems. The other item will be discussed in executive session.

RE: Operator's Report

See report. Water samples passed all standards set by the Dept. of Health for April, 2022.

The revisions to the lead and copper rule are attached for informational purposes and Mr. Newman stated that they were preparing the information identifying all areas. There should not be many lines to identify.

The annual CCR is being prepared and will be uploaded to the website. Mr. Newman asked if it would be okay for his company, in the process of taking water/sewer applications, to sign up people on the website for alerts. The Board unanimously agreed that Utility Contractors should be allowed to place WMUD's customers on the website for water/sewer alerts.

Someone in The Woodlands flushed a rag into the sewer system and it damaged the new 5hp pump at the lift station. The 3-1/2 hp pump cannot handle the flow. The Board has one 5 hp pump in reserve, but the lift station needs two. Commissioner Reeves made the motion to purchase two 5 hp pumps for the lift station, leaving one in reserve for emergencies; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Monroe, with all Board members voting "aye." The motion passed.

The manhole located at Oak Grove Drive is full of mud and a vacuum truck will be required to vacuum out the mud. Commissioner Bennett asked K. T. Newman if he could tell how the mud got into the manhole. Mr. Newman stated that he did not know at this time, but if there was a dead line running into it or a leak at the bottom, those could be sealed after the mud is vacuumed out of the manhole. He has contained Sheffield for a quote to vacuum out the mud. The Board unanimously agreed that this needs to be done.

Due to the two major leaks that were repaired in the last week, one at Southland Container and the Woodlands, discussion ensued as to putting in shut off valves at locations along the water lines so that the whole water system need not be completely shut down in the event of leaks. The Board agreed that this needed to be done. Commissioner Bennett asked about the route from the well to the elevated water tank and stated that WMUD really needs a direct line to the tank; Mr. Newman agreed but said that apparently the cutoff at the intersection of Kearney Park Road/Livingston Vernon Road had an issue and the line could not be cut off so an alternate route was put in at some time in the past from the well that loops around in the

housing area near the elevated water tower to the tower itself. This is not the best alternative and the well has to maintain 100 psi operating pressure while most wells run at 40-60 psi. Also, Southland Container has requested that the fire hydrant be replaced where the previous one blew off when repairing the leak last week. Morgan Sims and K. T. Newman both discussed this issue and agreed that the cheapest method to do this would be to move a fire hydrant off a dead line and install it in this location. The Board agreed for Mr. Newman to proceed with this process.

The purchase order report and jetter usage report is attached to the Operator's Report.

RE: Customer's Concerns and Issues, Continued:

2. Ecclesius Franklin, 435 Livingston Vernon Road. Mr. Franklin had entered during the Operator report, so Commissioner Bennett asked him if there was anything he needed to say to the Board prior to the Board going into executive session. Mr. Franklin stated that during the last heavy rain, the dirt had washed away from the manhole near his house. K. T. Newman stated that they would check on this and handle it.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board exited Executive Session.

Commissioner Reeves made the motion to pay Jay Bearden \$53,781.67 for its final payment under their contract, and pay \$12,500.00 (the liquidated damage amount) to Engineering Service from the SRF Fund account, AND that Keith Bearden and his principals, and Kip Allen and his principals be placed on a no bid list for WMUD for any future construction. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Monroe with all Commissioners voting "aye." The motion was carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Providing water service to Mark Jordan on Railroad Avenue: Mr. Newman informed the Board that a road had been constructed by the County from Pecan Street to Mr. Jordan's property and this would help in reducing the cost to run a water line in this area and may open it up to some future homes. The road has been built as a detour road since Madison County will be doing some repairs on Ratliff Road that would block access to those that live at the end of the road and also to the lagoon. The Board tabled this matter until more information is known.

NEW BUSINESS

1. CDBG Grant Information. Commissioner Reeves informed the Board that Madison County is in the process of applying for a CDBG Grant on behalf of WMUD and she was contacted yesterday regarding surveys that were due to CMPDD by the end of the week. K. T. Newman volunteered his staff to assist with the surveys and Dorothy Bennett had also agreed to assist with obtaining the survey information. These surveys are required in order for WMUD to be eligible for the grant.
2. A Memorandum of Understanding between the County and WMUD is also required by CMPDD in order for WMUD to be eligible for a CDBG Grant. The document was presented to the Board. Commissioner Reeves made the motion that WMUD execute the Memorandum of Understanding regarding any funds it may receive as part of a CDBG Grant. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrews with all

Board members voting “aye.” The motion carried. Commissioner Reeves stated that she would take the document to Sheldon Vance tomorrow in order that it be placed on the Board of Supervisors’ agenda for May 16, 2022.

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

Minutes Prepared by: Commissioner Letitia Reeves, Vice President