

**WEST MADISON UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING
July 10, 2018**

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 July 10, 2018, 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 Valencia Buggs
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.

RE: Approval of the July 10, 2018 Agenda:

Commissioner Colson motioned and Commissioner Brown second, to approve the Agenda for the July 10, 2018 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 Larry Bennett Aye
Commissioner Letitia Reeves Aye
Commissioner Evelyn Brown Aye

The matter carried unanimously and the Agenda for the June 12, 2018 meeting is hereby approved.

RE: Approval of Consent Items:

Agenda Items, as follows, to wit:

3. Acknowledgement and Acceptance of EOM RVS Report for June, 2018
4. Acceptance of the June 12, 2018 minutes
5. Acknowledgement and Acceptance of May 31, 2018 Financials

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Colson made the motion to approve the consent agenda items and Commissioner Brown second the motion. The vote on the matter carried being as follows:

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

RE: Bids for Surplus items

6. Acceptance of bids for surplus items

The following bids and items are duly noted for the minutes: 1997 Ford White Powerstroke F350XI Diesel Pickup for \$1,000.00 by Andrew Williams; Case Backhoe 580M 2-wheel Drive for \$13,300.00 by Dixie Surplus Machinery, Inc./Kenneth McKay; 5x 8 Trailer for \$177.07 by Lynn's Enterprises/James Durham; 75 Gallon Gas Tank for \$217.07 by Lynn's Enterprises/James Durham and Husqvarna RZ4824F Zero Turn Lawnmower for \$892.07 by Lynn's Enterprises/James Durham. Commissioner Reeves made the motion to accept the high bids and approval to execute all documents so the surplus properties can be transferred to the successful bidders Commissioner Brown second the motion. Vote on the matter carried unanimously.

RE: Operators Report

Water samples submitted in June to the Health Department passed the bacteriological standards. The June's second quarter wastewater samples were all within the limits established by the NPDES permit.

KT explained currently the diffuse blower aerator is operating good at the lagoon. However, during the hot summer months a small post aeration unit will be needed. The oxygen level in the wastewater is slightly above the minimum required by MDEQ but it will go down in the summer. Commissioner Colson asked how much the unit will cost and KT replied about \$1,500.00 and he would check on the price.

Commissioner Reeves motioned that approval for the post aerator be given to purchase at a cost no greater than \$2,000.00. If the cost should exceed \$2,000.00, KT should come back to the Board for approval. Commissioner Colson second the motion. Vote on the matter carried unanimously.

Taylor Power System received payment for automatic transfer switch for the Well and should be delivered in about two weeks.

The submersible sewer pump for the Woodland pump station should be delivered around the 12th of July. Also the spare submersible loader for the Lagoon lift station is in and will be stored in the shed until it is needed.

Scott Petroleum reported that the diesel storage tank (500 gallon capacity) is ready and they will be delivering it this week. Commissioner Reeves inquired if WMUD is purchasing or renting the tank. KT said he was not sure but will check on it.

KT said he has attached a Meter Change Out report and a Purchase Order report for review. The only issue that the Board needs to address is that of swimming pools. Twice today, customers requested an adjustment on their sewer rates because they filled their swimming pools. Although there is an adjustment policy for sewer rated, it does not mention for swimming pools adjustments. Commissioner Reeves wanted to know if you have an above ground pool how often do you drain it? Commissioner Bennett said there are different set-ups, some are like in-ground pools. They have filters, the water circulates and is treated and water is added as needed. The smaller pools usually will be drained so they can be cleaned then refilled. KT gave an example of the one owner who filled her new pool then drained it after it had set for a few days, then she refilled the pool again. This was a 20,000 gallon pool and she wanted to get an adjustment on the sewer bill. KT wanted to know how many times will customers be allowed to fill a pool in the summer months. After he made the adjustment for the first customer it was only a few hours later that the second customer called requesting an adjustment. Commissioner Reeves said we should only make an adjustment for once a year for filling the pool. Commissioner Brown stated what was important is at what percentage are the adjustments be calculated? The process is the same as a leak adjustment where it will be calculated on an average of a three month sewer bill. Commissioner Colson suggested the sewer adjustment be made once a year and Commissioner Reeves stated unless the customer can show proof that there was a leak and the liner needed to be repaired that an additional adjustment could possibly be made. Commissioner Bennett said this is a decision that the Board would need to discuss further.

RE: Customers Issues

1. James Wilson: Account #346, 105 Norris St.

Ms. Kay Retha McField, Mr. Wilson's niece, stated the water bill is now at \$420.40. She and KT have been communicating on a daily basis about the water situation. On Friday, the water meter read 3,460 and three days later the water meter had jumped up to 18,446. Ms. McField said she has been taking pictures every day and the meter is not turning at all today. Ms. McField said she feels that something is wrong because there are no leaks and her uncle was in the hospital for a few days and he is now staying with her. Commissioner Reeves asked her if she had put a lock on the back water faucet as was suggested in the June meeting. Ms. McField said she did not put a lock on the faucet because no one is

going back there to mess with the water. Commissioner Reeves again stated that a lock should be put on the faucet. Ms. McField asked her does she think someone is stealing the water. Commissioner Reeves said she knows that someone in her family is running a car wash out of the house and that cars were lined up to be washed. The discussion between Commissioner Reeves and Ms. McField ensued that someone across the street from her does wash cars but it is not at her uncle's house, and if someone has said that then she would like to have WMUD press charges because she can bring in a multitude of neighbors that will testify that it is not her uncle who is allowing cars to be washed at his house. Commissioner Reeves said it is not up to WMUD to press charges as that would be Ms. McField's responsibility. Ms. McField said then give her the name and she would press charges. Commissioner Reeves said that charges cannot be brought against hearsay statements. Ms. McField replied "so you can go by hearsay, saying you know that a car wash is being done at the house". Commissioner Reeves said no, what I am saying is that on our end the billing is correct, but what she has heard is this, and to take precautions on your end, a lock should be put on the faucet. Commissioner Reeves informed Ms. McField that she was only telling her this to make her aware so that she could watch to see if this was indeed what was happened at her uncle's house. Ms. McField asked Commissioner Brown where was the meter on her property located? She replied that her meter and the neighbor's meter are located in front of their house right together. Ms. McField said, that the older houses in Magnolia Height meters were located in back of the houses. If someone was using the faucet to wash cars then it would take 3 to 4 hoses to bring the water to the front of the house. Commissioner Bennett said with all due respect, you have been before this board I don't know how many times regarding the issue of a high water bills. The Board has bent over backwards to accommodate listening to your concerns. One of the Board members went so far as to pay the bill one month. KT has spent countless hours trying to resolve the issue of the water being used. It is not this Board's responsibility to "baby sit" the meter. There is nothing further we can do.

KT said between Friday and Monday something had happened that 15K gallons of water was used but he could not say what. On Monday (July 9) and today (July 10) only a thousand of gallons of water has been used and he did not know what happened over the prior three day period to account for the large water usage. Again, Ms. McField stated that every day she is checking on the house and the water faucet. There are no leaks. KT stated that Ms. McField has done a very good job in monitoring and watching for any leaks. However, there is a periodic surge in the water usage and then it stops. Again, Ms. McField said that she was continually watching her uncle's house. Commissioner Reeves asked if she was watching the back of the house and she said no, but she goes to the back of the house and there are no leaks. Commissioner Reeves said, then you really should remove the back faucet so that no one could use it. Commissioner Brown wanted to know if there was any way some other water line could be crossed with Mr. Wilson's water line. KT replied no that it is not possible. Ms. McField said she thinks that there is something that is connected, something is going on that is causing the spikes in the water bill. Ms. McField stated that there is nothing more that can be done on her end and WMUD "must do what they have to do".

Artesian Brown, Jessica Lewis, and James and Carolyn Singleton were on the agenda however they did not attend the meeting. KT said that James and Carolyn Singleton issue had been taken care of. They were one of the customers who had filled their above ground pool and was asking for an adjustment on sewer rates.

RE: Old Business

Commissioner Brown stated for the record on July 23, 2018 a public hearing will take place at the Community Center at 6:00 p.m. Commissioner Bennett stated a letter had been received saying we have been approved thus far and the community had been notified via paper ad, web site and door posting at WMUD office. After the hearing and the minutes have been added to the Facility Plan document it should be made official.

RE: New Business

KT made two requests: the first was if the Board would mind increasing the number of meters being installed monthly and secondly, if the meters could be installed on the streets where the proposed grant money will be used. He would like to make sure that when the work for sewer and galvanized pipes begin the meters are in place. It was approved for KT to increase the production installation from 6 to 12 meters a month.

KT also reported that a credit of \$750.00 from Cory and Main had been reported. He wanted to know if the treasurer wanted to receive the money back or let it remain as a credit to be used the next time their service is used. The treasurer, Commissioner Colson requested that the money be refunded to WMUD.

Commissioner Reeves said that NexBill Pay is waiting on the paperwork from Scott Colson before they could continue setting the system up on the internet. Commissioner Colson said he would get the paperwork back to NexBill Pay. NexBill Pay is working to get it integrated with WMUD system and hopefully the service should be ready for August billing cycle.

RE: Executive Session

None to discuss.

There being no further business, Commissioner Colson made the motion to adjourn and Commissioner Brown second. All voted in the affirmative and the meeting was adjourned.