

MINUTES

Regular Meeting
Cleveland County Water Board Room

May 11, 2021
Tuesday, 7:00 P.M.

Present: Chairman Donald Melton; presiding, Vice Chairman Dewey Cook, Secretary Bill Cameron, Commissioners Amy Bridges, Tony Brooks, Bruce Martin and John Taylor and General Manager Brad Cornwell, and Attorney Tim Moore via video conference call.

Chairman Donald Melton called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, welcomed all who were in attendance and recognized Commissioner John Taylor who gave the invocation and Commissioner Bruce Martin led the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

A. Approval of agenda:

Chairman Melton asked Commissioners if anyone had any questions related to the adoption of the agenda. Chairman Melton requested a motion to adopt the agenda.

ACTION TAKEN: Upon a motion by Mr. Cook and second by Mr. Cameron, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

B. Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

C. Consent Agenda:

Action Taken: Chairman Melton presented the Consent Agenda Items. Upon a motion by Mr. Brooks, second by Mr. Martin, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda consisted of the following items:

- 1) Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 13, 2021
- 2) Consideration of Ordinance Number 2-2021 An Ordinance Amendment for a Capital Project Budget Ordinance and Budgets for Cleveland County Water's Centrally Located Operations Center
- 3) Consideration of Ordinance Number 3-2021 An Ordinance Amendment for a Capital Project Budget Ordinance and Budgets for Cleveland County's Raw Water Weir Replacement Project

- 4) Consideration of Ordinance Number 4-2021 An Ordinance Amendment for a Capital Project Budget Ordinance and Budgets for Cleveland County Water's Clearwell and High Service Pump Station Project
- 5) Consideration of Resolution Number 19-2021 A Resolution Awarding the Bid for the Clearwell, High Service Pump Station and Waterline Project Number WIF-1973

D. Unfinished Business:

No unfinished business was presented.

E. New Business:

- 1) Consideration of Resolution Number 20-2021 A Resolution Authorizing the General Manager to Execute an Agreement with Verizon Connect for GPS Fleet Services

Mr. Cornwell shared information concerning the GPS fleet tracking of the vehicle fleet through services provided by Verizon Wireless. This topic had been discussed in the past however due to cost expense, the topic was delayed for a future date. The prospect of fleet services has been researched with other municipalities to determine the benefits and disadvantages of this service. Mr. Cornwell gave clarification that this service was not to track the company employees but to provide company employees safety. There are areas of the county where radio and cellular services are not dependable. The GPS services will provide the ability to find the employee, the location of the vehicle, and defend against false accusations. Mr. Cornwell consulted with Mr. Cook, for his prior experience with emergency management. He also consulted with Sheriff Alan Norman for his opinion on the fleet service. The fleet management services will be provided through Verizon Wireless for a very cost-effective price. The vehicle will be equipped with a device that will provide the location of the vehicle on Google Maps. The device also has the capability to assist with vehicle maintenance services, such as oil changes and tire rotations. The driving characteristics are also monitored, such as hard breaking and speed limits. Mr. Cornwell shared that not all vehicles require GPS services and only certain vehicles in the fleet will have this capability. The costs for the services and the term of the contract were shared. Mr. Cook asked if the devices would be installed on the backhoe tractors. Mr. Cornwell noted that the backhoe tractors would not be included at this time. The contract at this time would be for part of the

vehicle fleet for trial and experimenting. The possibility of equipment being stolen and recovered through the fleet services would be a benefit to the service, but the backhoes would not be included during this phase. There will be thirteen vehicles in the fleet that will have this service. Those vehicles include the meter services department, the two vehicles at the water plant, and part of vehicles in the maintenance department. Mr. Brooks asked if we had problems with equipment thefts. Mr. Cornwell explained that there were not problems. Mr. Martin asked if the devices were equipped with a panic button if there was an emergency. Mr. Cornwell noted that the fleet devices did not have panic buttons but the 800 MHZ radios that each field employee is issued does have a panic button on the radio. Mr. Cornwell added that the demo materials were included in the commissioner packets for review.

Action Taken: Upon a motion by Mr. Cook, second by Mr. Taylor, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to adopt Resolution Number 20-2021 A *Resolution Authorizing the General Manager to Execute an Agreement with Verizon Connect for GPS Fleet Services*

F. General Manager's Report:

Mr. Cornwell began by sharing the finance report for April. There were five payrolls for the month. The materials line item for the maintenance department has not been fully adjusted for the capital outlay line extensions. The final payment has been paid on the river intake loan from NCDENR. The first payment has been made for the Lattimore Tank loan. The maintenance report was shared with appreciation being noted for the maintenance department working on the meter change out for the radio read meter capability. Mr. Cornwell shared the line extensions for Clifton Oates Road and Peppermint Drive were installed and completed by the maintenance department. The water plant report was shared. The PARTF application has been submitted under the Town of Lawndale name. Mr. Cornwell shared that the application has been received but no updates on the status have been provided. Mr. Johnson, from Destination by Design, will be returning for the June meeting to share details for future grant applications. These applications include the Recreation Trails Program and the Division of Water Resources. The special meeting for the budget presentation will be May 25, 2021. Mr. Cornwell has contacted Fish & Wildlife Resources concerning the Delight Road and Highway 10 access points to seek funding.

The biologist reviewed the area to seek the dwarf-flowered heartleaf flower. A letter was sent to report that the flower was not found on the property. Another biologist would like to canoe the river to study the area and determine the potential for funding. Mr. Cornwell reported that the Casar Elementary School is sponsoring a Boys & Girls Club that needs volunteers to assist with their programs. The Cleveland County Board of Elections contacted the District concerning the filing fee for the board members elections. The filing fee is determined by the District and is subtracted from the total election costs of the District. Mr. Cornwell has sent out emails requesting information on filing fees collected by other entities. The responses will be shared at a future meeting. The members reported that there should be consistency for filing fees with comparable entities. The current filing fee may need to be changed to provide consistency. The Local Government Commission will be in the area to meet concerning assistance for the Towns of Fallston, Kingstown, Lawndale, and Polkville. The Farmville Road creek crossing has been cleared by NCDOT. The District has a water line installed in this creek. The flood debris from a large rainstorm caused the water line to be damaged in three places. Mr. Cornwell noted that this would be a costly repair. The line has been shut down until a repair can be scheduled.

H. Board Members Announcement and Remarks

Mr. Cameron asked about the gas situation with the gas pipeline have technical difficulties. Mr. Cornwell reported that the department heads communicated to the employees to fill the trucks up with gas. All vehicles have a fleet company card in them for fuel purchases. Mr. Cameron asked if the equipment had been installed on the tanks yet. Mr. Cornwell reported that the equipment had been installed on the Lattimore Tank. Skyrunner posted a Facebook notification for any potential customers. Mr. Cameron asked how many tanks would be involved. The Jesse Mountain Tank would also have equipment installed for the upper end of Cleveland County. Mr. Melton noted his appreciate to the General Manager and the department heads. Mr. Melton noted appreciation to Tim Moore for his attendance via video conference.

I. Adjournment

Action Taken: Chairman Melton called for a motion to adjourn. Upon a motion by Mr. Brooks, second by Mr. Cook the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Cameron

Bill Cameron, Secretary

