

**NORTH LITTLE ROCK
WASTEWATER TREATMENT COMMITTEE**

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2021

A meeting of the North Little Rock Wastewater Treatment Committee was held on Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at the administrative offices located at the Faulkner Lake Treatment Plant.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Matthews at approximately 12:15 p.m. The roll was called, and a quorum was present. Those in attendance at the meeting were Mr. K.W. Matthews, Mr. Ed Nelson, Ms. Karen Bryant and Mr. Gabe Stephens. Also in attendance were Mr. Michael Clayton, Director, Mr. Richard Penn, City Engineer with the City of Sherwood, Ms. Sara Smith, Mayor's Chief of Staff, with the City of Maumelle, Mr. Michael Marlar with Halff Associates, Mr. Scott Hilburn with Hilburn and Harper, LTD and Gina Briley, Finance Manager.

The Committee reviewed the minutes of its October 12, 2021, meeting. After review, three corrections were noted. A motion was made by Mr. Stephens, seconded by Mr. Nelson to make the corrections. A motion was then made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Mr. Stephens, to approve the corrected October 12, 2021, minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

Next, the Committee reviewed the cash disbursements for the month of October 2021. There being no questions or comments, a motion was made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Mr. Stephens, to approve the cash disbursements for October 2021 reflecting total cash disbursements of \$3,688,994.98 and fund transfers between accounts of \$3,309,700.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Next, the Committee reviewed the financial statements for October 2021. After a brief discussion concerning the Sherwood Treatment Charge revenue line item, a motion was made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Mr. Stephens, to approve the financial statements for October 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

The Committee then reviewed bids which were received on October 28, 2021, for the Bridgeway Pump station Gravity Conversion. The project consists of installing approximately 2,367 linear feet of 8" sanitary sewer main to decommission the Bridgeway Pump Station. The low bid was submitted by Diamond Construction in the amount of \$294,995. The same amount is included in the 2022 budget. A motion was made by Ms. Bryant, seconded by Mr. Nelson to award the contract to Diamond Construction.

Next, the Committee discussed the Dixie and Baring Cross Basins Pipe Bursting 2021 Rehabilitation Project. Bids were received for this project on October 7, 2021. The project consists of rehabilitation of approximately 18,456 linear feet of 6' and 8" sanitary sewer mains via the pipe bursting method and reconnection of approximately 398 services. Mr. Clayton made the comment that construction administration for this project will be performed by the Halff Associates engineering firm. After a brief discussion concerning the large range of the bid amounts received, a motion was made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Ms. Bryant, to award the contract to the low bidder, Burkhalter Technologies, Inc. in the amount of \$1,275,595.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Clayton then advised the Committee that Michael Marlar, P.E. of Halff Associates was asked to add an evaluation of the possibility of constructing lagoons South of the existing White Oak Treatment Plant to the July 6th report concerning the plant expansion, which was presented to the Committee during the September 14, 2021, meeting. Mr. Marlar presented his report which included three areas of land expansion. Area 1 (Northwest) is currently zoned "conservation", and it would be difficult and highly unlikely that this would be changed by the planning commission. Area 2 (South) would be useful if the Utility transitioned from lagoons to a mechanical treatment plant. This is not the current plan since the preliminary estimate for a mechanical treatment plant is \$38 million. Also, part of this site is in the floodway. The estimate for constructing new lagoons at the South Site is \$15.5 million. Area 3 (West) is the most economical site due to being situated closest to the existing lagoons thereby reducing pipe and fittings required for expansion. The estimate for constructing lagoons at the West Site is \$8.9 million and none of the site is included in the floodway. Mr. Clayton reminded the Committee that Ferstl Valuation Services has already provided the Utility with an appraisal in the amount of around \$15,000 an acre for the West Site. After some discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Mr. Stephens to proceed with an offer to purchase the West Site land to the property owner and if the offer is denied to proceed with condemnation. The motion carried unanimously.

Next, the Committee reviewed the draft 2022 budget. The operating revenue is based on the current rate ordinance and the projected total usage for 2021. The operating expenses are based on the projected total for 2021 plus a 3% cost of living increase for labor and a 5% increase in other operating expenses. After some discussion, Mr. Nelson made a motion to approve the 2022 budget. Ms. Bryant seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Clayton then proposed a change order for the Rose City and Military Basins Pipe Busting 2021 Rehabilitation Project which was previously approved by the Committee for \$2,091,201.50. The change order is to haul biosolids from the Maumelle Treatment Plant to the White Oak Plant for \$330 per load using a 4,000-gallon tanker truck for a six-month period or up to the amount of \$71,286. The tanker truck will be safer than the current haul method using an open dump truck. A motion was made by Mr. Nelson to execute the change order for a minimum period of 6 months with the option to extend on a month-to-month basis up to a year at the stated rate. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stephens and carried unanimously.

The committee then reviewed bids which were received on October 26, 2021 for two class 7 dump trucks and one class 8 dump truck. The lowest total bid received was from Summit Truck Group in the amount of \$347,603.44. A motion was made by Mr. Stephens, seconded by Mr. Nelson to purchase the 3 dump trucks from Summit Truck Group. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further action to come before the Committee, a motion was made by Mr. Nelson to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:30 p.m.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



K. W. MATTHEWS, CHAIRMAN

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

SYLVESTER SMITH,
VICE-CHAIRMAN/SECRETARY

