

**LIBERTY REGIONAL WASTE DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 20, 2020**

The LRWD board meeting was called to order by President Steve Knote @ 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held by WebEx, remotely, due to COVID 19 and social distancing.

Members participating were: Marla Cook, Brent Devine, Steve Graves, Steve Knote and Bruce Reinke.

Others participating was: Office Manager Kathy May, Superintendent Jerry Zearbaugh, Bookkeeper Peg Selvey and Attorney Mark Abrell, and Engineer Rick Miller.

Mr. Reinke made a motion to accept the minutes from last month's meeting as written. Mr. Graves seconded the motion, vote by roll call, motion carried.

Claims totaling \$343,199.88 were viewed and signed.

Mr. Reinke made a motion to accept the claims as written. Mr. Graves seconded the motion, vote by roll call, motion carried.

Mr. Knote recognized Peg Selvey, Bookkeeper, for the financial report. Peg reported receipts for July 2020 were \$119,678.00 with disbursements of \$191,722.56 leaving \$72,044.56 in the red. This includes the extra check to MSD in the amount of \$114,622.50 balance @ \$5.59.

The year to date amount is \$929,098.58 with disbursements of \$982,947.80 leaving \$53,849.22 in the red.

As of today 8-20-20 the billing office has collected \$107,336.52 plus \$103,388.60 from the CD & interest for a total of \$210,725.12 with disbursements of \$202,814.01 leaving \$7,911.11 in the black.

This includes the MSD sewage bill for June 2020 in the amount of \$155,196.96 at regular rate or \$13,991.31 @ the rate of \$2.49. The next bill for July 2020 will be \$179,435.10 or \$15,629.73 @ the rate of \$2.49.

Peg told the Board that the CD matures on 9-13-20 at Thrive Credit Union in the amount of \$100,000.00. Peg needs a motion to take bids and purchase a new one because it comes due before the next board meeting. She would like to do a 6 month CD so it doesn't come due at the same time as the other one.

Mr. Devine made a motion to allow Peg to take bids and purchase a new CD for 6 months. Mr. Reinke seconded the motion, vote by roll call, motion carried.

Mr. Devine made a motion to approve the financial report. Mr. Reinke seconded the motion, vote by roll call, motion carried.

Mr. Knoté recognized Attorney Mark Abrell. Mark told the Board that he e-mailed members a copy of the contract document. Mark and Jennifer Wilson spent hours looking over the contract to make sure the language is what we wanted. We would be paying 6% for water pollution control, which covers salaries and all other things pertaining to water pollution control. We would have to check all numbers of expenditures, like how many employees and job titles to see what they earn. So it would be easier to pay 6% of a set baseline. Jennifer Wilson will check and give a report to the Board & MSD to set a baseline.

Mark said there are 2 items that should be outlined.

1. Review the baseline amount and if it goes up, see if it is something we agreed to.
2. Document debt and when debt pays off. So we can see when bond pays off and rate will go down. If there is a rate change we have the right to ask to see all information that allows for calculation of rates. We want little things spelled out for the entire contract. We have 9.05 miles of interceptor pipes and we pay 2.29% or \$3000.00 annually. If they work on it and it amounts to more than \$3000.00 we pay it over a 12 month period. There is a limited amount of things that they could come back on. Larger expenses would be at the treatment plant. Jennifer will keep check on this.

Our rate will be a 55% reduction, from \$5.59 to \$2.49; this is what we have agreed to. Arbitrators will step in if things get out of hand.

Mark would recommend to the Board to adopt and give Mr. Knoté permission to execute the contract.

Mr. Devine had a few questions. He wanted to know how we arrived at the 6% figure. Mark said on the spread sheet it was going to be 3.15% for everything for the negotiated amount. We proposed 6% with no administrative costs and we just pay for treatment plant expenses only.

The second question pertains to the capacity. Our flow is 2% of their capacity on a monthly basis. If we go over that amount it would be for that month only.

Mr. Knoté recognized Engineer Rick Miller. Rick told the Board that the total allowable capacity right now is 24 million gallons per day. We usually send 480 thousand gallons per day on a monthly basis.

Mr. Graves made a motion to go forward with the MSD contract and give Mr. Knoté permission to execute the contract. Mrs. Cook seconded the motion, vote by roll call, motion carried.

Mark said we would need to propose a rate ordinance and do a rate study and have a public hearing. Adopt ordinance 2020-2.

Mr. Devine made a motion to hire mediator Jennifer Wilson to do a rate study. Mr. Reinke seconded the motion, vote by roll call, motion carried.

Mr. Reinke made a motion to have Jennifer Wilson check behind the numbers after the contract with MSD. Mr. Graves seconded the motion, vote by roll call, motion carried.

Rick Miller asked if he could borrow or rent our smoke blower for a few days. Mr. Graves made a motion to rent the smoke blower to Rick for \$25.00 a day. Mr. Devine seconded the motion, vote by roll call, motion carried.

Mr. Knote recognized Superintendent Jerry Zearbaugh. Jerry remoted in from Michigan for the meeting. He told the Board that a Liberty replacement pump went in lift station #3. A new pump was cheaper than a repair & it was made in USA.

Jerry also told the Board that the mother board & transfer switch went out of the Jackson St lift station. The new one is \$2700.00 and has only been in service since 1-4-19 and the old one had been in since 2011. Jerry is going to try to get some relief on the price since it only lasted 18 months.

Mr. Knote recognized Kathy May. Kathy asked the Board if we should go back to charging penalties and phone charge for charge cards. The Board said yes go back to normal in September.

Mrs. Cook made a motion to reopen office on August 31, 2020. Mr. Graves seconded the motion, vote by roll call, motion carried.

Mr. Knote seeing no further business adjourned the meeting.

Liberty Regional Waste District  
Kathy May / Office Manager  
August 20, 2020  
Meeting adjourned @ 8:35 p.m.