

**LIBERTY REGIONAL WASTE DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 17, 2020**

The LRWD board meeting was called to order by President Steve Knoté @ 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held live with social distancing and masks.

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

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

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

Claims totaling \$20,216.35 were viewed and signed.

Mr. Devine made a motion to accept the claims as written. Mrs. Cook seconded the motion, vote by roll call, motion carried.

Mr. Knoté recognized Peg Selvey, Bookkeeper, for the financial report. Peg reported receipts for August 2020 were \$223,872.25 with disbursements of \$82,113.78, this includes 2 voided checks sent to MSD in the amount of \$132,041.40, leaving \$141,758.47 in the black. Peg deposited \$14,175.85 in the Sewage Works fund.

The year to date amount is \$1,152,970.84 with disbursements of \$1,065,061.58 leaving \$87,909.26 in the black.

As of today 9-17-20 the billing office has collected \$108,843.67 plus \$102,179.37 from the CD & interest for a total of \$211,023.04 with disbursements of \$175,521.87 leaving \$35,501.17 in the black. The MSD bill is \$14,745.39 and this includes \$884.39 credit from MSD in accordance with the new contract.

Peg told the Board that she purchased a 6 month CD at .4% interest at Prime Trust.

Peg told the Board they needed to think about the salary ordinance for October meeting. Steve will see if a couple board members want to study salaries.

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

Mr. Knoté opened for new business. New business would include a rate study and a rate hearing.

Mr. Knote recognized Attorney Mark Abrell. Mark told the Board that if they wanted to hire Jennifer Wilson as the rate consultant to do a rate study her contract would be for \$10,000.00 to \$12,000.00. She would have it done before the October 15, 2020 meeting so that we could have a public hearing that same night.

Mr. Devine made a motion to sign a letter of agreement to hire Jennifer Wilson to do the rate study. Mrs. Cook seconded the motion, vote by roll call, motion carried.

Mr. Devine made a motion to introduce a proposed Rate Ordinance 2020-4. Mrs. Cook seconded the motion, vote by roll call, motion carried.

Mark told the Board that Delaware Regional lost an appeal with the IURC for Muncie to expand their territory to include a radius of 4 miles. This will transfer to the Supreme Court to see if Delaware Regional can win the appeal.

Mr. Knote recognized Superintendent Jerry Zearbaugh. Jerry told the Board that on September 8th a manual transfer switch was installed at the Jackson Street lift station by Milhollin Electric. In case of a power outage and our stationary generator fails, we will have the ability to connect one of our portable generators until the utility power is restored.

Mr. Knote recognized Kathy May. Kathy asked the Board if a company called Home America Fund out of California needs their approval to cap off the property at 115 S Albany Street. The property has been condemned by the Delaware County Health Department for human habitation. The Board said no approval was needed.

Kathy asked the Board what to do about a property located at 9904 E Railroad Street. The customer owes \$772.30 and has only paid twice this year. The property has a permanent shut-off valve because of poor payment history.

Mrs. Cook said she believes we should make them pay the entire bill or we will shut-off service. The health department will then be notified for eviction of the property.

Mr. Abrell said a shut-off letter will have to be sent.

Kathy told the Board that State Board of Accounts wants the Board to establish a grace period to apply monthly penalties.

Mr. Devine made a motion to allow a grace period of two (2) business days after the 14th of the month due date. Mrs. Cook 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

September 17, 2020

Meeting adjourned @ 8:30 p.m.