

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

The LRWD board meeting was called to order by President Steve Knote @ 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held by Webex.

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

Others participating was: Office Manager Kathy May, Superintendent Jerry Zearbaugh, Attorney Mark Abrell, Engineer Rick Miller, Grant Kissel from Indiana Pump Works, Rich Guethlein and Bruce Morvilius.

Bookkeeper Peg Selvey was absent.

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

Claims totaling \$118,156.56 were viewed and signed.

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

Mr. Knote recognized Kathy May for the financial report. Kathy reported (per Peg) receipts for November 2020 were \$94,695.42 with disbursements of \$70,439.01 leaving \$24,256.41 in the black.

Peg deposited \$2,425.64 in the Sewage Works fund.

The year-to-date amount is \$1,618,461.44 with disbursements of \$1,400,565.16 leaving \$217,896.28 in the black.

The receipts for December 2020 are \$77,106.99 with disbursements of \$94,150.70, leaving \$17,043.71 in the red. This includes the MSD bill for \$23,156.61.

As of today, 12-17-20 the billing office has collected \$74,054.47 plus \$3,052.52 from liens collected, making \$77,106.99 with disbursements of \$94,150.70 leaving \$17,043.71 in the red.

Peg also needs the salary ordinance and also needs it signed.
Peg needs a motion to pay bills through the end of December 2020.

AE Boyce Keystone contract for Cloud maintenance is on the docket for \$275.00. Mr. Knote will need to sign this contract.

Peg will mail the quarterly and yearly Board members checks tomorrow.

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

Mr. Knote opened the floor for new business. Mr. Knote said they needed to adopt a salary ordinance. Mr. Knote asked Attorney Mark Abrell if job descriptions and salaries can be changed after the ordinance has been adopted.

Mr. Abrell said they can review job descriptions and salaries at any time they so desire.

Mrs. Cook made a motion to keep salaries the same as last year without the bonus. Mr. Devine seconded the motion.

Mr. Reinke said if they keep last years ordinance without the bonus, that would be a cut in pay for the employees.

Mrs. Cook rescinded her motion and Mr. Devine rescinded his second.

Mr. Devine made a motion to keep salaries the same as last year with the bonus. Mrs. Cook seconded the motion, vote by roll call, motion carried.

Mr. Knote recognized Attorney Mark Abrell. Mark told the Board that Mr. Sarig's intention is to not pay for the past due balance on his 24 units. Mark gave him 15 days to pay. Mark asked the Board if they want to file suit against him.

Mrs. Cook told Mark to file suit.

Mark told the Board that Jennifer Wilson tried to reach Dean Rogers to confirm and get a baseline for all charges in the contract with MSD, but he didn't respond. Attorney Josh Brown is the attorney for MSD, and he said Dean Rogers will get right on that and contact Jennifer.

Mark said the IURC case to allow MSD territorial rights to 4 miles surrounding the city limits of Muncie. The city council amended the ordinance to exclude LRWD but still after Delaware Regional. The Supreme Court will accept or deny.

MSD and Delaware Regional are still engaged in trying to work out a settlement.

Mark asked the Board if they would like to retain him as their attorney with a contract for 2021.

Mr. Devine made a motion to retain Mark Abrell as the attorney for LRWD. Mrs. Cook seconded the motion, vote by roll call, motion carried.

Mr. Knote recognized Engineer Rick Miller. Rick told the Board that he has been working with Jerry and Grant Kissel from Indiana Pump Works, to update the Keystone lift station. Grant Kissel is giving us a proposal of \$37,725.00 that includes 2 pumps, control panel, grid rails and valve vault. The current wet well is fiberglass and would be better to use it instead of putting in a concrete one. The hydrosulfide acid in sewage erodes the concrete but doesn't affect the fiberglass. The generator would not be gas and

could be Generac or Polar. The automatic transfer switch would cost \$8000.00 installed. The total cost for updating would be:

\$50,000.00	material
<u>20,000.00</u>	labor
\$70,000.00	plus or minus total

Mr. Graves asked if it would be wiser to go all new and use a concrete wet well. Grant Kissel said that would cost in the range of \$150,000.00 to \$175,000.00 for a new concrete station. He said the fiberglass will outlast the concrete for many years and everything else would be new. The time limit would be 6 weeks for parts. Rick said the easement includes 15 feet of JR Welch's driveway.

Rick told the Board that he would send a renewal for his retainer contract for 2021 if they so desired. The rate remained the same as last year.

Mr. Devine made a motion to keep Rick Miller as engineer. Mrs. Cook seconded the motion, vote by roll call, motion carried.

Mr. Knot recognized Superintendent Jerry Zearbaugh. Jerry told the Board that he is getting low on the Destroyer that we bought in July 2018 for \$2220.35. He uses it in the lift stations to control grease buildup in the forced mains. Jerry has a quote from ATCO to purchase a 55-gallon drum for the same cost as the last time, with free delivery. Jerry is asking permission to purchase this item.

Mr. Devine made a motion to allow Jerry to purchase the Destroyer 55-gallon drum. Mr. Reinke seconded the motion, vote by roll call, motion carried

Mr. Knot recognized Kathy May. Kathy told the Board that we had received the lien pay-off from the Delaware County Treasurer in the amount of \$3,052.52.

Kathy told the Board that the sewage bills were mailed November 30, 2020 but they got lost and weren't found until a couple weeks later in Indianapolis post office. Kathy asked if we should waive the penalty for this month?

Mr. Devine made a motion to not charge penalties for this month only. Mrs. Cook seconded the motion, vote by roll call, motion carried.

Mr. Knot told the Board that Cindy Routh had contacted him and she bought a house from her son Jared Routh and she would like to know if the bill could be waived until she makes the house livable, possibly by July 2021. Her son had the Board waive the bill earlier this year but didn't get the house livable. He owes \$522.71 on the property.

Mr. Devine made a motion to have her pay the bill that is owed and then we will check into giving a waiver after further discussion, and table this until next month. Mrs. Cook seconded the motion, vote by roll call, motion carried.

Mr. Knot announced that this is Mr. Reinke's last meeting. Thanks to Bruce for serving on the Board.

Mr. Knote announced that he was not re-appointed by the Town Board. The Town Board appointed Jeremi Dobbs to replace Mr. Knote. The Town re-appointed Mr. Devine to serve on LRWD Board.

The Liberty Township Trustee, Brian Dudley appointed Mr. Knote to serve as the Trustee's appointee for LRWD Board to replace and finish Bruce Reinke's term.

Mr. Knote seeing no further business adjourned the meeting.

Liberty Regional Waste District
Kathy May / Office Manager
December 17, 2020
Meeting adjourned @ 8:47 p.m.