

MINUTES
TRI-LAKES REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
April 14, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

Sue Schroeder, Secretary, called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. as Tim Brower, President was absent. The meeting was held at the Tri-Lakes District Office, 5240 N. Old 102, Columbia City, IN.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken. Board members present were George Schrupf, Tom Wise, Sue Schroeder, Ruth Orr and Priscilla Peters; Tim Brower and Dick Eckert were absent. Also attending the meeting were Carol Martin, Cliff Creason and Jim Lauer from Schnelker Engineering.

MINUTES & REPORTS

The Minutes, Operations and Maintenance Reports were emailed to the Trustees prior to the meeting for review. Sue asked for any additions, deletions or questions on any of them. George made a motion to approve Minutes as presented, Tom seconded; verbal vote of the motion carried by five (5) to zero (0).

OLD BUSINESS

Jim Lauer – came to talk about a master plan and mini master plans for the sewer district and future growth within the district. Several items need to be addressed other than just hooking additional customers up; we need to look at capacity of the lines, pump stations and the ponds. Jim gave an overview of what the district's options might be going forward. The county Sanitarian is going to be the driving force with more homes needing service. We need to be prepared with a plan of how we might service the additional homes and how the growth in our district will impact our system. We will also have to look at the direction IDEM is going regarding lagoons as we could be forced to build a treatment plant or send to Columbia City for treatment. Carol will see about scheduling Scott Wagner from Whitley County to come and address the board about future sanitation needs.

Carol had rate ordinance 2014-1 ready for review for by the board. It was agreed to move forward and have the public hearing at the next board meeting on May 12th, to be held at the Lions Club. The public hearing will start at 5:30.

AirVac's recommendation for the stations was revisited regarding the vacuum pump filters as the filters now need replaced. By replacing the current filters with Solberg separators, this would eliminate the expense of purchasing replacement filters. The stainless filters (replacement filters) will cost \$3,482.55 for all the stations except Station B. Station B on Spear Road has already been retro fitted with the Solberg separators a few years ago. The cost for the Solberg separators for the remaining five stations is \$12,399.03; the difference between replacement filters and the Solberg separators is \$8,916.48. Priscilla made a motion to start with Station D with the Solberg filters this year and continue with a station a year. Ruth seconded the motion; verbal vote of the motion carried by five (5) to zero (0).

NEW BUSINESS

Carol presented quotes for a new copier/fax machine from Sands office Equipment, Allen Business Machines and Advanced Imaging Solutions. The current copier/fax was bought in 2007 for \$900.00 with a maintenance contract for \$720/yr. which the district now has \$5,040.00 invested. With improved technology, the costs of machines have come down with additional functions. George made a motion to purchase the Lanier MFP for \$2,050.25 from Advanced Imaging Solutions without a maintenance contract. Ruth seconded the motion; verbal vote of the motion carried by five (5) to zero (0)

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UPDATE

Carol informed the Board of the following:

We started discharging again to get the ponds as low as possible while we can before the warm weather sets in.

Electrical base board heaters have now been installed in Station F (Loon Lake) to replace the last propane tank used by the district. The district paid \$1,808 this past heating season to heat this station with propane; that's twice as much as we paid to heat Station E (Big Lake). This will be a big saving in future years.

Repairs for the Old/ New Lift Station are scheduled to start this next month starting with the replacement control panel box. The patched line will still need addressed in the near future. Carol is working on getting this coordinated with everyone involved.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, George Schrumpf made a motion to adjourn and Priscilla seconded the motion. All Board members voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried. Sue adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Sue Schroeder, Secretary