

MINUTES
TRI-LAKES REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
January 12, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

Tim Brower, President, called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. 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 Priscilla Peters, Tom Wise, Ruth Orr, Linda Parker, and George Schrupf; Sue Schroeder was absent. Also attending the meeting were Carol Martin, Cliff Creason, Matt Shipman, Gene Heckman and Michael Rudd.

MINUTES & REPORTS

The Minutes, Operations and Maintenance Reports were emailed to the Trustees prior to the meeting for review. Tim asked for any additions, deletions or questions on any of them.

George made a motion to approve reports as presented, Ruth seconded; verbal vote of the motion carried by six (6) to zero (0).

CUSTOMER CONCERNS

Michael Rudd, 2095 E. Crampton Rd, came to the meeting to request a transfer of a paid connection fee from a property located at Loon Lake to a property on Crampton Rd. It was discussed and decided that the connection fees are not a commodity that can be bought, sold or transferred from property to property. The connection fees should stay with the properties the accounts were originally assigned to. Matt Shipman suggested the Trustees might consider amending the next Sewer Rate Ordinance to include a clearer understanding regarding connection fees assigned to each property.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

- Matt Shipman explained to the trustees the new Indiana Codes will allow regional sewer districts to force a “tax sale” on properties to satisfy unpaid sewer bill liens. This was not an option before when the sewer bill was the only lien on a property. Matt is working currently with Noble County and another sewer district with these tax sales. He will contact the Whitely County Treasurer for help with the liens and tax sales for Tri-Lakes.
- Insurance proposals for terrorism coverage and extra liability coverage were reviewed. After some discussion it was decided the current coverage was substantial for our needs.
- Yearly contracts from Schnelker Engineering for consulting services and Ryan Egolf, as our certified operator were reviewed and signed.
- Carol proposed to have an article posted in the Post and Mail explaining the lower billing for phase I with the bond dropping off along with a bit about the Tri-Lakes sewer district.

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ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES

- AEP's 3 phase transformer servicing station D on Colony Avenue shorted out and burned out the transfer box for the generator. The station was down for several hours until the generator could be wired direct to get the station up and running. The generator ran over night as the power company didn't expect to have the transformer fixed until very late. If parts cannot be found for the transfer box, a new one will have to be ordered. This will be an insurance claim after all the cost and invoices are collected.
- We stopped discharging this past week. All of the ponds are down to about their lowest levels in the past several years. They are in good shape for the spring rains and snow coverage.
- We are performing inside maintenance on the stations with the onset of winter. The ductal pipe and pump decks are being sanded and painted.
- Carol negotiated a deal with Terra Contracting to have Culy's Contracting repair the leak at the Old/New station when they come to rehab the Goose Lake lift station. Terra Contracting will pay Culy's time and labor for the repair.
- The starters for the grinder stations are freezing up with the cold weather. This is causing a lot of call outs. Carol is working with AirVac to figure out a solution to help with this problem. The panel boxes are all starting to show age and will need to have the wiring gone over in the near future.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Sue Schroeder, Secretary