

MINUTES
TRI-LAKES REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
March 11, 2013

CALL TO ORDER – Board President, Sue Schroeder, called the meeting to order at 5 pm. The meeting was held at the District Office, 5240 N. Old 102. Columbia City, IN

ROLL CALL – Roll call was taken and all Board members were present. Also present was Carol Martin, Tina Lemon, Ruth Orr and Marc Gatton with the Whitley County Sheriff's office.

CUSTOMER CALLS/CONCERNS/INQUIRIES DIRECTED TO TRUSTEES --

Ruth Orr came to the meeting to express her concern about the bond money which has already been paid on her property for the last 12 years being forfeited should she permanently disconnect. She is seeking for the bond money which has already been paid to date on the property stayed tied to the property. She does not foresee ever building on this property, however should the property ever sell, she would like a credit of what has already been paid to date, be applied to the reconnection of the property. At this time no credit will be given to this property, so should this property ever sell again, it would be assessed a brand new connection fee as if no connection or bond money was ever paid. Dick Eckert asked Carol to review the district's current ordinances, policies and resolutions regarding disconnects, reconnects and then new connections as these are three different situations. George Schrupf suggested we table this decision until Carol has time to look into all the policies. Sue said we will need to look into this and perhaps make some changes after further review.

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST

Marc Gatton with the Whitley County Sheriff department came as an observer for his leadership class.

Tina Lemon reviewed with the board all the monthly reports she prepares for them. She went into explanation of the different line items and accounts for clarification. With the new board members, it was good to review what type of reports and information the board wanted to see. Tina asked if there was more or less information needed on the reports as they are for their review. Janet asked for special notation should there be something out of the norm for that month. Sue asked to change the format of the call out report to make it easier to read. Other than those changes, the board was happy with the reports and information they were receiving.

MINUTES & REPORTS

After the clarification of miscellaneous expenses from the January financial report, George Schrupf made a motion to approve the financial reports from January and February. They were seconded by Janet and approval was unanimous.

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. Tim made a motion to approve the reports and Dick seconded. Verbal vote of the motion carried by six (6) to zero (0) with George Schrupf abstaining as he was not present for the last board meeting.

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OLD BUSINESS --

- Carol had Rate Ordinance 2013-1 ready for the board to review to proceed with the 5% rate increase and public hearing. The public hearing will be held after the regular board meeting on April 8th, with the public hearing starting at 6:00PM. Carol will arrange the venue and post the date, time and location in the Post & Mail and the Albion New Era along with being posted on the April billing notices and our website.
- Carol again expressed real concerns with the type of service we are receiving with the turnover of AirVac's employees. The other issues mentioned were, AirVac's employee being reluctant in doing routine items as he doesn't think it's in the contract and items not being reported to Carol that need to be addressed. Sue asked to have Clint Hawn from AirVac, come to the May meeting so we can address our concerns.
- Influent flow meter is installed and being calibrated with hopes of it being in service starting April 1st. The lawn and pull off drive will still need to be addressed late spring after the ground dries up.

NEW BUSINESS

- Disconnect Policy, reconnect policy and new connect policy. Carol will review the past ordinances and policies for the boards review to see if changes need to be made.
- Aquatic Weed Control renewal contract was approved to spray/treat for weeds around the ponds at \$3,100.00, the same cost as last year.
- An email from Jim Lauer was forwarded to the board regarding The Bear, High, Wolf Lake RSD joining with Tri-Lakes RSD to help with their operations and perhaps lower the cost of the sewer rates for Bear, High, Wolf lake residences. This discussion was brought up last year and the board at that time did not want to proceed with this venture. Carol will see that Jim Lauer sends them a letter stating as much.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Janet made a motion to adjourn and Dick seconded the motion. All Board members voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried. Sue adjourned the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Tim Brower, Secretary