

MINUTES
TRI-LAKES REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
May 11, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Tim Brower, President, called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. 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, Bill Brice, and Jerry Burns. Carol Martin and Heather Palan were also in attendance.

GUEST AND CUSTOMERS INQUIRIES DIRECTED TO TRUSTEES

TEMPORARY ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting was suspended until 5:30 to start the public hearing for the proposed rate increase of 5%. Which amounts to \$1.37.

RATE HEARING MEETING CALL TO ORDER AT 5:30

This hearing was held for public comments on the board's proposed and approved 5% rate increase, to be effective 6/1/2020.

Received an anonymous letter:

"We would like to know why the sewer bill is increasing every year? When we paid our money upfront for the sewer the bill was around \$6.00, and our cost was to remain the same. Just in the last ten years our cost has gone up over 140%. In 2011, our bill was \$12.31 and now it has more than doubled to \$28.64. Why is our cost going up when we were told it would remain the same in the original contract?"

There were no other written comments at time of meeting. Tim requested a motion to accept, reject or delay approval of Sewer Rate Ordinance 2020-1. Ruth made a motion to accept the ordinance; seconded by Priscilla. Verbal vote of each board member to approve the ordinance was made.

Priscilla Peters – Yes, Tom Wise – Yes, Linda Parker –Yes, Tim Brower –Yes, Jerry Burns –Yes, Ruth Orr –Yes, Bill Brice - Yes.

Rate Ordinance 2020-1 passed by a vote of Seven (7) to zero (0).

Ruth motioned to close the rate hearing meeting and Tom Seconded it; verbal vote carried seven (7) to zero (0). Tim then closed this portion of the meeting and the regular meeting resumed.

MINUTES & REPORTS

The Minutes and Financial reports were emailed to the Trustees prior to the meeting for review. And the Trustees approved. Priscilla motioned to approve the minutes as written and Ruth Seconded; verbal vote of the motion carried seven (7) to zero (0).

NEW BUSINESS

The trustees had voted via email to waive penalties and disconnects for April. Heather asked if they were wanting to do May as well. Jerry motioned to waive penalties and disconnects for the May 20 bill and Tom Seconded; verbal vote of the motion carried seven (7) to zero (0).

MINUTES
TRI-LAKES REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
May 11, 2020

The State had required the district to have a Public Health Emergency Plan. Heather had emailed the trustees the plan for their approval. It was approved via email in April in case it needed to be put in place before the May 11 meeting.

Quality Repair sent in the quote to repair the Barnes pump for the ponds, it came in at \$2,390.00 with a new pump costing \$6,930.00. Priscilla motioned to repair the pump and Tom Seconded it; verbal vote of the motion carried seven (7) to zero (0).

OLD BUSINESS

Heather let the trustees know she had been contacted by insurance that Gerdes insurance had contacted our insurance about paying. No other update.

No news on land next to school.

Matt Shipman emailed over the petition that will be presented to Noble County to have us take in part of Crooked Lake and a side and bottom of Loon Lake that we already service, but were not technically in our district.

Magic Hills has received first connection fee paid. Mike is going to do site repair when rain quits in next week or so.

Alex White from GRW Engineering has finished the permit application for Northland Estates and emailed over for Tim Brower to sign.


Matt Shipman had received some paperwork from Angela Grable regarding the lots on Big Lake and he is handling this for us.

ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES

Heather let the trustees know the landscaping was done. Weed block was put down followed by stone.

Heather announced that she is expecting in November. The trustees will discuss the plan for coverage at a later meeting.

With nothing more to discuss, Tom made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Priscilla seconded; verbal vote of the motion carried by seven (7) to zero (0). Meeting adjourned at 6:23pm.



Linda Parker, Secretary