

MINUTES
TRI-LAKES REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
May 10, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Tom Wise, 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, Bill Brice, Jerry Burns, Ruth Orr, Linda Parker and Carol Martin. Cliff Creason and Heather Palan were also in attendance.

GUEST AND CUSTOMERS INQUIRIES DIRECTED TO TRUSTEES

Angela Grable and Jeremy Patton – 2044 E Fox Dr – They heard the Trustees would be speaking about the lots on 500 S and the hook up the district's subdivision policy requires Angela to do. Lot closest to Groveland was sold to farmer across Groveland with no plans to build. The next lot was purchased in 2020 by Dan Fox and he is planning to put a pole barn and build a home with Granite Ridge. Lot with original farmhouse on it is grandfathered in with original septic until it fails. And lot closest to Highpoint Dr is currently listed for sale by Jeremy Patton and has a lot of interest, but with the disclosure of the sewer has prompted several calls over price for infrastructure and who is responsible. Angela said that Nel Mann told her when she divided the lots that she did not, but this was in person and not in writing. Letter from Matt Shipman in 2013 was present to the Trustees to review. Carol Martin spoke to Angela on her involvement between Angela and Board of Trustees from when she was the district administrator. Which was letting Angela know that per the district's definition of a subdivision she is responsible for the infrastructure. Angela said she would take the district to court over the matter. Ruth proposed Angela and the Trustees agree on an amount both sides would pay since the cost could be \$230,000 to run the vacuum line down 500 S to service these lots. Angela let the Trustees know she does not have \$50,000 to install the infrastructure for the lots. It was discussed over the cost of putting septic system on each lot of \$25,000- \$30,000 per lot. Heather let Angela and Trustees know that GRW Engineering is working on updated numbers for the force main from end of Groveland and what updates would need to be made to the overall system to make this happen. Heather will let everyone know when this is received. After much discussion between the Trustees and Angela, Ruth motioned to table until the next meeting when there is more information from the engineer, Linda Seconded; verbal vote of the motion carried seven (7) to zero (0).

MINUTES & REPORTS

The Minutes and Financial reports were emailed to the Trustees prior to the meeting for review. Priscilla made a motioned to approve the minutes as written, Linda Seconded; verbal vote of the motion carried seven (7) to zero (0). Carol motioned to accept financial reports, Linda Seconded; verbal vote of the motion carried seven (7) to zero (0).

NEW BUSINESS

Carol Martin gave Oath of Office and became a board member as of April 13, 2021 appointed by Scott Ziegler for Noble Township.

Heather presented Station D on Colony electric bill from Indiana Michigan Power that is up \$500 from last month and run times are up to 14 hours a day per pump compared to 8-9 hours per pump we usually run. Mike believes this is due to a leak in the vacuum. Mike has walked all and listened to every candy cane and pit on Station D and has not located the issue. Mike asked office if anyway to get the word out for a noise he is looking for. The office sent postcards to the area affected at Tri-Lakes. Airvac came out on a complimentary visit to see if they could assist but were not having much luck. Airvac has an Aqua Scope ground penetrating listening device to hear the pipe below ground. It was presented an Aqua Scope from USA BLUE Book at approx. \$2600 plus \$1030 for visual meter to purchase to help locate vacuum leaks. Ruth motioned to purchase the Aqua Scope, Priscilla Seconded; verbal vote of the motion carried seven (7) to zero (0).

The back door on the office has rusted out and is needing replaced. It was discussed if it could be patched, but Carol said that it had been patched several times before and it was time to have to replace it. Heather was not able to get

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exact quotes but was told around \$1500. Priscilla motioned to get a new back door and frame and install it, Ruth Seconded; verbal vote of the motion carried seven (7) to zero (0).

TEMPORARY ADJOURNMENT

To start the public hearing for the proposed rate increase of 5%. Which amounts to \$1.43.

RATE HEARING MEETING CALL TO ORDER

This hearing was held for public comments on the board's proposed and approved 5% rate increase, to be effective 6/1/2021.

There were no one in attendance for comments on rate increase. Tom requested a motion to accept, reject or delay approval of Sewer Rate Ordinance 2021-1. Priscilla made a motion to accept the ordinance; seconded by Linda. Verbal vote of each board member to approve the ordinance was made.

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

Rate Ordinance 2021-1 passed by a vote of Seven (7) to zero (0).

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

OLD BUSINESS

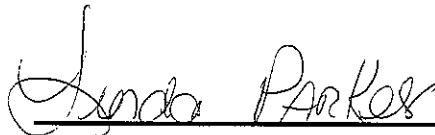
Gerdes Insurance claim had no updates this month.

Heather received email from Angela Grable asking for the dollar amount from the engineer to run the line to the lots on the backside of Big Lake off 500 S. The quote came back from engineers at approx. \$230,000 for sewer mains.

ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES

Heather did not have any updates.

With nothing more to discuss, Carol made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Priscilla Seconded; verbal vote of the motion carried by seven (7) to zero (0). Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.



Linda Parker, Secretary