

MINUTES
TRI-LAKES REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
May 9, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

Tim Brower, President, called the meeting to order at 5 PM. The meeting was held at the Tri-Lakes District Office, 5240 N. Old 102, Columbia City, IN.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken. All board members were present. Carol Martin, Cliff Cresson and Clint Hawn were also in attendance.

GUEST

Clint Hawn from AirVac presented comparison charts of the station's efficiency. There were improvements from when AirVac took over the system to how they are currently running. Clint explained to the board some of the things they look at and take into account when they do these comparisons.

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 with any of the reports. Sue made a motion to approve reports as presented, Priscilla seconded; verbal vote of the motion carried by seven (7) to zero (0).

NEW BUSINESS

Carol and Tina have been talking with 3Rivers Federal Credit Union who partner with Capital Bankcard for credit card payment processing. They quoted a much better rate for the processing charges which will save some money for the district over time. They also seem to have a better security system in place to keep customer's information from being hacked. Carol is moving forward with the change.

OLD BUSINESS

The preventive maintenance for the generators has been performed by Evapar and two of the stations have issues with their transfer panels. There were a few cracked hoses as well which needed replaced since there are original hoses. The panel at the school is not working at all and needs replaced, the panel at station F is working, but not readable. The panels are \$1,600 each, George made a motion to go ahead and buy one panel at this time for the school's generator, Sue seconded; motion carried by (7) to zero (0).

TEMPORARY ADJOURNMENT

Since it was not yet 5:30, the time scheduled to hear public comment on the proposed rate increase of 5%; the meeting was suspended at this point until 5:30.

RATE HEARING MEETING CALL TO ORDER 5:30

Board President, Tim Brower, called the public hearing to order at 5:30 pm. This hearing was held for public comments on the board's proposed and approved 5% rate increase, to be effective 6/1/2016. Steve and Cathy Heaston were in attendance at this segment of the meeting.

Mr. Heaston, asked to speak and was informed that this portion of the meeting was for discussion on the rate increase only. Mr. Heaston felt the district was taking advantage of the 5% rate increases as we have had a rate increase the past five years. He felt the board should work within their budget and maybe they needed to get someone else in place who could keep the spending under control. He wanted to know when the yearly rate hikes would end. He also made note the posting in the paper had an addition error and he would have like to had a name signed on the bottom of the posting.

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Tim asked for any additional comments at this time. Being no others were there to comment, Tim then requested a motion to accept, reject or delay approval of Sewer Rate Ordinance 2016-1. George made a motion to accept the ordinance; seconded by Tom. Verbal vote of each board member to approve the ordinance was made.

Rate Ordinance 2016-1 passed by a vote of seven (7) to zero (0).

Priscilla Peters – Yes	Tom Wise – Yes	Linda Parker –Yes
George Schrumph – Yes	Tim Brower –Yes	Sue Schroeder –Yes
Ruth Orr – Yes		

Sue made a motion this portion of the meeting be closed, Tom seconded; motion carried by (7) to zero (0).

REGULAR MEETING RESUMED

Mr. Heaston wanted to make the Board aware of a property on CR 350 E. which backs up to his, has had sewage leaking from their old septic system and flowing across his property and back into the lakes. He feels being that close to the Tri-Lakes system and there is a need that we could look into pursuing a possible hook up. There could be more than one home that might have a need for sewers. He said there was a line ran under Magley Lane which might be able to service this home. He would like for us to take a look at this. Carol explained that we are always willing to take a look at a property which might be close to our boundaries. We don't go out recruiting for new customers, but when approached by a homeowner will see if it's feasible to service them. Carol will look into this issue next week.

ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

The tank cleaning at all the stations have now been completed. This tank maintenance should be performed every two – three years.

The replacement piping and clear view filters has be completed in station E (Big Lake). Station F (Loon Lake) will be completed in another couple of weeks.

AirVac has been working on a “Smart System” and has placed one at Big Lake to help with the flow. There has always been an issue of the lines not clearing because of the lifts and bellied lines. This system measures the vacuum at the end of the line and will communicate with the stations and keep the pumps running longer to help move the liquid out of the lines. This is a new concept for AirVac and they are trying it out on our lines to see if it's effective in achieving better results with clearing the liquid from the lines. The system can be monitored on the smart phones back at Rochester.

Carol has had the yearly calibrations done on both the effluent and affluent meters required by IDEM.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Tom made a motion to adjourn and Ruth seconded the motion. All Board members voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried. Tim adjourned the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

Sue Schroeder, Secretary