

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF TURKEY CREEK REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT

The Board of Trustees of the Turkey Creek Regional Sewer District met in the Office of the said District, 4852 North 1200 West, Cromwell, Indiana, on the 18th of November 2024. Such meeting pursuant to annual notice in accordance with the rules of the Board of Trustees and I.C. 5-14-1.5.

President Boone read the following: Public comments or questions will be addressed during the "General Public Business" section of tonight's agenda. Therefore if anyone has a comment to present which has not already been presented, or a question to ask which has not previously been asked please do so when acknowledged by the Board. State your name and you will be allowed 2 minutes for your comment or discussion of your question.

President Boone called for the roll of members of the Board shown to be present or absent is as follows:

PRESENT

Robert Dumford

James Boone

Brad Fishburn

James Young

Dan Mikolajczak

Jeff Herdrich

ABSENT

Donald Dewitt

Also present were Andy Boxberger of Carson LLP, Jeff Hersha of Jones and Henry Engineering, Jane Bauer Assistant Office Manager, Karen and Michael Williams of Microbyte, Pam Johns-Office Manager and Timothy Woodward, District Superintendent. There was also a reporter from The Paper present.

President Boone introduced Kelly Gardner of the Alliance of Indiana Rural Water. Kelly was at the meeting to go over an apprentice program being offered. The program is being offered by the Alliance and the National Rural Water Association. In part this is a program to train people and get them certified as the water sector is expected to lose 30-50% of the workforce to retirement. The standards of the apprenticeship have been developed in accordance with the recommendation of the US Department of Labor. Kelly recommends that an employee puts in 6 months on the job to make sure it is the right fit before being offered the training. Apprentices would train under mentor (a certified experienced systems operations specialist). The on the job training would include 4000 hours of on the job training through their employer.

The 4000 hours includes 1920 on systems operations and repair, 960 hours in laboratory operations, 440 Tools and equipment operation and 680 hours in safety, logistics, reports and supervision.

It typically takes 2 years to complete the program. This includes the 4000 hour of OJT, 2800 hours related technical instruction and passing the state licensing certification exam. The enrollment period is every January and July and the expected fees for the program total approximately \$8000.00 for the two year program. There are grants available to cover some of the cost and if the District is interested in being part of the Apprentice Program they will assist with the financing and grant applications. Tim feels that the program is a good idea and is suggesting that the 2 new employees start the apprentice training in July.

The Board thanked Kelly for the presentation and will contact her as soon as a decision is made as to the District joining the Apprentice Program or not.

President Boone verified that each Board Member had a copy of the minutes from October 21, 2024 regular meeting. After review Trustee Mikolajczak made the motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Trustee Young and carried.

After reviewing the claims (CD renewal and the cost of the Vineyard Church connection, type and cost of batteries) the motion was made by Trustee Mikolajczak to pay claim #'s 6028-30, 6037 and 6042 from the Water Fund and 6002-41 from the Sewer O & M Fund. Also approved were check #'s 2611 and 2618 from the Water Fund and check #'s 21607-21660 and 5993 other from the O & M Fund. The motion was seconded by Trustee Dumford and carried.

Attorney Boxberger brought up the one customer (Northshore/Eastshore) who has not paid the connection-availability charge. Since the customer has not responded to any of our letters & notices. After discussion the motion was made by Trustee Mikolajczak to add the penalties (10%) to the next charges (per the District Ordinance). The motion was seconded by Trustee Dumford and carried. There is also one customer who has not done anything about connecting – including getting a permit. The District's failure to connect penalties would apply to this property owner. The motion was made by Trustee Dumford and seconded by Trustee Young to apply the \$5.00/day (1st month) penalty on the property. The motion carried.

Jeff Hersha stated that new PER's will be submitted to the SRF before the April 1, 2025 deadline. Jeff and Attorney Boxberger will be meeting to go over it to make sure the information is correct and ready for submittal.

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Jeff did state that the new PER will contain details for a new well.

Tim announced that the District has been given an award from Lakeside Equipment. The award will be presented at the Christmas Dinner (December 7th).

Tim did report that it is now time to clean all the District lines. This is done approximately every 10 years and it done with the District's vactor truck. The two new employees will be getting their CDLs and Tim will be setting up their training on the vactor.

Tim reported that the District has received the insurance check for the damage on Ross Drive. He will keep the Board updated if any other work has to be done. There is a one year warranty on the repairs and it is being checked weekly.

Tim reported that even with ½ of the plant shut down the District is meeting the permit. He will keep the Board updated of any adjustments needed.

Tim also reviewed the work done in order to get the Vineyard Church connected.

Tim was asked about the well levels. They have stayed at 38' even with the drought.

There being no further business to bring before the Board, Trustee Mikolajczak made the motion to adjourn. Trustee Dumford seconded the motion and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

December 16, 2024


James Boone, President

Respectfully, submitted by:


Pam Johns, Office Manager