

**NORTH GARLAND COUNTY REGIONAL WATER DISTRICT
3084 N Hwy 7
Hot Springs, AR 71909
(501) 620-4118 FAX (501) 318-0304**

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING
APRIL 25TH, 2023
6:00 P.M.**

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Jerry Vaughn, David Harper, Joe Turner, Jack Fields, Velton Lacy, Todd Graves and Eddie Livingston.

STAFF PRESENT: Darrell Eckard

GUESTS PRESENT: Michael Bolin – Engineer and Steve Mc Earl

Meeting to Order – Director Vaughn called the Quarterly Board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Adoption of the Agenda – The agenda was adopted as presented.

Approval of March 21st 2023 Special Board Minutes – Director Fields made a motion the minutes be approved as submitted; seconded by Directors Lacy. Motion approved

New Business – None

Unfinished Business

New Carbon Machine – Mr. Bolin reported he received a price of \$120,000 from Jack Tyler Engineering which is sized for 6 million gallons per day. This price is for equipment only. Modifications to the building will need to be made, Mr. Bolin estimates the total cost to be around \$150,000 for labor and materials. Mr. Bolin stated he will get a price from Instrument Supply. Mr. Bolin stated they are the only companies locally. Discussion followed. Mr. Bolin stated he recommends developing plans for the project, get the Health Department approval and then go out for bids. Mr. Bolin estimates this will take a couple of months. Mr. Bolin stated it should be ready for Boards approval in the July meeting.

Plant Expansion & Purchasing Water From City of Hot Springs Update – Mr. Bolin reported Darrell Eckard and Steve Mc Earl met with the City of Hot Springs regarding obtaining water at a wholesale rate on the west side of our system from Hot Springs for 1 million gallons a day. Hot Springs did not have a problem with the request. This will allow us to service everything from West Glazypeau Rd up as far as Locket Mountain Rd., that coupled with a new transmission line we have planned to go from the treatment plant to Tank #7 with a 24" line. We can produce enough water to carry the district for the next 20 years without having to spend \$20 million on a major plant expansion. Since the district wasn't approved for any grant funds, we can spend about \$6.5 million for the transmission line and spend approximately \$75,000 for a connection on Turkey Trot, off Blacksnake Rd, which will increase 1 million gallons a day and increase our flow from 1.5 million max to 3 million a day at the plant with just installing the new 24" line. Mr. Bolin suggests this option is the best for the district. Mr. Eckard stated the 2019 bonds will be paid off in 2043. Discussion followed. Mr. Bolin suggests doing this soon since we have been approved for a \$4.1 million ANRC loan at 1.75% interest for a 20-

year loan. The County has told Mr. Eckard they will appropriate up to \$2 million of grant money for the district. Mr. Bolin stated the new connection with Hot Springs will be a 6" meter, which can handle up to 3 million a day if we need it and all we would have to do is contact the City of Hot Springs to increase the amount we could have per day. The district will need a rate study done by Arkansas Rural Water, however; they are backed up and will be the end of June before they will even talk to us about the rate study. Mr. Bolin said we can tell ANRC we want the loan and lock it in at the interest rate. Discussion followed about enlarging the meter and line on Fox Pass C/O. Mr. Mc Earl suggested the district make a deal with the City of Hot Springs. Director Lacy made a motion to get a contract signed with the City of Hot Springs to purchase wholesale water; seconded by Director Fields. Motion approved. Director Fields made a motion to contact ANRC to start the process for the loan and perform a rate study; seconded by Director Livingston. Motion approved.

New Connection Special for Existing Homes or Homes Being Built – Discussion followed. Director Turner made a motion to approve \$500.00 discount for new water connections for existing homes or homes currently being built beginning May 16th, 2023 thru June 15th, 2023 for the first 10 customers; motion seconded. Motion approved.

General Manager's Report – Mr. Eckard reported he received three quotes for a new 2023 ¾ Ton diesel 4-wheel drive crew cab pick-up. Mr. Eckard stated these trucks are not on the state bid but we can't get a date of when we would get a truck through the state bid. Discussion followed. Director Vaughn made a motion to purchase the 2023 GMC ¾ Ton Diesel Crew Cab from Everette GMC; motion seconded. Motion approved.

Fire Hydrant – Mr. Eckard reported he found two companies that work on fire hydrants. H&H Utilities repairing \$195.00 each and H&O Construction repairing for \$200.00 each. Discussion followed regarding the history with H & O Construction working with the district in the past Director Fields made a motion to hire H & O Construction to repair the fire hydrants; seconded by Director Vaughn. Discussion followed. Motion approved.

Mr. Eckard stated we need to purchase a new air compressor at the plant estimated cost between \$5,000 and \$6,000.

Director Fields adjourned the meeting at 6.55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David Harper, Secretary/Treasurer

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