

NORTH GARLAND COUNTY REGIONAL WATER DISTRICT
3084 N Hwy 7
Hot Springs, AR 71909
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MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 2, 2023
6:00 P.M.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Jack Fields, Jerry Vaughn, David Harper, Joe Turner, Velton Lacy.

STAFF PRESENT: Darrell Eckard and Barbara Thurman

GUESTS PRESENT: Michael Bolin – Engineer and Steve Mc Earl

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

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

Approval of November 23rd, 2022 Board Minutes – Minutes were approved as submitted.

New Business

Election of Officers' – Director Fields nominated David Harper for Secretary/Treasurer; Motion approved. Director Vaughn nominated Joe Turner for Vice President; motion approved. David nominated Jerry Vaughn for President; motion approved.

Open Positions on the Board of Directors – Position 3 – At Large and Position Sub-District 3 are now vacant. Both terms run from 1/1/23 through 12/31/28. Mr. Eckard stated applicants that live in the district service area can run for Position 3 At Large. Only applicants that live within the service area of District 3 can run for Position Sub-District 3. Discussion followed. The office will post the openings on NGCRWD website and run an ad in the Sentinel Record newspaper for 2 Sundays.

New Carbon Machine, PLC and Scata Software for the Plant – Mr. Eckard reported this equipment is the original and needs to be replaced. Mr. Eckard reported currently the carbon machine is upstairs and needs to be moved to a separate room on the ground floor. Mr. Eckard reported a new carbon machine costs \$100,000. Mr. Eckard said Michael Bolin will go out for bid and will need Health Department approval. Mr. Eckard stated the PLC, that runs the whole plant, went out and Instrument Supply just happened to have a used one that we are currently using and ours needs replaced. Mr. Eckard stated he estimates \$30,000 to \$40,000 to replace the PLC and must go out for bids.

Theft of Service & Tampering Policy – Mr. Eckard stated during the October board meeting he presented this policy for the Board to review. Mr. Eckard suggested adding to the policy, after the 2nd offense the owner of the property be contacted and if a 3rd offense occurs, the water service would be killed at the main and the owner would have to pay for a new service connection. Discussion followed regarding the tampering fees. Director Turner made a motion to charge \$150.00 for the 1st offense, \$250.00 for the second offense and contact the owner after the 2nd offense; seconded by Director Harper. Motion approved. The Board discussed the

current shut off fee for non-payment. Director Lacy made a motion to increase the shut off fee for non-payment from \$25 to \$50; seconded by Director Fields. Discussion followed. Motion approved. Director Fields made a motion to approve the Theft of Service & Tampering Policy as amended; seconded by Director Turner. Motion approved.

Intake Valves at the Plant – Mr. Eckard reported 1 intake valve is the original and needs to be replaced. The valve isn't working properly and could go out at any time which would prevent going from the upper to the lower level. If the valve fails, we will have to manually operate it. Mr. Eckard stated the valve cost \$20,000 and at least 28 weeks to get one. There's only one company that sells them. Mr. Eckard stated Facility Upgrade account funds would be used to purchase the valve. Director Fields made a motion to allocate \$25,000 for Mr. Eckard to purchase a new intake valve; seconded by Director Lacy. Discussion followed. Motion approved.

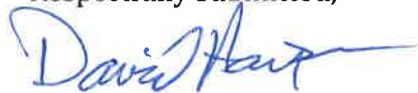
Plant Expansion Update – Mr. Bolin reported the district was denied grant funds for the plant expansion. Mr. Bolin reported since ANRC has approved \$4.1 million at 1.75% interest for the district, he applied with the ANRC for the full \$18 million to enlarge the plant. Mr. Bolin stated the district will be required to have another rate study preformed. Mr. Bolin stated if it's not feasible for the district to do the whole project, he suggests the district look at adding a new filter and replacing the transmission line to a 24" line from the plant to tank 7 which will increase the capacity to pump 4 million gallons per day instead of the current maximum of 1.4 million gallons per day. Mr. Bolin estimates the cost between \$6 to \$8 million. Mr. Eckard stated if either option isn't feasible for the district another option would be to approach the City of Hot Springs about adding 2 additional connections with them. The Board agreed to have Mr. Eckard talk to City of Hot Springs. Director Lacy made a motion that the district should have another rate study done; seconded by Director Harper. Motion approved.

New Truck, Mini-X and Trailer – Mr. Eckard brought this up to the board again. The Board requested Mr. Eckard get updated prices and bring it to the Board during the next board meeting.

General Manager's Report – Mr. Eckard stated some of the employees worked during the Christmas holidays due to the weather and our employees have always done what needed to be done without complaining. Mr. Eckard stated he would like to have the employees involved receive a bonus of \$1,000 after taxes in recognition of their dedication. Discussion followed. Director Fields made a motion to approve the bonus; seconded by Director Lacy. Motion approved.

Director Fields adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David Harper, Secretary/Treasurer

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