

**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  
JULY 26TH, 2022  
6:00 P.M.**

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Jack Fields, Jerry Vaughn, Randy Ragsdale, David Harper, and Jimmy Daley. Joe Turner and Velton Lacy were unable to attend.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Darrell Eckard and Barbara Thurman

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Michael Bolin – Engineer and Brent Jackson – Square One Enterprises

**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.

**Public Comments –** Mr. Eckard introduced Brent Jackson of Square One Enterprises to the Board of Directors. Mr. Jackson's company has been installing services and repairing the districts leaks. Mr. Jackson fielded questions from the Board. Mr. Jackson stated he has a written set rate for services they perform and a 2-hr turn around to respond when the district has a leak. Mr. Jackson stated however, there is no written contract. Discussion followed. Mr. Eckard will contact the district's attorney to verify if a written contract is required.

**Board President Comments –** Mr. Field announced board members with less than 10 years on the Board are required to attend a meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm at the Hot Springs Convention Center.

**Approval of July 26th, 2022 Board Minutes –** Minutes were approved as submitted.

**New Business**

**Approve & Award Bids for Tanks and Clearwell Repairs –** Mr. Bolin presented the bids to the Board for their approval. Mr. Bolin stated Utility Service Company from Perry, GA had the low bid of \$198,800 for repairs the Arkansas Department of Health is requiring. Mr. Bolin stated Utility Service Company is a good company and recommends they be awarded the contact. Director Ragsdale made a motion to award the bid of \$198,800 to Utility Service Company; motion seconded by Director Vaughn. Motion approved

**Re-installing 2 small service pumps back on line at the plant –** Mr. Eckard reported in 2000 NGRWD pumps were taken off line when the new high service pumps where installed at the plant. Mr. Eckard reported we lost a high service pump the first of July while repairs were being made. Mr. Eckard would like to put the other 2 pumps back on line. Mr. Bolin stated the small service pumps would take care of the of the water usage during the winter

and reduce the electric usage along with wear on the high service pumps. Director Daley made a motion to study the cost of putting the two small service pumps back on line; seconded by Director Ragsdale. Motion approved.

### Old Business

$\frac{3}{4}$  Ton Truck – Mr. Eckard reported Everett has a Chevrolet  $\frac{3}{4}$  ton truck for \$48,805 that should be delivered this week and a GMC that cost \$54,400. Landers has a 1 ton truck diesel costing \$62,035. Red River has a 1ton diesel for \$64,790. Trailer – 18' costing \$6,395.00. Mini X Machine – Mr. Eckard got a price for a Yamar for \$67,460 but they didn't know when they would get one in. Discussion followed. Mr. Eckard reported \$122,660 to purchase all the equipment. Discussion followed. Director Vaughn made a motion at the discretion of Mr. Eckard to purchase the equipment; seconded by Director Ragsdale. Discussion followed. Motion approved 4 to 1 with Directors Ragsdale, Fields, Vaughn, and Harper voting yes and Director Daley voting no.

Plant Expansion – Mr. Bolin stated we have letters of approval for the project. Mr. Bolin stated there is a meeting tomorrow in Little Rock that Mr. Eckard will be attending along with a group of water companies requesting grant money for water districts. Mr. Bolin estimates approximately \$14,500,000 to enlarge the plant. Mr. Bolin and Mr. Eckard met with Kelley Hale – General Manager of the Hot Springs Village Property Owners Association. Mr. Hale indicated the Village is not interested in going in with the district to enlarge the plant. However, Mr. Hale stated the Village does want to purchase emergency water from NGRWD.

ARDOT – Strawberry Project – Mr. Bolin estimates it will cost \$100,000 to re-locate our water lines for this project. Mr. Bolin stated ARDOT will reimburse the district 100% of the cost to re-locate our lines. Mr. Bolin suggested the Board consider upgrading the current 12" line to a 14" line under the highway while we are re-locating the water lines. Mr. Bolin estimates the upgrade to cost the district \$14,000. Director Daley made a motion approve upgrading our line; seconded by Director Harper. Discussion followed. Motion approved.

Mr. Eckard announce to the Board he will be retiring as of December 31, 2022. Discussion followed. The Board agreed to begin advertising for a new General Manager beginning September 15<sup>th</sup> through October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 in the Sunday newspaper, Arkansas Rural Water Association web site and on the district's website.

Bid on trucks – Mr. Eckard reported he will be advertising for bids for 2 trucks owned by the district.

Director Fields adjourned the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David Harper, Secretary/Treasurer

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