

REGIONAL UTILITY SERVICE SYSTEMS (RUSS)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – 900 W. WASHINGTON ST., MT. PLEASANT
WEDNESDAY – MARCH 14TH, 2012 – 1:00 P.M.
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Regional Utility Service Systems Board of Directors was called to order on March 14th, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. by Chairperson Wes Rich.

RUSS MEMBERS PRESENT

Daryl Wood, Steve Burgmeier, Marvin Philips, Wes Rich, Ernie Schiller, Tom Broeker, Kent White and Ken Rozenboom. RUSS staff: Exec. Dir.-Bruce Hudson, Fin. Manager-Kathy Dye & Proj. Coord.-Pat Waters.

RUSS MEMBERS ABSENT

Greg Kenning and Chris Ball

OTHERS PRESENT

Jeremiah Selby – Garden & Associates; Kent Rice – French-Reneker & Associates; Sally Hayes-Mt. Pleasant News, Miles Boatman-Van Buren Cty. Sanitarian, Willie Van Wheelden-Mahaska Cty., Pete Tollenaere & Fred Hickenbottom-Lakewood/Jefferson Cty.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Ernie Schiller, second by Tom Broeker to approve the March 14th, 2012 agenda as presented. Motion carried. #M126-12

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: FEBRUARY 8TH, 2012 MEETING:

Motion by Steve Burgmeier, second by Ernie Schiller to approve the minutes of the regular monthly board meeting held on February 8th, 2012. Motion carried. #M127-12

ENGINEERING UPDATES:

- **FRENCH-RENEKER:** Project Update Report – Discussed – Mt. Union system working very well-the extra testing will end Dec.31, 2012. Linby/Rubio-nothing new to report.
- **GARDEN & ASSOCIATES:** Project Update Report – Discussed
- **Pleasant Plain & East Pleasant Plain**
 - Consider Pay App. #7-Div. II: \$141,871.92 – **Motion by Steve Burgmeier, second by Deke Woods to approve pending USDA RD approval. Motion carried #M128-12**
 - Division III & IV paperwork in process-waiting for approval by Attorney Paul Zingg & USDA RD
- Richmond-project still moving forward
- Ollie-continue working on lagoon property purchase
- Rubio-still working on easements
- LCW –no update at this time

- WARNER ENGINEERING: Project Update Report – Jim Warner - No Report Submitted

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

- Treasurer's Report & Bills received – **Motion by Ernie Schiller, second by Steve Burgmeier to approve the treasurer's report, construction and O&M bills as presented. Total bills: \$202,791.04. Motion carried. #M129-12**
- Bank Reconciliation – **Motion by Ernie Schiller, second by Steve Burgmeier to approve the bank reconciliation to be signed by Kent White. Motion carried. #M130-11**
- Delinquent Customer Report - **Motion by Ernie Schiller, second by Steve Burgmeier to approve the Delinquent Customer Report. Motion carried. #M131-12**
- Approve "Request to Close Accounts" letter to First National Bank- **Motion by Steve Burgmeier, second by Deke Woods to approve the chair signing the letter requesting to close some old construction accounts at First National Bank. Motion carried. #M132-12**
- Discuss/Approve using State Auditor's office to perform FY11 audit for RUSS/with assistance from TD&T Financial Group & Approve the "Request for 90-day Extension" letter to the State Auditor for FY11 audit - **Motion by Steve Burgmeier, second by Ernie Schiller to approve using the State Auditor's office to perform the FY11 audit for RUSS with assistance from TD&T Financial Group and the "Request for 90-day Extension" letter to the State Auditor for FY11 audit for RUSS. Motion carried. #M133-12**
- Discuss/Consider Lake Trio invoice – Wes Rich reported that Lake Trio and Washington County will be paying the bill that is still due on this project.
- Discuss/Consider On-site program-After a lengthy discussion on the pros/cons of RUSS providing an On-Site program for citizens of counties represented by RUSS. **Motion by Steve Burgmeier, second by Deke Woods to approve the On-Site program and to have the Executive Director put together a rate study and develop the program and bring back to the board. Motion carried seven (7) members and opposed by one (1)-Marvin Phillips of Van Buren. #M134-12**
- Discuss Wapello County-RUSS has had no response from the letter sent denying their withdrawal from the RUSS.
- Discuss Mahaska County-Ken Rozenboom-Mahaska County Supervisor had questions for the board and reported that their March board meeting the RUSS membership was discussed and since he was still fairly new to the board he wanted more information on the RUSS organization (history) to take back to his board. Wes Rich-chair of RUSS stated the importance of remembering why RUSS was formed years ago and what the purpose and mission is for the counties. Steve Burgmeier further added that RUSS was formed in the beginning under the suggestion of USDA to help unsewered communities obtain funding/grants to sewer their communities when they otherwise could not obtain on their own. Ken thanked the board members and commented that he had a clearer understanding of RUSS and its importance to be able to take back to the Mahaska County board.
- Discuss Mt. Union-update from City Council meeting held on 3/17/12-Bruce Hudson/Executive Director talked about the meeting that was attended by RUSS staff and some board members. A letter was presented to the Mt. Union Mayor and council members and RUSS is now awaiting their response.

- Discuss Mt. Sterling community discontinuance-Bruce Hudson/Exec. Director for RUSS will be attending the Mt. Sterling City Council meeting in April. Bruce told the board he has been in constant contact with the mayor of Mt. Sterling and RUSS attorneys as to what the towns' discontinuance means to RUSS and the 28E agreement, the community and the sewer system.
- Discuss Lee County – Bruce Hudson/Exec. Director for RUSS attended the Lee County Board of Supervisors meeting in February-the board still has lots of questions regarding RUSS and what they will/can provide for the communities of Croton-Moar/Powdertown. Ernie Schiller reported that the county has two (2) meetings set up in April for these communities. Ernie stated that the Lee County Board of Supervisors is requesting Bruce to come to these meetings to be able to answer questions from community members.
- Discuss Des Moines County (Augusta) project-nothing new to report
- Update from Sustainability Committee-Save Burgmeier reported that the committee had not met yet. A meeting was scheduled for the committee to meet on April 4th, 2012 at the RUSS office.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

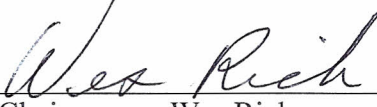
Pete Tollenaere-Lakewood/Jefferson County citizens informed the board that the at a recent community meeting that they are still very interested in moving forward with RUSS and what options are available to help them with a sewer project.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Kent White, second by Marvin Phillips to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.
#M134-12 Meeting adjourned at 3:17 p.m.

Next RUSS board meeting scheduled for April 11th, 2012 @ Henry County Emergency Management Building, Mt. Pleasant, IA.

Minutes Approved:


Chairperson, Wes Rich

4-11-12
Date