

REGIONAL UTILITY SERVICE SYSTEMS (RUSS)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – 900 W. WASHINGTON ST., MT. PLEASANT
WEDNESDAY – SEPT. 11TH, 2013 – 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 Sept. 11th, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. by Chairperson Daryl Wood.

RUSS MEMBERS PRESENT

Deke Wood, Chris Ball, Rick Larkin (Alt. for Lee County, Jack Seward, Greg Moeller, Jim Cary, Bob Waugh and Lee Dimmitt. RUSS staff: Exec. Dir.-Bruce Hudson and Kathy Dye-Finance Manager

RUSS MEMBERS ABSENT

Mike Vander Molen-Mahaska Co., Greg Kenning-Wapello Co.

OTHERS PRESENT

Trisha Phelps-Mt. Pleasant News, Christinia Crippes-The Hawkeye & Kent Rice-French Reneker, Mark Fincel & Jeremiah Selby-Garden & Associates; along with members from the City of Mt. Union- Dan Johnson, Steve Gerling, Randy & Lelia Wilkerson, Dennis Breon, Linda Johnson.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Lee Dimmitt, seconded by Greg Moeller to approve the Sept. 11th, 2013 agenda as presented. Motion carried. #M22-14

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Aug. 14th, 2013 regular meeting:

Motion by Bob Waugh, second by Jim Cary to approve the minutes of the regular monthly board meeting held on Aug. 14th, 2013. Motion carried. #M23-14

ENGINEERING UPDATES:

- **FRENCH-RENEKER:** Project Update Report –**ARGYLE**: construction will not begin this calendar year-waiting on RUSS securing the remaining funding needed.
- **GARDEN & ASSOCIATES:** Project Update Report – Jeremiah Selby
 - LEE COUNTY/MOOR-PWDTN:** no updates noted
 - OLLIE:** USDA still working on the underwriting; Bruce is working with the county regarding the road to the lagoon.
 - ONSITE PROJECT:** Mark Fincel spoke with the board on the history of the On-site PER work that was done from March '10 – March '11 and the past due invoices and their willingness to take a % off what is due to get the account cleared up. The amount due is \$12,095.84. After much discussion – **Motion by Lee Dimmitt, second by Jim Cary to \$4,000 up front first installment and \$1,000.00 thereafter to pay the account in full (beginning in Oct. '13).** Motion carried by all. #M24-14

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

- Treasurer's Report, Bank Reconciliation, Delinquent Cust. Report & Bills received. Jim Cary asked for an explanation as to the operational cost increases over the past several years. Bruce Hudson gave a brief explanation of such. **Motion by Chris Ball, second by Jim Cary to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried by all. #M25-14** Checks cut/approved: Alliant Energy \$907.32; Anderson, Roberts, Porth & Wallace, P.L.C \$1,100.00; Bolt Welding & Fabrication \$749.00; City Clerk of Ft. Madison \$80.00; First National Bank \$532,903.43; Flomm, Inc. \$600.00; Foss, Kuiken & Cochran, P.C. \$2,373.05; French-Reneker-Associates, Inc. \$800.00; Garden & Associates, Ltd. \$18,734.12; Greg Strothman \$1,302.98; Iowa Finance Authority-SRF \$162,854.81; Keokuk County \$14,313.93; Liquid Grow \$71.33; Menke, Keith \$1,520.00; Michael Mason \$8.25; Miller, Toni \$62.00; Office of Auditor of State \$3,000.00; Ottumwa Courier \$90.50; Rathbun Regional Water Association \$31.03; Rural Development \$9,366.31; TD&T Financial Group

\$2,000.00; The Washington Evening Journal \$111.63; US Cellular \$202.68; Visa/Bancard \$480.07; Windstream \$330.94; Winn Corporation \$132.69 = \$754,126.07

- *Executive Director Update* – Meeting with residents from Thornburg. Working through preparations for upcoming court hearing.
- *Discuss/Consider policy “Operational costs/Delinquent Account”* - **Motion by Chris Ball, second by Lee Dimmitt approve the policy for “Operational costs/Delinquent Account.” Motion carried by all. #M26-14**
- *Discuss/Consider policy “Newspaper Delegation”*--**Motion by Bob Waugh, second by Jack Seward to approve the policy for “Newspaper Delegation.” Motion carried by all. #M27-14**
- *Discuss/Consider Resolution #02-14*-Bruce Hudson presented board members with a Resolution to raise the monthly sewer rate for Mt. Union residents effective Nov. 1, 2013 to \$69.88. There was a lot of discussion amongst the board members with the board then opening up the floor the Mt. Union residents who were present at the meeting. After much discussion and voiced concerns from the Mt. Union residents- **Motion by Chris Ball, second by Jim Cary to approve Resolution #02-14-Establishing Rates and Charges for Mt. Union Sewer System, effective Nov. 1, 2013-new rate of \$69.88. A roll call was taken with the following results: 7=Ayes (Washington, Louisa, Keokuk, Lee, Jefferson, Des Moines, and Van Buren), 0=Nays & 1=Abstain (Henry County). Motion carried. #M28-14** Lee Dimmitt asked the minutes to reflect that he does understand where the residents of Mt. Union (those that are paying) are coming from regarding the rate increase and it's unfortunate that it has gone this far.
- *Discuss/Consider past due accounts for the “Onsite Project” with Garden & Associates* – (See #M24-14)
- *Discuss/Consider extension for Washington County* –Jack Seward requests the board extend the payoff from Washington County for Richmond/Rubio project expenses to the Nov. '13 RUSS board meeting. Deke Wood noted that the Nov. meeting would fall during the ISAC meetings, with most supervisors attending and suggested moving the Nov. meeting to Nov. 20th, 2013. **Motion by Bob Waugh, second by Greg Moeller to approve the extension date for the payoff from Washington County for Richmond/Rubio project expenses to Nov. 20th, 2013. Motion carried by all. #M29-14**
- *Discuss/Consider Argyle wastewater rehab*-see Engineer update
- *Discuss Mt. Sterling-update* – Bob Waugh informed the board that Van Buren County was in the process of finalizing the 28E signing and working on resolutions to get things wrapped up.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Chris Ball, seconded by Greg Moeller to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by all. #M30-14
Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Next RUSS board meeting scheduled for Oct. 9th, 2013 @ Henry County Emergency Management Building, Mt. Pleasant, IA.

Minutes Approved:

Daryl K Wood
Chairperson, Daryl Wood

10-9-13
Date