

A Regular Meeting of the Minnesota River Valley Public Utilities Commission was held on Thursday, January 31st in the Conference Room at the Wastewater Treatment Plant with Commissioners Present: Favolise, Huntington, Sullivan, Geldner and Wartman. Commissioners Absent: Tiegs. Also present: Foster Transburg, Water/Wastewater Manager, Rich Kucera, Public Services Manager, Jasper Kruggel, Le Sueur City Administrator and Jeff Shodean with Agropur.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Favolise.

Closed Session: Went into closed session to discuss legal strategy regarding NPDES Permit. Motion by Commissioner Sullivan, Seconded by Commissioner Wartman to close the meeting, all voted in favor.

5:41 PM: Closed meeting

6:14 PM: Re-open meeting

Election of Officers:

Chairman: Motion by Commissioner Huntington, Seconded by Commissioner Wartman to appoint John Favolise, all voted in favor.

Vice Chair: Motion by Commissioner Geldner, Seconded by Commissioner Sullivan to appoint Jim Wartman, all voted in favor.

Secretary: Motion by Commissioner Wartman, Seconded by Commissioner Sullivan to appoint Mark Huntington, all voted in favor.

Attorney: Motion by Commissioner Wartman, Seconded by Commissioner Sullivan to appoint Flaherty & Hood, all voted in favor.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Commissioner Sullivan, Seconded by Commissioner Huntington to approve the December 20, 2018 minutes, all voted in favor.

Plant Liquid Process: Had a screen auger failure, Wingnut Welding repaired the auger. Gear drive sprung a leak and sprocket froze. Replaced both. Biocon dryer is causing problems with belt speed alarm. Had a faulty safety barrier relay, found a used one and spare on Ebay. Dryer is starting to show its age, problems with cleanout area floor showing ripples and will need repair. Discussion was made regarding the cleanout area and replacement of floor and revising the cleanout hatch. Krueger representatives were in the area and stopped by. Having trouble controlling Sludge pumps automatically, they can still be controlled manually. A specialist will be here Thursday, 2/7/19 to look at them. It was requested to put the influent and effluent graphs back into the meeting packet, they have been omitted the last few months.

Project Update: Screens arrived today, Gridor foreman was on site. Has a startup plan for mid-February.

Scada Upgrade: The City of Le Sueur is upgrading their scada system due to no support on current system running on Windows XP. Will be upgrading the water and collections data along with the wastewater system at the same time. MRVPUC will pay nothing towards the new scada system.

Agropur Update: Continuing towards expansion, site survey done, trucks coming in to do boring for eq tank and add another process building and RAS and WAS upgrades in 2019. Also looking at water consumption and possible reuse of water.

Bio-solids: Ran more product. Centrifuge is due for maintenance, quote is up to \$20,000. Last maintenance was done in 2013. Additional work needed to run more biosolids; two tanks collecting sediment/grit on the bottom of tanks are not mixing well, needs to be cleaned out and redesigned along with the cleanout hatch on dryer. Discussion was made about design, plan and cost, will need to get an engineer involved for design. Board members want to see a maintenance schedule.

Cardmember Services: Discussion was made regarding active credit cards and assigning an authorized officer. Motion was made by Commissioner Tieg, Seconded by Commissioner Sullivan to assign Foster Transburg as the Authorized Office and the sole cardholder for MRVPUC, all voted in favor.

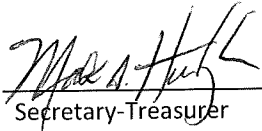
Administrative Policies & Procedures: Henderson Commissioners contacted Flaherty & Hood to help define managerial responsibility of the Board compared to the separate entities that comprise MRVPUC. Discussion was made about including the entire Board before contacting MRVPUC legal team. Discussion was made regarding a manager who reports to the Board and provides information.

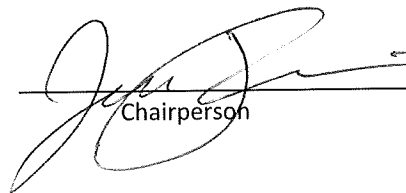
AEM Proposal for Consulting Services: Motion was made by Commissioner Wartman, Seconded by Commissioner Huntington to stay with AEM for Consulting Services, all voted in favor.

Rate Increase: Discussion was made regarding budget shortfall due to mechanical failures, and previously lowering rates and overage fees causing less revenue coming in. The accuracy of cost to treat was discussed. Cost of service study would be needed to determine true cost to treat. Treating Agropur biosolids was also discussed. Chairman Favolise would like to see three options for a rate increase; 20%, 25% and 30% and what it would mean for the budget. Staff should present the process of biosolid calculations for treating at the next meeting to better understand the process and cost.

Motion by Commissioner Wartman, Seconded by Commissioner Huntington to adjourn the meeting, all voted in favor.

The next regular meeting is Thursday, March 28, 2019 at 5:30 pm.


Secretary-Treasurer


Chairperson