

RAPID VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MAY 11, 2020

Chairman Rick Hensley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present at roll call were Clyde Elwood, Andy Fitzgerald, Shirley Haines, Connie Olson, Dwight Peterson, Diana Nelson, Rick Hensley, and Bob Phillips. Also, in attendance were Rusty Schmidt, Manager; Dustin Dale, and Sara Gregory.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Clyde Elwood to approve the agenda with the amendment that the audit presentation be the first order of business to allow the auditors to leave after their presentation. The motion was seconded by Dwight Peterson. Motion carried.

1. Ketel Thorstenson Auditors: Traci Hanson, with Ketel Thorstenson presented the results of the 2019 financial audit. There were not significant accounting standard changes. Overall, the audit went well. A motion was made by Clyde Elwood to accept the audit draft as presented. The motion was seconded by Andy Fitzgerald. Motion carried. The representatives from Ketel Thorstenson left the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Connie Olson to approve the minutes from the April meeting. The motion was seconded by Andy Fitzgerald. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF FINANCE REPORT: The financial reports were distributed to the Trustees for their review prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Connie Olson to approve the Finance Report. Dwight Peterson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC: Jason Reitz, the President of Green Valley Sanitary District was in attendance to discuss the GVSD water restrictions agenda item.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

2. Board/Committee Vacancy: With the resignation of Jack Tomac there is an opening on the nominating committee and the facilities committee. Bob Phillips will fill the vacant spot on the nominating committee and the facilities committee vacancy will be decided on at a later date.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

3. Water Loss: Water loss is down this month to 7.5% at about 635,000 gallons per day. We received our satellite image from Utilis and there were 20 locations to review. Utilis changed their algorithm to be more sensitive. There were 8 more locations than the last time this was done. There is also a new application called UCollect that the staff can utilize to record findings as they investigate the potential leaks. Two locations have been investigated so far, both in Green Valley. The first was on Sparrow Hawk Trl. There was a hydrant that was not shutting down properly and this has been repaired and tested. The second was at the creek crossing on Reservoir Rd. This was checked carefully and determined to be a false positive. There are still 18 more locations to check and the staff is currently working on some hits in the area of Poker, Diamond and Spade.
4. Chet Dr: Sewer is complete but has not been tested. The testing will hopefully take place this week and then we can camera everything. Once this is completed the water portion will be started.
5. Green Valley Water Restrictions: GVSD has requested to have RVSD lift the water restrictions and allow Green Valley customers to water outdoors. With the additional production capabilities from the Nanostone upgrades and the fact that the average household usage in Green Valley is well below AWWA average usage per house per day that was set in the contract, it is recommended that the restrictions be lifted, with an addendum to include that RVSD can restrict the outdoor water exclusively for GVSD customer if RVSD deems necessary due to drought or other extreme circumstances. Based on calculations using high end averages and maximum peaking factor, removing the restrictions will not impact the ability for RVSD to

provide water to current residents. GVSD customers would follow the same summer watering restrictions that RVSD customers are expected to follow, and we would police the restrictions. The Manager will write a change to the current contract and send it to the attorney for review before sending to the GVSD board. A motion was made by Clyde Elwood to lift the watering restrictions with the caveat that RVSD reserves the right to restrict outdoor usage exclusively to GVSD customers if it deems necessary due to drought or other extreme circumstances. The motion was seconded by Andy Fitzgerald. Motion carried.

6. Orchard Meadows Lift Station/Gravity Sewer: Dream Design is planning to go out for bid on this project next week and awarding the bid June 1st if everything stays on schedule.
7. Diamond Ridge Development/Booster Station: Water and Sewer are both in, but have not been tested. The bids for the booster station opened up on April 23rd and 4 bids were submitted. The bids came in at almost double what was estimated by the engineer. The range of bids was \$389,987-\$419,608. The Manager recommended that all the bids be rejected and that we move forward going a different route through procurement. Going this route could potentially save around \$180,000. The Manager reviewed codified law and consulted the attorney, auditor and engineer all agreed it would be within the codified laws to move forward using procurement. The engineer noted that in situations like this procurement is often used, and in this case, it would be a smart decision because it cuts the cost of the project in half. A motion was made by Dwight Peterson to reject all of the bids. The motion was seconded by Diana Nelson. Motion carried. A motion was made by Clyde Elwood to utilize DPI through procurement to complete the booster station project. The motion was seconded by Shirley Haines. Motion carried.
8. N. Valley Dr.: Preliminary plans were received for a 150 unit, 3-story apartment building along N Valley Dr. The engineer did a fire flow study and the planned 3 stories will need to be evaluated for adequate pressure.
9. Orchard Park Apartments: This project is a 90 unit complex next to Great Plains Tribal headquarters. The plans were redlined but haven’t been sent back yet.
10. Non-Disconnect/Covid – 19: There has been an increase in disconnect notices being generated since the onset of Covid - 19. The District has allowed 2 billing cycles without disconnecting services and waiving late and service charges. With businesses reopening, and time for unemployment and stimulus checks to arrive, the question of how much longer do we not disconnect customers for non-payment and waive the late and service fees. Some discussion arose to complete the 2 billing cycles for each area and then start charging and disconnecting again. Some other discussion came up about allowing people more time to get back on their feet financially. The consensus of the group was to allow for a third billing cycle before disconnecting and charging late and service fees. The disconnects will go into effect during the month of June which once those whom are disconnected contact the District we then will be able to assist them in making payment arrangements. In addition, the lobby of the office will remain closed, rather than open back up June 1st as suggested. The District plans to have a walkup window installed by the end of May.

Miscellaneous:

- The office work station were recently updated so the staff is now able to work from home if necessary, through an application that allows access to desktop computers from a laptop at home. This will be very beneficial if the pandemic continues, or in the event of another emergency situation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Sara Gregory