

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF LOCKWOOD  
WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT**

**May 10, 2023**

**Call to Order:**

The regular meeting of the Lockwood Water and Sewer Board of Directors was held on May 10, 2023. Board President Carl Peters called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Lockwood Water and Sewer District Office, 1644 Old Hardin Road, Billings, Montana 59101.

**Introductions:**

Present at the meeting were Board members Carl Peters, Merrill Walker, Carlotta Hecker, Stuart Deans and Scot Bowen. Also present was Manager Mike Ariztia, Assistant Manager Tony Reed, Jill Cook, Engineer, Morrison-Maierle, Inc., and Evelyn Pyburn, *Yellowstone County News*.

Guest present was Lockwood resident Dick Hoke, 357 Hemlock. Mr. Hoke has lived in Lockwood since 1956. The Board and Mr. Hoke exchanged introductions.

**Public Comment:**

1. Any member of the public may be heard on any subject that is not on the agenda.

There was no public comment. Mr. Hoke declined to speak.

**Approval of Minutes:**

2. April 12, 2023.

The minutes of the April 12, 2023 Board meeting were presented for approval.

Two corrections were noted: Page 2: Bottom paragraph delete "Sewer Main between Noblewood." Page 5: Second full paragraph, delete "while on his way home from work"; change "truck" to "vehicle".

- I. Merrill Walker moved to approve the April 12, 2023 minutes with the corrections as noted. Scot Bowen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

**3. Discussion and approval of Amendment No. 3 to Task Order No. 3 of the Water Master Agreement relating to the Water On-Call contract**

Jill Cook presented for approval Amendment No. 3 to Task Order No. 3 relating to the Water On-Call contract contained in the Water Master Agreement. The Task Order Scope of Services is requested due to additional services covering water rights, Johnson Lane Interchange pre-design coordination and Mid Zone Reservoir pre-design coordination. The on-call budget as amended by Amendment 2 to Task Order 3 is expected to be exceeded prior to July 1, 2023.

For the additional services or modifications to services, it was requested that the District pay Engineer additional compensation of up to \$2,500.00 on an hourly rate basis, resulting in a revised total cost of \$22,500.00 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

- II. Scot Bowen moved to approve Amendment No. 3 to Task Order No. 3 of the Water Master Agreement increasing the compensation up to \$2,500.00 on an hourly rate basis for engineering services. Stuart Deans seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

**4. Water Treatment Plant Expansion Update**

Manager Ariztia reported they are “getting closer” with the water treatment plant project. Both the high service pumps are installed and operational now. Scada development is being worked on concerning controls and how they are to interact with the plant. The inner pumps are installed along with the VFDs. The new backwash piping is installed, and the main discharge line has also been installed.

Currently they are working on installing two sludge pumps on the new side of the plant, working out control issues with controls on the panel and Scada. Once those are operational, they will go to the old side of the plant and replace the two sludge pumps and control panel there.

On the siding issue, recent information we received indicated Bridger Steel, who is the supplier of the siding, has filed for bankruptcy. They are trying to find another siding supplier.

A preliminary walk-through was done this morning with two MMI RPRs, Manager Ariztia and another person from MMI. The contractor has not requested substantial completion, but based on today’s construction meeting, it appears that substantial completion will be requested sometime in the near future.

## 5. Phase 3 Sewer Update

Jill Cook reported there are not a lot of updates. Most of the items were covered in the April Board meeting. They are still finalizing pickup on survey, and are proceeding on design. Now that the District has 30% plans, there will be a meeting set up with all the other utility holders in the different areas to go over potential conflicts or any other plans they may have within those areas. Manager Ariztia will contact some of the property owners to discuss easements and right-of-way matters.

## 6. Financial Reports

Balance Sheets, P&L Budget Comparison, Yellowstone County Trial Balance Summary

Financial Reports consist of the following designations for the Water and Sewer Funds for April, 2023: Claim Details; Trial Balance with Revenue and Expenditures; Statement of Revenue Budget vs. Actual; Statement of Expenditures – Budget vs. Actual Report.

## 7. Approval of Bills Due for Signature

III. Carlotta Hecker moved to approve the bills due as set forth on the Water and Sewer Fund Claim Details. Merrill Walker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## 8. Other Business

None.

## Manager's Report

### 9. Pumping Record:

<b>Water:</b>	April, 2022	19,613,700
	April, 2023	21,335,300
<b>Wastewater:</b>	March, 2022	6,291,000
	March, 2023	4,283,000
<b>Exxon Wastewater:</b>	March 2022	71,098,000
	March 2023	64,796,000

Manager Ariztia reported he has been working with Exxon on contracts to be transferred to Par Montana, the new owner of Exxon. There are two agreements with Exxon, one is transporting the wastewater from Exxon to the City of Billings, and one for the additional capacity they requested. Completion is anticipated by the first of June.

The Traverse vehicle that was damaged in the accident reported last month is still in the body shop. The insurance company advised the vehicle is right on the line of whether they will total it or not. It is Manager Ariztia's preference to not total it because the insured value if totaled would not be sufficient to cover the purchase of another vehicle. The insurance company and body shop are working out the details.

Regarding the Johnson Lane Interchange Project, there was a meeting with MDT last week. The District provided MDT with the three potential realignments for the sewer force main. MDT was agreeable with doing a bore under the Interstate, down Cole Street and then tie back in at Old Hardin Road. As advised in the April meeting, MDT will cover 75% of the costs involved.

The District has money at the state from FEMA to do restoration work down on the river bank covering the 2022 flood. The restoration consists of road work to rebuild the roadway that goes from the fishing access ramp back to the District's pump house and to replace some of the riprap.

Dick Hoke expressed concern over the road settlements in Phase 2. Manager Ariztia replied he had tried to find a contractor to repair the holes last year but was unable to find anyone willing to take on the job. He has talked to the County and will be setting up a meeting with the Department of Yellowstone County Roads to attempt a resolution.

#### **Adjournment**

IV. Merrill Walker moved to adjourn. Carlotta Hecker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.



ATTEST



ATTEST