BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES July 7, 2020 7:00 P.M.

CHERRY VALLEY & ROCHDALE WATER DISTRICT

I. CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bergin @ 7:00 P.M. The following were in attendance:

Kevin Bergin, Chairman2 - SubscribersArthur E.J. Levesque, CommissionerBenjamin Morris, SuperintendentRobert H. Lemieux, Sr., CommissionerJennifer Wood, TreasurerCheryl Balkus, Clerk

II. District Member Forum – Subscriber Gregory Buteau asked if there was one transfer in the budget for FY 20. Per Treasurer Wood one more to be expected. She is awaiting outstanding invoices to end the fiscal year. Commissioner Lemieux motions to suspend the District member Forum. Seconded by Commissioner Levesque. All in Favor. Approved.

Per Chairman Bergin the District Member Forum ended at 2 min and 20 seconds.

III. APPROVE MINUTES

A. June 23, 2020 - Commissioner Lemieux motioned to approve the minutes of June 23, 2020. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in Favor. Approved.

IV. FINANCE

- A. Approve June 22, 2020 Warrants Commissioner Levesque motions to approve the June 22, 2020 warrants. Seconded by Commissioner Lemieux. All in Favor. Approved.
- **B. Approve June 29, 2020 Warrants-** Commissioner Lemieux motions to approve the June 29, 2020 warrants. Seconded by Commissioner Levesque. All in Favor. Approved.
- **C.** Approve July 6, 2020 Warrants Commissioner Levesque motions to approve the July 6, 2020 warrants. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in Favor. Approved.

Summary of the warrants are from subcontractor, technolgy, consulting, retirement, loans, taxes, payroll, insurance, electricity, office expense, field supplies, leak detections, legal, postage etc. for a total of \$242,301.89

D. June Bank Transfer - Commissioner Levesque motions to transfer from the water checking account to the sewer account in the amount of \$40,605.48. Seconded by Commissioner Lemieux. All in Favor. Approved.

This is money that the Water District Collects on behalf of the Sewer District and is then transferred to the Sewer District. This money does not belong to the Water District.

V. ADMINISTRATION

A. Terminations – Per Superintendent Morris it was last discussed and was voted by the Board to revisit Terminations on July 1, 2020. We are here and asked the Board if we are to continue with the non-termination. Per Commissioner Levesque to continue to not terminate. Commissioner Lemieux suggests while we are under the pandemic that we continue with the notices of terminations and to Blue Dot the services to prompt the Subscriber to call the office and arrange payment or set up a payment plan. Per Chairman Bergin fears this could cause someone more stress, may confuse people and rather visit at the next meeting with the current phase and a more systematic approach. Per Commissioner Lemieux does not want to shut anyone's water off and we are doing our job the best we can. He is not the devil, to not freak them out but at the same time we must do our job and it is part of our job. Per Commissioner Lemieux will accept to wait till the next meeting to approach again.

Subscriber Buteau commented to await what the State is to do. Chairman Bergin asks the Superintendent to investigate what the current rules are with the State regarding terminations to have for the next meeting.

VI. Operations

- A. Superintendent's Report Per Superintendent Morris our usage for June is running average. May was 205,000 210,000 gallons per day. This is becoming our new standard and it is positive.
- B. Comins Rd Attorney Bachrach and Superintendent Morris have reached out to the owner. Superintendent Morris spoke with the owner and received his attorneys contact information that has been given to our attorney. The owner said he is in potential of losing the property to the Town of Oxford for tax taking. Attorney Bachrach to review with the current owner.

Per Commissioner Lemieux it should be imperative to get a lien on the property before any transfer is to take place. Does not want to wait till December to place the lien. Per Superintendent Morris will reach out to the Town of Oxford to expediate the process and if we can file as soon as possible. Per Commissioner Lemieux also recommends that we see if the owner has insurance on the property and that the owner may be able to use this to cover the loss. We owe it to our Subscribers.

July 4th Superintendent Morris received a call that National Grid drilled an auger through the 12-inch main on Pleasant St. The 12-inch Gate valves in the system have not been operated in approximately 40 years required to be replaced. Hydro Tech was brought in to make repair of the valve. The total time to make all repairs took 12 hours, there was an estimated 180,000 gallons of loss of water. The Superintendent has been in contact with his National Grid contact to send the information to for reimbursement, water loss, police detail everything associated to have National Grid to reimburse. With one of the valves they thought there was a problem with the Packing Nut. The valve was exercised for two days and not sealing up. It was found that it was not the Packing Nut and it was the side of the Bonnet with a crack. We have a company coming in to replace the valve, this will also be added to the invoices for National Grid.

These values to be exercised are on the tail end of this year's program or next year. In checking of the records, it appears that these size values have not been worked in 40 years.

Commissioner Lemieux asked if we could prioritize what has not been worked in a long-time first. Per the Superintendent, Rochdale has less leaks or no leaks opposed to the Valley area that are from the beginning creation of the system. Per Superintendent Morris he will do everything to get all expenses covered. Subscriber Buteau asked if National Grid notified Dig Safe. Per Superintendent Morris there did not appear to be a Dig Safe number taken out and there were no markings to indicate that Dig Safe was there to mark it out.

Superintendent Morris was supposed to meet with Tata & Howard last week to go over the specs of the Clear Well to make sure on same page. Tata & Howard had to cancel. Superintendent Morris has sent an email to Paul of Tata & Howard to find out when it will be rescheduled.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS – Nothing to report

VIII. PERSONNEL

A. Staffing Update – An Ad was put on Indeed June 30th, we have received a handful from auto reply. One applicant sent their information directly with the application. Another individual sent the application thru Indeed then followed up with a phone call to us. The deadline to stop accepting applications is July 17, 2020. We will then review to decide who will be brought in for interviewing.

IX. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- A. Approval of Next Meeting Commissioner Levesque motioned to hold the next Virtual Meeting Tuesday, July 21, 2020 @ 7:00 PM. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved.
- X. ADJOURNMENT- Commissioner Levesque motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in Favor. Approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:53 P.M.

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