

**PERU UTILITIES  
MINUTES OF THE PERU UTILITIES SERVICE BOARD MEETING OF  
MARCH 30, 2016**

The Peru Utilities Service Board held a meeting at the Peru office at 335 East Canal Street, Peru, Indiana, on March 30, 2016. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Akers at 4:00 p.m. pursuant to notice as required by law. The following Board members were present: S. Akers, M. Costin, G. Ward, J. Richter and J. Edwards. Others present: R. Merriman, L. Starkey, B. Tillett, M. Walsh, J. Chance, J. Languell-City Council Liaison, and B. Yankey-Peru Tribune.

**1.) APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES OF MARCH 9, 2016:**

On a motion from Mr. Richter, seconded by Mr. Ward, the minutes from the March 9, 2016, were approved. Mr. Akers, Mr. Ward, Mr. Richter and Mrs. Edwards voted in favor. Ms. Costin abstained from the vote on the March 9, 2016, minutes because she was not present at that meeting.

**2.) PAYMENT OF CLAIMS:**

A motion was made by Mr. Ward to approve the claims as presented, seconded by Mr. Richter. The motion carried.

**3.) NEXT REGULAR MEETING:**

The next regular meeting will be held Wednesday, April 13, 2016, at 4:00 p.m. in the Utility Service Board room.

**4.) OLD BUSINESS: None**

**5.) NEW BUSINESS:**

**A.) APPROVAL OF USE OF PROPERTY FOR CIRCUS FESTIVAL:**

Mr. Merriman stated that the request is submitted to the Board annually. The Circus City Festival is asking use of our vacant lot on Canal Street, east of the City Garage/Training Facility for their horse teams in preparation for the Peru Circus City Festival

A motion was made by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Richter, that the request be approved the same as prior years. The motion carried unanimously. Ms. Costin expressed her appreciation that they had included their certificate of liability insurance coverage with their request.

**B.) APPROVAL OF GPS ROVER PURCHASE:**

It was noted that the total amount of capital expenditure budgeted towards this equipment was \$25,000, and that Accurate Laser Systems, Inc. of Zionsville, Indiana, gave the most suitable quote at \$21,600.00.

The following are the respective bid amounts submitted by the three vendors:

Accurate Laser Systems, Inc.	\$21,600.00
Seiler Geospatial Division (2 options) Model #1	\$39,899.00
Model #2	\$50,048.00
Topcon Solutions	\$19,210.00

Mr. Akers inquired as to why the new equipment was needed. Mr. Walsh explained the need for the new device, noting that we would still need our current technology. He explained to the Board that it was a one person surveying tool that would interface with our total surveying station that we currently have. Setup was easy and it would be used for many tasks, such as measuring the grade, elevation, staking and mapping. Mr. Walsh stated that if you survey an area with a lot of tree growth or you are amidst an area with a lot of buildings the old equipment is not very accurate. He noted that the GPS Rover is more accurate, is used as a one man setup, and is very fast. Mr. Walsh said that as part of a demonstration he had staked part of the 69 kV project in just thirty minutes. The same amount of work would have taken 2 1/2 hours with the current equipment. The new equipment was much easier and quicker. Mr. Walsh showed the Board a hand held GPS that only had an accuracy of 3 feet and above, the new equipment would have accuracy as close as a centimeter, which means within two inches and is survey grade. Mr. Walsh said that when he first started inquiring about it he wanted it to work for all departments of Peru Utilities. Mr. Akers inquired if it was commonly used. Mr. Walsh said that engineering firms and other utilities are utilizing this new equipment.

Mr. Richter made a motion to approve the purchase of the new GPS Rover from Accurate Lasers Systems, Inc. for the amount of \$21,600.00. Mr. Ward seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Mr. Merriman thanked Mr. Walsh for his efforts in acquiring this information.

**C.) APPROVAL OF POWER PLANT PHASE II ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT BIDS:**

Mr. Merriman noted that only one vendor provided proposals for both the Phase II Study and the Lead and Asbestos Study. In order to minimize costs, Mr. Chance recommended the two lowest different bidders: ATC Group Services for the Lead and Asbestos Study for the cost of \$12,050.00 and ERS for the Phase II Study, for the cost of \$14,580.00.

The following are the respective bid amounts submitted by the four vendors:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Phase II</u>	<u>Lead &amp; Asbestos</u>
ATC Group Services	\$19,770.50	\$12,050.00
ACT Environmental Services	Declined	\$23,435.00
Environmental Resource Management	\$22,850.00	Declined
ERS	\$14,580.00	Declined

Ms. Costin felt that using two different vendors would not be an efficient method. She felt that different issues could occur and important items could be overlooked by utilizing two different contractors. Even with a cost difference of \$5,190.50, she felt it wasn't a large enough cost to matter much to the project. She was in favor of having ATC Group Service perform both the Phase II Study and the Lead and Asbestos Study. Mr. Chance was in agreement that it would be easier using just one contractor and noted that ATC Group Services had performed the Phase I Study and that they had done a good job for the Phase I Study and that they had been excellent to work with. Mr. Chance mentioned that we had not used the ERS contractor before, but it was the cheaper bid and that we were trying to keep the costs down, because the total project cost was unknown. Mr. Akers wondered if one of the contractors would find an issue that they had missed if they would notify Mr. Chance. Mr. Chance felt that there probably would be less grey area if only one contractor was used. He noted that the Phase II Study and the Lead and Asbestos were two separate work scopes. Mr. Richter also felt that it would be a better system, to use one contractor to perform the work. It was noted that it would be easier for Mr. Chance to oversee the project if only one contractor was used. Mrs. Edwards felt that it would be easier to use one contractor, but inquired if there were any other additional benefits. Mr. Chance stated because ATC Group Services had performed the Phase I Study for us, that they were already familiar with the power plant. Because of that they may be more aware of unforeseen issues. Mr. Merriman noted that also on the accounting side, it would be easier using one contractor instead of two.

Ms. Costin made a motion to retain the services of ATC Group Service to perform the Phase II Study for the amount of \$19,770.50 and to perform the Lead & Asbestos Study for the amount of \$12,050.00. Mr. Richter seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**6.) CITY ADMINISTRATION UPDATE:**

Mrs. Languell reminded the Board that Peru City Council would vote Monday, April 11, 2016, on the electric and water rate proposals. She also noted there is a Supreme Court case that is pending that involves city traffic laws. There was a brief discussion.

**MARCH 30, 2016 – Cont’d.**

**7.) CITY ATTORNEY’S UPDATE:** None

**8.) MANAGER’S REPORT:** None

**9.) MANAGER’S REPORT:**

Mr. Merriman referenced the Rope Trailer memo and commended Mr. Hines for his efforts on the Rope Trailer Project. It was noted that it saved the utilities close to \$100,000. Mr. Ward inquired what was used while the trailer was being modified. Mr. Merriman said that during that time it was not needed, but if one had been needed, we could rent one from a dealer in Bluffton, Indiana.

**10.) ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to bring before the Board, Mr. Richter made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent.

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Jim Richter, Secretary Peru Utilities Service Board