

**PERU UTILITIES
MINUTES OF THE PERU UTILITIES SERVICE BOARD MEETING OF
March 16, 2022**

The Peru Utilities Service Board held a meeting at the Peru office at 335 East Canal Street, Peru, Indiana, and virtually through video conferencing via Teams Meeting, on Wednesday, March 16, 2022. Board Secretary Jami Edwards called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. pursuant to notice as required by law. The following Board members were present Richard Donoho and Jami Edwards. Board Members Mary Costin and Dave Van Baalen, and City Council Liaison-Kathleen Plothow were absent. Chris McKinney and Attorney Dustin Kerns was present on teams. Others present Joshua Chance, Alice Hartley, Jamin Beisiegel, Michael Biesenbach, Wayne Brindle, Joyce Shafer, Lee France, Mayor Miles Hewitt, and Tom Gustin-City Council Liaison.

1.) APPROVE BOARD MINUTES OF MARCH 2, 2022:

Board member Richard Donoho moved that the minutes of March 2, 2022 be approved. Board member Chris McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, motion passed.

2.) PAYMENT OF CLAIMS:

Board member Richard Donoho moved to approve the claims as presented. Board member Jami Edwards seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

3.) NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

The next regular meeting will be held on-site Wednesday, April 6, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. in the Team-Teaching Room. Teams Meeting video conferencing is available for the public.

4.) PUBLIC COMMENT: None

5.) OLD BUSINESS: Miami County Chamber of Commerce 2022 Dues. Carried over to the next board meeting. Requesting Ms. Chittum (President of the Chamber) to attend the next board meeting to talk about the benefits of the Chamber and the importance of investing in our small businesses.

6.) NEW BUSINESS:

A.) APPROVE DISBURSEMENT REQUEST #64 FOR THE GRISSOM WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT:

The Board considered the following disbursement request #64 for the Grissom Water System Improvement Project.

Disbursement #64 to Wessler Engineering, for the Period of 1/1/22 – 1/30/22 for The total amount of \$6,190.00

Board member Richard Donoho made a motion to approve Disbursement #64 to Wessler Engineering, for the sum of \$6,190.00. Board member Chris McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

B.) APPROVE USE OF PROPERTY FOR THE CIRCUST CITY FESTIVAL:

The Board considered the request for the use of our property east of the switching station as a temporary assembly site for horse teams participating in the annual Circus City Festival Parade, July 23.

Board member Richard Donoho made a motion to accept the request for the use of our property east of the switching station. Chris McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

- 7.) **CITY ADMINISTRATION UPDATE:** Mayor Hewitt reported that they broke ground on the new housing project on March 9th. Officials and stakeholders gathered Wednesday to mark the official start of construction of the \$20 million housing development that will be 180 rental units to the old CSX railroad property on Peru’s west side. Last night at the board of works meeting we hired one new firefighter and they promoted a firefighter to lieutenant.
- 8.) **CITY ATTORNEY UPDATE:** Mr. Kerns has nothing to report currently.
- 9.) **MANAGER’S REPORT:**

SQUARE D PROPERTY:

General Manager Joshua Chance reported that they met with Square D last week about the demolition of Plant 1 on the south side. It does not affect Peru Utilities water/wastewater, but they will have to do bore samples to the property. Plant 2 has been purchased and the electric department will be affected with installing new equipment and there will be an adjustment in service. As this point it is in the first stage of planning, and they have not contacted Peru Utilities about their electric needs. The cost for transformers has significantly gone up in price, the last quote was \$60,000.00 for two transformers.

DNR MEETING ABOUT THE MISSISSINEWA RESERVOIR PROJECT:

The Division of Water Management met with the DNR last week about the Mississinewa Campgrounds, remote bathrooms, and Red Bridge treatment facility to connect water/wastewater to Peru Utilities that is eight miles away. There was discussion about the state paying for a water and wastewater rate study because they will need a special rate.

INDOT MEETING:

Mr. Beisiegel and Mr. Biedenbach’s teams met with INDOT to discuss a drainage ditch on US 31 and 300. On the electric side it might result in moving a couple electric poles but on the wastewater side Peru Utilities has a line going to Pipe Creek. INDOT might need the line moved which would result in boring a wastewater line under US 31. He will keep the board updated as the discussion continues.

APRIL 6th BOARD MEETING:

Mr. Chance will be presenting a TRECs system: Tax Refund Exchange and Compliance local units of government by intercepting personal state income tax refunds.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to bring before the Board, Richard Donoho made a motion to adjourn. Chris McKinney seconded the motion. The motion passed, the meeting adjourned.

Jami Edwards, Secretary Peru Utilities Service Board

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