

**PERU UTILITIES  
MINUTES OF THE PERU UTILITIES SERVICE BOARD MEETING OF  
June 1, 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, June 1, 2022. Board Chairperson, Mary Costin 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, Jami Edwards, Dave Van Baalen and Chris McKinney. Others present Joshua Chance, Jamin Beisiegel, Michael Biesenbach, Wayne Brindle, Lee France, Alice Hartley, Cory Mendenhall, Acting Mayor- Patricia Russell, Tom Gustin and Kathleen Plothow-City Council Liaisons, and Attorney Dustin Kerns.

**1.) APPROVE BOARD MINUTES OF MAY 18, 2022:**

*Board member Richard Donoho moved that the minutes of May 18, 2022 be approved. Board member Jami Edwards seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, motion passed.*

**2.) PAYMENT OF CLAIMS:**

*Board member Chris McKinney moved to approve the claims as presented. Board member Dave Van Baalen seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.*

**3.) NEXT REGULAR MEETING:**

The next regular meeting will be held on-site Wednesday, June 15, 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: NONE**

**6.) NEW BUSINESS:**

**A.) APPROVE SRF DISBURSEMENT #68 FOR THE GRISSOM WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS:**

The Board considered the following Disbursement request #68 for the Grissom Water System Improvement Project.

Disbursement #68 to Baker Tilly for professional services rendered in connection with the preparation of the financial portions of the Asset Management Plan for \$15,000.00.

*Board Member Richard Donoho made a motion to approve Disbursement request #68 to Baker Tilly for professional services for the sum of \$15,000.00. Board member Jami Edwards seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.*

**B.) APPROVE SRF DISBURSEMENT #69 FOR THE GRISSOM WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT:**

The Board considered the following Disbursement request #69 for the Grissom Water System Improvement Project.

Disbursement #69 to NV Grant Services for professional services rendered for Labor Standards for \$1,100.00.

*Board member Jami Edwards made a motion to approve Disbursement #69 to NV Grant Services for the sum of \$1,100.00. Board member Chris McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.*

**C.) APPROVE PERU WATER PLANT SCADA UPGRADE:**

The Board considered the recommendation to hire Wessler Engineering to design and upgrade the Peru Water Plant SCADA system.

*Board member Chris McKinney made a motion to approve Wessler Engineering to upgrade the Peru Water Plant SCADA system for \$25,000.00. Board member Richard Donoho seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.*

**D.) APPROVE GRISSOM WASTEWATER PHOSPHORUS TREATMENT – CHEMICAL FEED SYSTEM:**

The Board considered the Grissom Wastewater Phosphorus Treatment- Chemical Feed System. The recommendation for hiring a contractor to deliver and install a chemical feed system to help the Grissom Wastewater Plant meet the new Total Phosphorus limits imposed by IDEM. The quote for a complete three pump chemical feed system is, \$40,080.00.

*Board member Richard Donoho made a motion to approve the quote for a complete three pump chemical feed system in the amount of \$40,080.00. Board member Chris McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.*

*Board Member Chris McKinney made a motion to amend the agenda to include Attachment 6-E Resolution #3 and Attachment 6-F Resolution #4. Board member Richard Donoho seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.*

**E.) APPROVE RESOLUTION #3 TO ACCEPT THE RATES AND CHARGES CONTAINED IN THE URT REMOVAL AND ELECTRIC AND WATER RATE REDUCTION ANALYSIS:**

The board considered Resolution #3 to accept the rates and charges contained in the URT removal and Electric and Water rate reduction analysis dated May 18, 2022 and recommending the adoption of said reduction of rates and charges by the Peru Common Council.

*Board Member Chris McKinney made a motion to approve Resolution #3 to accept the rates and charges contained in the URT removal and Electric and Water Rate Reduction Analysis. Board member Dave Van Baalen seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.*

**F.) APPROVE RESOLUTION #4 TO ACCEPT THE RATES AND CHARGES CONTAINED IN THE URT REMOVAL AND GRISSOM AEROPLEX WATER REDUCTION ANALYSIS:**

The board considered Resolution #4 to accept the rates and charges contained in the URT removal and Grissom Aeroplex Water rate reduction analysis dated May 18, 2022 and recommending the adoption of said reduction of rates and charges by the Peru Common Council.

*Board Member Chris McKinney made a motion to approve Resolution #4 to accept the rates and charges contained in the URT removal and Grissom Aeroplex Water Rate Reduction Analysis. Board member Jami Edwards seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.*

7.) **CITY ADMINISTRATION UPDATE:** Acting Mayor Patricia Russell announced the opening of the Wayne Street Bridge and she wanted to thank the Miami County Highway Department for their speedy construction. Mayor Russell stated that there is a Peru City Council meeting on June 6<sup>th</sup>, and she is looking forward to seeing Mr. Chance present the URT information and ARP Request.

8.) **CITY ATTORNEY UPDATE:** Mr. Kerns stated since the board passed Resolution #3 and Resolution #4. He will ask the city council to pass the Ordinances to take off the Indiana Utility Receipts Tax (IURT) and rate reduction.

9.) **MANAGER’S REPORT:**

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING:** Mr. Chance reported Peru Utilities will have several items on the Peru City Council Meeting Agenda on Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. The ARP Request: Engineering cost for the South Peru separation of stormwater and Wastewater (\$225,000.00) and the South Interceptor Lining (\$300,000.00). The #3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Electric Tracker and an Ordinance adopting a new schedule of rates, charges, and service conditions for the City of Peru Municipal Water Utility known as Grissom Water to reflect the repeal of the utility receipts tax. An Ordinance adopting a new schedule of rates, charges, and service conditions for the city of Peru Municipal Electric and Water Utility to reflect the repeal of the utility receipts tax.

**TRANSFORMER BID:** Mr. Chance stated in the long-term budget for 2023 we have budgeted for a substation transformer for a switching station. Mr. Biesenbach reported that we are converting a substation into a switching station to pick up some of the load from town. The lowest bid for a transformer came in at \$800,000.00 from Niagara Transformer Corp., and they require a 10% down upon the bid acceptance with an additional 40% when they start diagramming the transformer. The 10% down was budgeted for 2022 but we did

not budget for the additional amount so the line department will have to make some adjustments on capital projects to cover the additional charges and budget into 2023. Dave Woessner the electrical engineer is negotiating the terms with Niagara and Mr. Biesenbach stated that he will bring the bid to the board at the next meeting.

**MEETING WITH GARB AND REMC:** Peru Utilities Engineering Department and Line Superintendent met with officials from GARB (Grissom Air Reserve Base) and REMC (Miami-Cass Rural Electric Membership Corp.) - electric supplier this week. Mr. Chance stated that we are looking at some grant opportunities for the electric service at the Grissom Air Reserve Base. There are some issues with the 3 phase that runs under the flight line and 2 of the phases are burnt up. There are grants available for utilities that provide federal installations electric services. We are working closely with REMC because they supply a large portion of the electric service to the base and Peru Utilities provides the industrial side. We will be working on an interconnection between Peru Utilities and REMC to support each other during outages. The application deadline for the federal grants is in July 2022.

**DUKE ENERGY INCREASE:** Mr. Chance reported that Duke Energy petitioned for a temporary increase of 24.6% because of increasing fuel prices. This increases the residential charge to \$170.00 for 1,000kWh compared to Peru Utilities at \$110.20 for total charge of 1,000kWh. Mr. Chance will take the information to the Peru City Council meeting on June 6<sup>th</sup>.

**APPA CONFERENCE:** Mr. Chance and Mr. Biesenbach will be attending the American Public Power Association National Conference held in Nashville, TN -June 10<sup>th</sup>-June 13<sup>th</sup>. The conference sessions will cover disaster recovery, electric vehicle market trends, federal funding and capital planning into a long-term financial solution, trends affecting metering and rate structures, cultural changes, effective cybersecurity programs, leadership, and technical information. Mr. Chance stated that Mr. Beisiegel will be conducting the next board meeting scheduled for June 15<sup>th</sup>.

**ACTING MAYOR'S SALARY:** Mr. Chance reported that the Peru Utility Service Board Resolution No.2 for 2022 states the PUSB has the responsibility for establishing the compensation of its employees and for recommending the annual salary to be paid from Utility funds to the Mayor, Clerk-Treasurer, and Utility Service Board Members. There was a lengthy discussion about the new acting mayor's compensation, and it was decided to pay the Acting Mayor Patricia Russell instead of Mr. Hewitt until he returns.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

*There being no further business to bring before the Board, Chris McKinney made a motion to adjourn. Board member Jami Edwards seconded the motion. The motion passed, the meeting adjourned.*

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Jami Edwards, Secretary Peru Utilities Service Board

