

**PERU UTILITIES
MINUTES OF THE PERU UTILITIES SERVICE BOARD MEETING OF
September 21, 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, September 7, 2022. 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 Chris McKinney, Richard Donoho, Jami Edwards. Others present Joshua Chance, Michael Biesenbach, Wayne Brindle, Lee France, Acting Mayor Patricia Russell and Kathleen Plothow on teams Absent: Board member Dave VanBaalén, Jamin Beisiegel and Dustin Kern, Attorney

1.) APPROVE BOARD MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2022:

Board member Richard Donoho moved that the minutes of September 7, 2022 be approved. Board member Chris McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, motion passed.

2.) PAYMENT OF CLAIMS:

Board member Chris McKinney made a motion 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, October 5, 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: NONE

7.) CITY ADMINISTRATION UPDATE: Acting Mayor Patricia Russell reported that a Harvest Festival fundraiser for the Peru Civic Center was held on Sept. 16, 2022, at Peru's Maconaquah Park. Funds raised will help with the cost of a roof and heating/cooling system for the Civic Center. The festival featured local musicians, The Time Travelers and Patron, a corn hole tournament, food, and craft vendors. There was a surprise guest Mayor Hewitt and family was in attendance and he was pleased with the turnout for the event.

8.) CITY ATTORNEY UPDATE: Absent

9.) MANAGER'S REPORT:

DETRASH THE WABASH: Mr. Chance reported this Saturday, September 24th, 2022, we will have the Detrash the Wabash, volunteers will meet at the Wastewater Treatment Plant on Riverside Drive, prizes, drinks, and snacks will be provided for the volunteers.

ELECTRIC RATE STUDY: Mr. Chance stated that he has received a report back from Baker Tilly. The revenue requirement report and the overall rate adjustment we should get next week. We will receive the first draft of the initial rate design by the end of the October. Mr. Chance stated the electric studies are so much more difficult than water studies because of the customer classes, demand, energy, and meter sizes. Mr. Chance reported that unofficially our wholesale rate for electricity will go up by 8.6% in January 2023. Peru Utilities rate is \$110.20 per 1,000 kWh energy but by January it will tentatively increase to \$118.00 per 1,000 kWh energy.

COAL FIRED ELECTRICITY: Mr. Chance discussed a Wall Street Journal article about the nonbinding 2015 Paris climate agreement, China can increase its emissions until 2030. While the United State closes coal plants, China is building 43 new ones. Anything the U.S. does to reduce emissions will not matter much to global temperatures. U.S. cuts will be swamped by the increases in India, Africa and especially China. Between 2015 and 2021 China’s CO2 emissions increased by 11%. Beijing is building more coal-fired capacity than the rest of the world combined, while the U.S. has reduced their CO2 emissions by 6% between 2015 and 2021. China’s CO2 emissions are already twice those of the United States.

MAINTENANCE OUTAGE: Mr. Biesenbach has scheduled a maintenance outage for repairs on Monday, Oct 24th it will affect Arnie’s Ace Hardware and four other surrounding buildings. Mr. Biesenbach has personally notified the businesses and they have been sent a letter notifying them of the outage.

SMITHFIELD SEWER LINE: Mr. chance reported that Smithfield Packaged Meats had a plugged sewer line on Sept 6th that resulted in additional man hours and overtime by Peru Utilities DWM employees to resolve the issue. Smithfield is the only one that uses that line, and it was plugged with grease, fiber, and sewage. Peru Utilities employees dug six separate holes to find the clog in the line. Mr. Chance stated that Smithfield’s plant manager was very cooperate during the process and they had 3 vactor sewer cleaner trucks to take sewage to the wastewater plant.

LEAD AND COPPER WATER TESTING: Mr. Chance stated the limit for lead is 15 parts per billion and the limit for copper is 1.3 parts per million. Peru Utilities lead score was 14.6 parts per billion in 2021 and under the limit. Peru Utilities scored 7.0 parts per billion for 2022. Peru Utilities 2022 result was 0.154 parts per million for copper water testing. Mr. Chance stated that is exceptionally good news for Peru Utilities lead and copper water testing results.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Jami Edwards, Secretary Peru Utilities Service Board

