

**PERU UTILITIES
MINUTES OF THE PERU UTILITIES SERVICE BOARD MEETING OF
January 18, 2023**

The Peru Utilities Service Board held a meeting at the Peru office at 335 East Canal Street, Peru, Indiana, and through video conferencing via Teams Meeting, on Wednesday, January 4, 2023. 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, Dave Van Baalen and Jami Edwards. Others present Joshua Chance, Alice Hartley, Jamin Beisiegel, Cory Mendenhall, Michael Biesenbach, Wayne Brindle, Lee France, Tom Gustin-City Council Liason, Dustin Kern-Attorney and Mayor Miles Hewitt Absent: Kathleen Plothow-City Council Liason

1.) APPROVE BOARD MINUTES OF JANUARY 4, 2023:

Board member Richard Donoho moved that the minutes of January 4, 2023 be approved. Board member Chris McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, motion passed.

2.) PAYMENT OF CLAIMS:

Board member Jamie Edwards made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Board member Chris McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

3.) NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

The next regular meeting will be held on-site Wednesday, February 1, 2023, 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 REQUEST #72 FOR THE GRISSOM WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT:

The Board considered the following disbursement request #72 for the Grissom Water System Improvement Project.

Disbursement #72 to Wessler Engineering, for professional services rendered for labor standards for the total amount of \$3,882.50.

Board member Richard Donoho made a motion to approve Disbursement #72 to Wessler Engineering, for the sum \$3,882.50 for the Grissom Water System Improvements. Board member Chris McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

- 7.) **CITY ADMINISTRATION UPDATE:** Mayor Hewitt stated at the Board of works meeting they signed the contract with the Peru Police Department and the Peru Fire Department for wages and benefits. On January 1, 2023, a statewide policy took effect creating minimum standards for how police can pursue suspects. Mayor Hewitt reported that the Peru Police Department has adopted a new pursuit policy and they are compliant with the state mandates. Mayor Hewitt stated that he appreciated Mr. Chance and Mr. Beisiegel coming to the meeting in December discussing the Schneider Electric remediation and the ground water around the plant. It’s an ongoing process trying to get people calmed down and if we can all work together, we can get through it! Mr. Gustin reported a new City Council President pro-tam Peter Sahaidachny was nominated and passed at the Jan 9th City Council meeting. Kurt Krauskopf has taken over the City Clerk-Treasurer position after Mrs. Rylands stepped down on December 31, 2022.
- 8.) **CITY ATTORNEY UPDATE:** Mr. Kern stated he has been busy with the city and Schneider Electric remediation. Mr. Kern reported that the mayor spoke to WTHR13 news about Schneider Electric’s remediation yesterday and the interview will be on the TV tomorrow.
- 9.) **MANAGER’S REPORT:**

EVENING MEETING-WATER QUALITY NEAR SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC PLANT:

Mr. Chance stated he has planned a meeting this evening at 6:00pm for residents living in the area near the Schneider Electric Plant. Alice has had only one resident call in saying they will attend this evening’s meeting. Mr. Chance will provide the results of our required testing from IDEM, what chemicals and bacteria and the frequency of tests, how our water system works, how our wastewater systems work, and answer whatever general question they may have about our utilities and its operations.

MIAMI COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:

Mr. Chance reported that we have been working with MCEDA and the engineers at CE on the Grissom Lighting Project. The underground electric that goes to the GARB Weather Center and the Navigation aide on the flight line is a 3-phase circuit and 2 of the circuits have burnt up to two separate buildings along the flight line. The estimate to replace the circuits is \$650,000.00 and GARB has signed off on a request to Ethan Manning our State Representative to insert it into the state budget. Mr. Chance will keep the board informed of the outcome.

MAUGANS ROAD AND HIGHWAY 31:

Mr. Chance reported that INDOT is wanting to widen a culvert at 300 and Maugen’s road and our wastewater lines go under US Highway 31. INDOT is wanting Peru Utilities to reroute the wastewater lines in that area. This will require Peru Utilities to bore under highway 31 and our estimated cost is \$352,000.00 to reroute the line. We received an Extraordinary Agreement Work by Utility for the culvert on Maugen’s Road at the US 31 eastern approach project. This wastewater line serves 21 meters with an annual revenue of approximately \$9,600.00. The \$207,847.00 projected cost to our ratepayers will take almost 22 years to pay for itself. INDOT cost for their project is \$415,694.00 and INDOTS

reimbursements to Peru Utilities would be \$144,709.64. INDOT shall reimburse of 100% minus betterment-10% of the total operating revenue or 50% of the total estimated cost of INDOTS project. Mr. Chance did not sign their Extraordinary Agreement Work by Utility; he sent them a letter explaining that it is difficult to understand why Peru Utilities should be responsible for funding the project. Mr. Chance will inform the board when he learns more.

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.

Jami Edwards, Secretary Peru Utilities Service Board

