

**PERU UTILITIES
MINUTES OF THE PERU UTILITIES SERVICE BOARD MEETING OF
March 1, 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, March 1, 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, Jami Edwards, and Dave Van Baalen. Others present Joshua Chance, Alice Hartley, Jamin Beisiegel, Michael Biesenbach, Wayne Brindle, Lee France, Tom Gustin-City Council Liason, Dustin Kern-Attorney and Mayor Miles Hewitt. Kathleen Plothow-City Council Liason on teams.

1.) APPROVE BOARD MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 15, 2023:

Board member Richard Donoho moved that the minutes of February 15, 2023 be approved. Board member Chris McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, motion passed. Jami Edwards abstained from voting.

2.) PAYMENT OF CLAIMS:

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

3.) NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

The next regular meeting will be held on-site Wednesday, March 15, 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: Board Member Chris McKinney will be out of town during the next board meeting.

6.) NEW BUSINESS: Board Member Chris McKinney made a motion to amend the agenda and to remove New Electric Rate-Attachment 6-F. Board Member Jami Edwards seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

**A.) APPROVE SRF DISBURSEMENT #73 FOR THE GRISSOM WATER SYSTEM
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT:**

The Board considered the following disbursement request #73 for the Grissom Water System Improvement Project.

Disbursement #73 to Wessler Engineering, for professional services, for the period of 08/01/22 -8/31/22 in the amount of \$372.00 and 12/01/22 – 12/31/22 in the amount of \$1,301.50 a total of \$1,674.00.

Board member Jami Edwards made a motion to approve Disbursement #73 to Wessler Engineering for the sum of \$1,674.00 for the Grissom Water System Improvements. Board member Chris McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed unanimously.

B.) APPROVE NEW LIFT STATION PUMP:

The Board considered the bids for the new lift station pump and the recommendations from Nick Parkman and Jamin Beisiegel.

The recommendation for a new lift station pump located at our stormwater retention pond in Oakdale. The current lift station has two pumps that have been in service since 2008. Mr. Parkman and Mr. Beisiegel recommends the bid from BL Anderson/Xylem for a total of \$29,972.05.

Board member Richard Donoho made a motion to accept the bid from BL Ander/Xylem for \$29,972.05. Board member Chris McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

C.) APPROVE BID FOR 1,000,000 GALLON STANDPIPE REHABILITATION PROJECT:

Dixon Engineering reviewed the bids submitted for the exterior repaint, wet interior repaints, and miscellaneous repairs of the City’s 1,000,000-gallon standpipe water storage tank and recommends award to the low bidder, L.C. United Painting Company of Sterling Heights, MI for the project total amount of \$414,000.00 which includes the base bid amount of \$390,000.00 and the alternate mixer installation amount of \$24,000.00. Bob See and Jamin Beisiegel reviewed the recommendation from Dixon and agreed with them to award the contract to LC. United for a total bid of \$414,000.00.

Board member Richard Donohoe made a motion to accept the bid from L.C. United Painting Company for a total amount of \$414,000.00. Board member Chris McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

D.) APPROVE BID FOR THE CASH FARM LEASE:

The purpose of the bid is to lease 35 tillable acres of farmland owned by Peru Utilities for a three-year contract. One bid was received from Ladd Farms Inc. at \$237.00 per acre, for a total amount per year of \$8,295.00 for crop years 2023-2024-2025.

Board member Richard Donoho made a motion to accept the bid from Ladd Farms Inc. at \$237.00 per acre for a total amount of \$8,295.00 per year. Board member Jami Edwards seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

E.) APPROVE DESTRUCTION OF OLD RECORDS:

Peru Utilities records are eligible for destruction in accordance with the Indiana Commission on Public Records which specifies the timeframe and retention requirements in which it is acceptable to destroy old records. Peru Utilities is seeking authorization to destroy the following records: A/P Purchase Orders, Payroll Reports, Timecard, Daily Cash receipts, Daily Balance Sheets and Service Orders/Meter reads.

Board member Jami Edwards made a motion to approve the destruction of Old Records. Board member Richard Donoho seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

- 7.) **CITY ADMINISTRATION UPDATE:** Mayor Hewitt reported that he received a letter from the DNR, and they will be starting on a new boat ramp by the west city park in the near future. He has been working on the project for the last couple years and just received the notice. Mayor Hewitt stated tomorrow evening Ethan Manning and IDEM will be at the City Hall public meeting concerning Schneider Electric contamination issues. Kathleen Plothow received an email from Dwayne Wanty the Environmental Affairs Director for Schneider Electric about PFAS testing. Joshua Chance stated that PFAS chemicals is a growing concern because it’s found in many different consumer, commercial and industrial products. Jamin Beisiegel reported that we have tested for it in Peru approximately ten years ago and we will be testing for it again next year. The last time we tested for PFAS it was non-detect and we have no reason to believe that it’s affecting the drinking water. Schneider Electrics email stated they are testing for PFAS in the ground water for protection of drinking water.
- 8.) **CITY ATTORNEY UPDATE:** Mr. Kern stated there was an email sent out stating that Peru Utilities has received a check from the new owners of Bourne End and Sherwood mobile home parks. The check was for the water deposit and an agreement that they will fix a water leak going into one of the parks. The mobile home parks water leaks will be reevaluated in three months and if the leaks are not fixed then there will be additional deposit.
- 9.) **MANAGER’S REPORT:**

DWM WORKING ON EAST MAIN ST.:

The Division of Water Management will be on working on East Main St. this spring. They will be replacing lead service lines and replacing water meter pits. The Peru Street Department will be repaving East Main St. this summer so the DWM is working ahead of the paving, so they won’t tear up new asphalt. Mr. Chance stated this is part of the long-term plan for lead remediation and to comply with the new Lead Rules effective in 2024.

INDOT MEETING:

Mr. Chance and Mr. Beisiegel met with the Indiana Department of Transportation on Friday to discuss the Highway 31 and Maugans Road sewer conflict. They discussed the situation with INDOT that this is a huge expense for Peru Utilities that would take years to recover the expenses. INDOT is still requiring Peru Utilities to have it engineered and have a sewer line moved and boring under Highway 31 at the estimated cost of \$352,000.00 of which INDOT will reimburse Peru Utilities \$144,709.00.

EPA INSPECTION AT GRISSOM: Mr. Chance reported that Mr. Beisiegel has been contacted by the EPA and they will conduct a random inspection at the Grissom Water Plant tomorrow. They will be asking for information that we have given to IDEM last fall.

MONDAY CITY COUNCIL MEETING: Mr. Chance will be presenting and asking for approval of the Peru Municipal Electric Utility Rate adjustment for the 2nd Quarter 2023, the Peru Water Utility CPI-U April 2023 Tracker adjustment and the Grissom Water Utility CPI-U April 2023 Tracker adjustment at the March 6th Peru City Council Meeting.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Mr. Chance reported he will bring the new electric rates for their review and board approval. The Economic Development Rider will be presented on the March 15, 2023 board meeting. Mr. Chance stated the Economic Development Rider is an incentive rider to enhance economic development through reductions in electric rates for use of major expansions and new businesses. IMPA would give a rebate back to Peru Utilities.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Jami Edwards, Secretary Peru Utilities Service Board

March 1, 2023 – Cont'd.

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