



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF FOX METRO WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT  
HELD WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 23, 2019**


The Board of Trustees met in a regular monthly meeting at 9:30 A.M. in the offices of the District at the Water Pollution Control Plant on Wednesday, October 23, 2019. Present were, Trustee Judith S. Sotir, Trustee Michael Funkey, Trustee Christopher F. Childress, and Trustee David Krahn. Also present were Attorney Gregg Ingemunson, Manager Thomas F. Muth, District Engineer, John Frerich from Deuchler Engineering, Human Resources Coordinator Patrick Divine, Business Services Manager, Jimmie Delgado, Plant Manager Matt Woodin, Maintenance Supervisor Chris Morphey, Operations Supervisor Joel Ilseman, Interim Regulatory/P.R. Manager Karen Clementi and Norma Rodriguez.

The bills were presented and read. It was moved by Trustee Funkey that the bills be allowed as read, ratify and approve the checks drawn during the month of September, 2019 in the amount of \$2,490,583.95. Motion was seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote and unanimously carried that the bills be paid as presented.

It was moved by Trustee Funkey seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote and unanimously carried that the Treasurer's Report for September, 2019 be approved as submitted.

It was moved by Trustee Funkey, seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote, and the Motion was unanimously carried that the minutes of the September 18, 2019 Regular Board Meeting be approved as written. Each of the Trustees having received and read copies of said minutes before the meeting.

In Public Comments, Mr. Bryan Rieger from V3 Companies asked to address the Board. He stated that he was there to ask the Board for consideration in reducing the connection fee for the Transitional Care Facility they plan on building in Aurora. The proposed facility is a 60-unit Transitional Care Facility, each with a private bathroom. This facility is for people who have had a medical procedure at a hospital, but need a place for recovery. This is not a senior housing facility. The stay for these patients




can last from one to two days or up to four months. The average stay would be approximately 30 days.

Mr. Rieger said the owner of this project has two similar facilities in the area. One in Arlington Heights and one that is under construction in Lisle. The Arlington Heights facility has approximately 100 units, the Lisle facility has 60 units, the same as Aurora. Mr. Rieger stated that Fox Metro's connection fee for this facility has been calculated at \$199,650.00. They feel that this is very high, mainly due to the fact that there is not a comparable use in the Fox Metro Ordinance. He said the Arlington Heights facility's connection fee was a few thousand dollars and the DuPage County Sanitary District had a similar fee system to Fox Metro, but their ordinance recognized that the use for a facility such as this is significantly less impactful to the overall sewer system and their fee was \$62,444.36.

Mr. Rieger stated that Fox Metro counts each residential room as a 1.5 unit plus all of the additional fixtures in the facility such as the kitchen, public bathroom and laundry. He said they are requesting consideration in the total count for the residential units. Each room has a bathroom that includes a toilet, sink and a shower. There is no kitchen or laundry room in the unit. Mr. Rieger said these rooms can be looked at a couple of different ways. One way it can be viewed is more like a hotel room due to the fact that the typical stay in the transitional care facility is between 3 days or one week. Per the ordinance, a hotel would count as 0.5 units per room. The other option would be to view the room as a studio apartment, which the ordinance also states that could account for 0.5 units per room.

Mr. Rieger also discussed the actual water usage from the other facilities and stated that the Arlington Heights facility, which is the largest facility, has averaged a water usage of 4,800 to 7,800 gallons of water per day. He said the transitional care facility use for the entire building is significantly less than what would be expected from a studio apartment building.

Mr. Rieger said he is not looking for the entire connection fee to be waived but he would like the Board to consider a fee that would be fair. He feels the fee of \$199,650.00 is significantly high and does not accurately reflect how the proposed use will impact the wastewater facility in the area. For this and the several reasons he mentioned before he is requesting relief from the fee. Discussion ensued and Mr. Rieger addressed all inquiries from the Board. The Board thanked Mr. Rieger and told him they would review the matter and take his request under advisement.



Continuing with Public Comments, Trustee Sotir congratulated all of the Fox Metro employees that celebrated birthdays in the month of October. The Board also congratulated Ryan Johnson for his 20 years at the District. Manager Muth said Ryan began in the Operations Department and moved to the Maintenance Department as a Maintenance Mechanic. Ryan is a very positive employee and a valuable member of the Department, he is a team player and the District is fortunate to have him.

The Board also congratulated Wade Fisher for his 20 years of service at the District. Manager Muth said Wade has been in the Operations Department for all of his career, he works second shift and he is a great employee.

The Board congratulated Ron Reier for his 15 years of service at the District. Manager Muth said Ron began his career in the Maintenance Department and now he is in the Industrial Pretreatment Department. He is in charge of keeping the District 750 food service establishments in compliance. He also conducts industrial inspections and collects samples. Ron is a great asset to the District.

The Board congratulated Brett Hake for his 5 years of service at the District. Brett works in the Maintenance Department and is currently going to school through the Apprentice Program. He is one of the go to guys if there is a problem or issue and he is also a great asset to the District.


The Board also congratulated Kevin Boedewig for his 5 years of service. Manager Muth said Kevin began in the Operations Department and for the last year he has been the Electrical Department Foreman and he is doing an exceptional job.

The Board announced that Jimmie Delgado's mother past away and the expressed their condolences. They also expressed condolences to John Frerich whose father also passed away.

With no other Public Comments, it was moved by Trustee Funkey, seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote and unanimously carried that the Regular Board Meeting be temporarily adjourned for the Committee of Local Improvements.

The Regular Board Meeting temporarily adjourned at 9:50 A.M.

In the Committee of Local Improvements Manager Muth updated the Board the recent Fox Metro Open House that was held on October 19, 2019. He stated that the event was a success and he was very proud of all the employees



that put so much time and effort on a volunteer basis to make sure everything went well. Manager Muth shared with the Board that the volunteers were very prepared and they made sure to focus on every detail. Karen, Norma and Matt went above and beyond to make the event such a success. There was great weather that day but it was difficult to predict how many people would attend the event and it is estimated that approximately 350 people attended. The District received very good feedback from the attendees of the Open House regarding the tour of the South Plant. Congressman Bill Foster attended the event along with other elected officials of the community. Mr. Foster was part of the ribbon cutting ceremony. The District advertised the event very well in social media and it also was mentioned on a radio station. Manager Muth shared with the Board some pictures that were taken of the event.

Trustee Funkey said the District should stay in close contact with the elected officials that attended the Open House. Congressman Foster had some technical questions when he went on the tour. The District should contact him on a technical level to maintain his interest in the District. Manager Muth said that letters were sent out to all the elected officials that attended the event thanking them for their interest and participation.


At the event retired Board President Jim Detzler was presented with a street sign. A street has been named at the South Plant as Detzler Way. The District also presented Board President Judith Sotir with a street sign. She will also have a street named Sotir way at the South Plant.

Trustee Sotir said it was a great event and she is very pleased with all of the volunteers for all of their work and preparation prior to the event and gave up their Saturday to participate in the Open House and make it a success.

With no other matters to come before the Committee of Local Improvements, it was moved by Trustee Funkey, seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote and unanimously carried that the Regular Board Meeting reconvene.

The Regular Board Meeting reconvened at 10:00 A.M.

At 10:00 A.M. Manager Muth opened and read aloud bids received for Filter No. 3 Installation Project as follows: Whittaker Construction – Total Bid \$348,150.00; Allan Mac & Sons – Total Bid \$517,927.00. The Engineer's estimate for this project is \$380,000.00. Based on recommendation of staff, it was moved by Trustee Funkey, seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote and unanimously carried that the bid from Whittaker Construction for



\$348,150.00 be accepted and the bid from Allan Mac & Sons for \$517,927.00 be held pending specification review by Fox Metro Water Reclamation District and Deuchler staff.

At 10:05 A.M. Manager Muth opened and read aloud bids received for Sugar Grove Pump Station Bypass Riser Project as follows: Enger - Babra – Total Bid \$198,972.00; Performance Construction & Engineering – Total Bid \$84,450.00; R.J. O’Neil – Total Bid \$98,200.00; H. Linden & Sons – Total Bid \$72,770.00. The Engineer’s Estimate for this project was \$73,500.00. It was moved by Trustee Funkey, seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote and unanimously carried that the bid from H. Linden & Sons, for \$72,770.00 be accepted and the bid from Performance Construction & Engineering for \$84,450.00 be held pending specification review by Fox Metro Water Reclamation District and Deuchler staff.


Attorney Gregg Ingemunson addressed the Board with the Attorney Report. He presented the Board for their approval the Farm leases between Fox Metro Water Reclamation District and (3) Lessees, namely: David Hopkins, Jim Connell Farms, Inc., and Quintin Wissmiller for certain lands owned by the District in the County of Kendall for farming purposes for the 2020 crop year. It was moved by Trustee Funkey, seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote and unanimously carried that the Farm leases between Fox Metro Water Reclamation District and (3) Lessees, namely: David Hopkins, Jim Connell Farms, Inc., and Quintin Wissmiller for certain lands owned by the District in the County of Kendall for farming purposes for the 2020 crop year be approved as written.

PASSED by the Board of Trustees of Fox Metro Water Reclamation District this 23<sup>rd</sup> Day of October, 2019 by a roll call vote of 4 to 0 Trustee Heriaud was absent.

Mr. John Frerich addressed the Board with the Engineer’s Report and updates on Construction projects. Mr. Frerich requested approval of Partial Payment No. 46 to River City Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$75,374.82 for South Waste Water Treatment Facility Project.

Mr. Frerich requested approval of Final Payment No. 23 to Whittaker Construction, in the amount of \$45,151.00 for the North Plant Improvement Project.

Mr. Frerich requested approval of Partial Payment No. 6 to Insituform Technologies USA, LLC., in the amount of \$336,582.09 for the 2018-2019 Sanitary Sewer Interceptor Lining Project.



Mr. Frerich requested approval of Partial Payment No. 3 to Whittaker Construction, in the amount of \$623,419.86 for O&M Building Improvement Project.

Mr. Frerich requested approval of Partial Payment No. 1 to Whittaker Construction, in the amount of \$3,426.75 for F Aeration Tanks Grating Repairs Phase 1.


It was moved by Trustee Funkey seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote and unanimously carried that the Engineer's Report be approved as published and payments be made as requested.

Manager Muth addressed the Board with the Manager's Report. Manager Muth requested authorization to seek sole source purchase for a K-Pump. Manager Muth said the Plant has pump No. 14 that it is need of major repairs. A quote was requested for the repair and staff received an estimate of \$49,630.00. Staff also requested a quote for a new pump and they received a quote of \$50,302.00. Manager Muth said in reviewing the quotes he recommends purchasing a new pump. It was moved by Trustee Funkey seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote and unanimously carried authorizing staff request to purchase a new pump at the estimated cost of \$50,302.00 for Building K replacing Pump No. 14.

Manager Muth advised the Board there would be no Executive Session this month.

Trustee Funkey inquired if the District's Ordinance Book has been updated with the new Ordinances and if this is something that should be done. Attorney Ingemunson stated that if all of the Ordinances are up to date and listed on the District's website, there is no need for codification. Manager Muth said that all of the Ordinances are on the District's website for anyone to access them. Jimmie Delgado stated there is a log of all of the Ordinances that is up to date and the Ordinance Book is updated and printed approximately every three years. He advised Trustee Funkey that he would have the Ordinance book compiled and printed and would give him a copy when that has been completed.

Manager Muth reported that the South Plant is performing very well. The plant is achieving outstanding results in treating Phosphorus. In the next few months the plant will go through some different phases in flow rates, weather and salts in the influent to see how that impacts the microorganisms.



Trustee Childress asked if comp time was going to be given to the employees who volunteered at the Open House. He said these employees took time away from their families on a Saturday to help the District, he suggested awarding those employees, half a day of comp time. Manager Muth said he would be glad to accommodate that.


Trustee Childress also addressed the request Mr. Rieger made at the beginning of the Board Meeting in the Public Comments. He said Mr. Rieger made a compelling case and what made a point for him was the comparison of hotel versus rehabilitation facility. Trustee Childress said when the District contemplated the connection fee rates, he doubts these types of facilities were taken into consideration because they were not as popular as they are today.

Trustee Funkey stated when you first look at the numbers it looks like the connection fees are very high but said that they are not comparing apples to apples because the rates that Mr. Rieger compared with the District's did not include other fees associated with the connection and Fox Metro's fee does include them. If the fees were included the connection fee for the facilities in those other cities, they would be very close to Fox Metro's fees.

Trustee Funkey also stated that V3 Corporation is a for profit corporation and he would like to know if the numbers Mr. Rieger quoted the Board regarding the other two facilities are based on the same figures as Fox Metro. Manager Muth said it might be difficult to compare apples to apples but believes after he has a good discussion with staff, he will bring an answer to the Board. There are some issues that will have to be addressed but believes the District will come to a good resolution. Discussion ensued

Trustee Childress also inquired if Paschen has vacated the property they were leasing from the District. Attorney Ingemunson said they have left the property and he currently working on obtaining the security deposit. He will report to the Board next month. Discussion ensued regarding settling the Eminent Domain

Trustee Childress inquired if there was any clarification of what the law is regarding the voting of Trustees. Attorney Ingemunson said it is part of the consolidated elections so it is non-partisan election. There will be two Trustees that will be elected at the 2021 election and then three at the following consolidated elections. Attorney Ingemunson said he is in the



process in obtaining the populations for the different counties the District covers to try and figure out where the 5 Trustee Districts are going to be placed. He said this needs to be completed by January of 2020. Discussion ensued regarding dividing the Districts that each Board member would represent and the percentage of population each District would have.

Trustee Childress inquired if a committee is going to be formed to discuss the employee raises for 2020. Trustee Sotir said a committee needs to be formed and it needs to meet in December.

Trustee Childress also inquired if staff has had communication with GRNE regarding the solar project. Mr. John Frerich said GRNE has had very little communication with Deuchler and with District staff and when they do reach out, GRNE just states that they are working on it. Trustee Childress said he has received communication from GRNE and they stated they want to place a fence so they can begin work in the Spring and complete the solar project by May or June. Mr. Mike Petersen stated a representative from GRNE contacted him and stated they want to meet with Fox Metro staff in November.


Trustee Childress said his concern is the leases that are still in effect for the current tenants. Tenants need a minimum of 30 days to vacate the property. He said this is concerning if GRNE needs to begin work at the property. Discussion ensued regarding the issues the District is having with the current tenants at the property and Jimmie stated they are very close to a possible solution to the problem. Trustee Childress stated the tenants need to vacate the property in order for GRNE to begin the project. A committee needs to be formed that will be the point of contact with GRNE throughout the project. Trustee Childress said he can be a member of this committee. Discussion ensued.

Trustee Krahn addressed the Board and stated Oswego is opening their Veteran's Park Sunday, November 10, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. and cordially invited everyone including all members of the Board to attend. He said this is a beautiful park, the festivities include lighting of the eternal flame.

With no other New Business to come before the Board, it was moved by Trustee Funkey, seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote and unanimously carried that this meeting be adjourned.

There was no Executive Session this month





Meeting adjourned at 10:45 A.M.