



Marion Utilities
1540 N Washington St.
Marion, IN 46952
www.marionutilities.com

Service Board

BOARD MINUTES OF THE MAY 18, 2023 MEETING

The Marion Utility Service Board held their meeting on Thursday, May 18, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the L.E.A.D. Center, Building 101, at Marion Utilities, 1540 N. Washington Street, Marion, Indiana.

Roll was called and those board members present were: Robert Logan, Chairman; Bill Dorsey; Al Green; Von Jackson; and Herschel Lewis. Doug Carl and Bill Dorsey were absent.

Also present at the meeting were: Chuck Binkerd, Director; Pat Pinkerton, Assistant Director for Engineering and Solid Waste; Robin Shrader, Assistant Director for Operations and Maintenance; Mike Conner, Attorney; and Misty Humphries, Secretary.

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

There were no additions or deletions.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Green, to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2023 meeting. All board members in attendance voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE ON PROJECTS

Mr. Pinkerton stated that quotes should be back for the Manor Drive Storm Sewer project in time for the June 1st board meeting. Mr. Pinkerton stated that this was an area that had been flooding for many years. Unfortunately, there was also a lot of utilities ran in the area. Mr. Pinkerton said that the Adams Street project at the old Thompson area would soon be ready for quotes as well.

TRANSFERS & PAY REQUESTS

There were none.

WALKWAY OF LIGHTS SPONSORSHIP REQUEST

Mr. Binkerd reported that the Walkway of Lights Committee was holding a Golf Scramble. They have requested a sponsorship for the event. The event will be held on Friday, September 29, 2023 at the Marion Elks Golf Course. The request was for a \$100 which would be a sponsorship for either a hole or tee box. Mr. Binkerd recommended sponsoring the event at the \$100 level as requested. Mr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to approve the \$100 sponsorship request. All board members in attendance voted aye. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Logan commented that this was a great way to help the community.





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APPROVAL OF MILLER WATER MAIN DESIGN PROPOSAL

Mr. Pinkerton said that Jason Miller had submitted a design proposal for the water main project within the first phase of the SRF loan associated with the water rate increase. He explained that in order to close on the SRF loan in December, the design, quotes, and bids must be in place for this project. Mr. Pinkerton reached out to Mr. Miller as Mr. Miller is more than capable of performing this work and in a timely manner to keep everything on schedule. Mr. Pinkerton said that with the easement, survey, right of way, the design, specs, and bidding the proposal totaled \$112,400. The project was to cover approximately 4,000 feet of water main, and the cost was estimated at \$1.5 million. Mr. Logan asked what the project was going to do. Mr. Pinkerton answered that the project would replace mostly four inch lines and replacing a lot of suspected lead service lines. Mr. Pinkerton said this area was identified in the water model master plan years ago as having low pressure and a history of main breaks due to the size and ages of the mains in the area. Mr. Logan asked what the size of the new main would be. Mr. Pinkerton said 12" which would also help with fire protection. Mr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Green, to approve the quote submitted by Jason Miller in the amount of \$112,400. All board members in attendance voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

DIGESTER LID REMOVAL QUOTES

Mrs. Shrader reminded the board of the digester lid failure last year. She explained that its twin lid hadn't failed yet, but may soon. Mrs. Shrader said that this was budgeted. Mrs. Shrader said the vendors who performed the work on the other digester lid presented quotes as they were the low bidders, and it seemed to make sense. The quote came in just a little lower than the quote for the previous work. Central Rent-A-Crane and Fruchey would again work together. Mrs. Shrader stated that the Central price could decrease if everything goes smoothly and the work days were shorter than eight hours. The quoted price was \$163,616. The budgeted amount was \$175,000. Mr. Jackson asked if the lid was steel and if it could be recycled. Mrs. Shrader said yes it was steel and was taken to the scrap yard. Mr. Green asked if the digesters were in use at the same time. Mrs. Shrader answered yes and explained that there were four digesters in total. Mrs. Shrader also mentioned that the crane used would be the largest in North America. Mr. Jackson asked about the manpower required for this job. Mr. Binkerd said that there were probably 12 or so employees of Central and Fruchey that would be present. Mr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to approve the quote as presented. All board members in attendance voted aye. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Logan asked when the work was scheduled. Mrs. Shrader said she thought it would be the first full week of June.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP REPORTS

P. Pinkerton, Assistant Director for Engineering & Solid Waste

Mr. Pinkerton stated that the sewer maintenance crews are busy. Both pumps on 48th Street failed. Dave's was out there hooking up an emergency by-pass so the diesel pump could be used. There should be a pump onsite now waiting to be wired in so there should be one pump hopefully working soon. Mr.





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Pinkerton reported that the Transfer Station saw 954 tons in the month which averaged 60 tons per day. Mr. Pinkerton said this was the heaviest April on record. Mr. Logan asked what might have contributed to the increase. Mr. Pinkerton said he thought it was a lot of C&D. The weather had allowed contractors to start roofing early. Mr. Binkerd said that in the future costs may need to be raised because landfills were increasing their rates which would cause the Solid Waste Utility to operate at a deficit if the tipping fees weren't addressed.

R. Shrader, Assistant Director for Operations & Maintenance

Mrs. Shrader introduced the Wastewater Wizards that attended the Wastewater Challenge. They were Tim Bolden, Anastasia Rosenow, Jessica Stewart, and Mrs. Shrader. There were seven areas of competency tested. Mrs. Rosenow went last year. Mrs. Shrader went two years ago. The Wizards placed third in two areas. Mrs. Shrader said that she volunteered Marion as a possible hosting site for future challenges. Mr. Logan said to let the team know that the Board appreciates them going and representing the organization so well.

C. Binkerd, Utility Director

Mr. Binkerd stated that he couldn't follow that and didn't have anything further to report.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

There were no comments.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mr. Logan thanked everyone for their attendance.

The next meeting was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 1, 2023.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to adjourn the meeting. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 5:58 p.m.

Robert Logan, Chairman
Marion Utilities Service Board

ATTEST


Misty Humphries
Its Secretary

