



## Marion Utilities

1540 N Washington St.  
Marion, IN 46952  
[www.marionutilities.com](http://www.marionutilities.com)

## Service Board

Memo To: All Utility Board Members  
From: Bob Logan, Chairman  
Date: August 3, 2020  
Re: Agenda for August 6, 2020 Utility Board Meeting

Dear Board Member:

This is to inform you of our Board Meeting to be held Thursday, August 6, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the Training Center Building 101 at Marion Utilities, 1540 North Washington Street, Marion, Indiana. Social distancing measures will be in place.

The following will be the agenda:

- I. **ROLL CALL**
- II. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**
- III. **CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS**
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - A. Regular meeting of July 9, 2020
- V. **FINANCIALS**
  - A. June, 2020
- VI. **OLD BUSINESS**
  - A. Update on Projects – P. Pinkerton
  - B. 2818 S. Lincoln Blvd Request for Adjustment- Water Committee





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### VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Transfers & Pay Requests - Senior Leadership Team
- B. Wastewater Tank Lining Quotes- R. Shrader

### VIII. SENIOR LEADERSHIP REPORTS

- A. Assistant Director for Engineering & Solid Waste- P. Pinkerton
- B. Assistant Director for Operations & Maintenance- R. Shrader
- C. Utility Director- C. Binkerd

### IX. BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

### X. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

### XI. NEXT MEETING

**Thursday, August 20, 2020**

Robert Logan, Chairman  
Marion Utility Service Board

cc: News Media  
City Administration/Council  
Department Heads





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## Service Board

### BOARD MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 6, 2020 MEETING

The Marion Utility Service Board held their meeting on Thursday, August 6, 2020 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: Bob Logan, Chairman; Doug Carl; Bill Dorsey; Mia Erickson; Al Green; Von Jackson; and Herschel Lewis.

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.

Mr. Logan began the meeting by welcoming Mia Erickson as a newly appointed member.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS**

There were no additions or deletions.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Carl, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 9, 2020. All board members in attendance voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **FINANCIALS**

Mr. Binkerd presented the financials for June. He noted that it was a positive month overall. There was a loss in the Wastewater Utility due to a large bond & interest payment of \$471,000. Mr. Logan stated that the bond & interest payments were standard. Mr. Binkerd said that everything else looked strong. Mr. Carl moved, seconded by Mr. Lewis, to approve the June financials. All board members in attendance voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Update on Projects – P. Pinkerton**

Mr. Pinkerton reported that the Meridian Street project where the sewer collapsed under the railroad was complete. The total dollar figure was approximately \$112,000 which was less than expected. He said that the cured-in-place projects phases 3 & 4 would be bid the first week of September. As for the Recycling Center, the driveway and loading dock were finished. Mr. Pinkerton stated he was waiting on JG Bowers to cut the door for customers to drive thru.

#### **2818 S. Lincoln Blvd Request for Adjustment- Water Committee**



Mr. Binkerd stated that the Water Committee had a conference call to discuss the adjustment request at 2818 S. Lincoln Boulevard as the issue was outside of the normal administrative authority to make an adjustment. The feeling of the committee was to continue to follow the normal protocols and policies. Mr. Binkerd reminded the Board that the issue involved a swimming pool leak that has been an issue for the last 15 years. No adjustments had been requested or made in the past. Mr. Binkerd said the water had been leaking and going back into our system for treatment. Mr. Carl moved, seconded by Mr. Lewis, to follow the normal protocols and policies and not adjust the bill. All board members in attendance voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Transfers & Pay Requests - Senior Leadership Team**

Mr. Pinkerton presented the first and final pay request to Insight Pipe for \$89,105.70 as well as the release of retainage in the amount of \$4,700. The second pay request presented was also to Insight Pipe for Phase II of the cured-in-place project in the amount of \$170,097.20. This was the first and final pay request on this phase. Mr. Pinkerton asked for the release of retainage in the amount of \$8,950. The last pay requested presented was to Dave's Excavating for the release of retainage in the amount of \$21,339 for the 46<sup>th</sup> Street Storm Sewer project. Mr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Dorsey, to approve the pay requests as presented. All board members in attendance voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Wastewater Tank Lining Quotes- R. Shrader**

Mrs. Shrader explained that in the south plant there was a primary influent channel that had a leaking expansion joint. Mrs. Shrader said this was not a structural concern; however, she didn't want raw sewage leaking out of the tank. Mrs. Shrader said she would like to drain it and line it like the sewers. Quotes were received from TRIVACO in the amount of \$48,893.09 and CONCO Spray Solutions in the amount of \$33,600. Mrs. Shrader said that TRIVACO has not worked on a project before, but CONCO Spray Solutions had. Other contractors were asked for quotes, but they could not do the work. Mr. Dorsey asked where this would be paid from. Mrs. Shrader said that some other expenses would be cut from the budget. She added that there was some money in the 901 account in Wastewater. Mr. Binkerd said that there would not be a budget increase and other projects would be shifted. Mr. Lewis how long the project would take. Mrs. Shrader said she was not sure, but it would be completed before the cold weather arrived. Mr. Green moved, seconded by Mr. Lewis, to approve the \$33,600 quote submitted by CONCO Spray Solutions. All board members in attendance voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **SENIOR LEADERSHIP REPORTS**

##### **P. Pinkerton, Assistant Director for Engineering & Solid Waste**

Mr. Pinkerton reported that Solid Waste hauled 945 tons out of the Transfer Station in July which equaled 52.5 tons per day. Recycling had been going well. Approximately, 60 cars came through on Monday and the numbers were in the 80s on Friday. In total, July saw over 6 tons of recycling come through. Mr. Pinkerton said this was more than double of what was seen with the blue bags. Mr. Carl asked if there were people from the county coming to the Recycling Center. Mr. Pinkerton said that people haven't been asked where they live, but some people had mentioned that it was closer than the Garthwaite location.

##### **R. Shrader, Assistant Director for Operations & Maintenance**

Mrs. Shrader presented some fun pictures of the lime lagoons. She stated it had taken about 15-20 years to get to this point. Mrs. Shrader also presented photos of the new water lab. She remarked that all of the work was done internally. The size of the training room was reduced, and the size of the lab was increased. As for training, Mrs. Shrader reported that the IWEA Conference would be done virtually, but the internal Leadership Training Program had begun again. The Leadership Team would also begin training by reading Crucial Conversations.

### **C. Binkerd, Utility Director**

Mr. Binkerd presented the Board with a proposal from CDM Smith to conduct two studies. The America's Water Infrastructure Act requires communities with water systems that serve over 3,300 people to conduct a study that looks at vulnerability, the reliability of the infrastructure and equipment, and all that is required to produce safe and reliable drinking water. This is a new regulation as of 2018 and must be turned in by June 2021. Mr. Binkerd asked the Board to please look at the proposal for the next meeting. The Indiana Finance Authority (IFA) has begun to require formal Asset Management Plans to be in place. Mr. Binkerd stated that some things, such as assessments, are needed initially to meet the requirements of IFA. Mr. Binkerd explained that it was important to get this done because if a loan was needed from the State Revolving Fund, this would have to be in place. The total for CDM to complete both components was \$115,000. Mr. Binkerd again asked the Board to please look over the proposal so that it could be discussed more at the next meeting. Mr. Binkerd stated that he also wanted to update the Board on the Utilities' efficiency and renewable energy pursuits. He explained that methane gas was created through part of the Wastewater Plant's operation. The big blue sphere holds the methane gas. The gas has been used to create about one-third of energy demand for the plant. Mr. Binkerd stated that Clean Energy Blueprint, whose Principal is Travis Murphy, has been engaged to look for opportunities to be more energy efficient. Mr. Binkerd then reported on revenue trends. He explained that some downward revenue trends had been noticed coming into the plant because COVID-19 had impacted customers' ability to pay. For June, revenue was up a bit from the last couple of months and even from last June. There are still a large number of customers with delinquent accounts that are not paying. The revenues are bumping back up though. Mr. Binkerd stated that Atlas Collections was engaged a couple of meetings ago to assist with collects. When it is appropriate to engage in collections, Atlas will be there to assist. Mr. Binkerd spoke with them about contacting delinquent account holders to assist with in complying with Governor Holcomb's order. The Governor's Order and the IURC are requiring utilities to be more aggressive about contacting delinquent account holders. Mr. Binkerd furthered that Atlas would be working with staff to arrange additional calls, make payment arrangements, and assist with taking payments when needed. Mr. Dorsey asked if this process would take place after August 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Binkerd said that he was not sure if our community would be ready for that. Mr. Binkerd said he would bring this back to the Board at the next board meeting for further discussion as a step plan may be needed. He also mentioned that I&M was planning to start disconnecting delinquents accounts right away, but he was unsure of what Vectren was planning.

### **BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

There were none.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

Mr. Logan reviewed the new committee assignments.

Personnel Committee

Bill Dorsey

Doug Carl

Al Green

Wastewater/Storm Water Committee

Bob Logan

Mia Erickson

Herschel Lewis

Water/Solid Waste Committee

Al Green

Bill Dorsey

Doug Carl

Long Term Control Plan Committee

Doug Carl

Bob Logan

Von Jackson

Mr. Logan asked that the members please let Mr. Binkerd or Mrs. Humphries know if they did not like the potential assignment.

Mr. Logan thanked everyone for their attendance, and again welcomed Mrs. Erickson to the Board. The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, August 20, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the L.E.A.D. Center at Marion Utilities.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

Robert Logan, Chairman  
Marion Utilities Service Board

ATTEST



Misty Humphries

Its Secretary