



Marion Utilities

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

Service Board

Memo To: All Utility Board Members
From: Bob Logan, Chairman
Date: July 6, 2020
Re: Agenda for July 9, 2020 Utility Board Meeting

Dear Board Member:

This is to inform you of our Board Meeting to be held Thursday, July 9, 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 June 18, 2020
- V. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Update on Projects – P. Pinkerton
 - B. COVID-19 Update (Governor’s Executive Order)- C. Binkerd





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VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Transfers & Pay Requests - Senior Leadership Team
- B. 2818 S. Lincoln Blvd Request for Adjustment- C. Binkerd
- C. 38th Street Sewer Boring- P. Pinkerton

VII. 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

VIII. BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

IX. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

X. NEXT MEETING

Thursday, July 23, 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 JULY 9, 2020 MEETING

The Marion Utility Service Board held their meeting on Thursday, July 9, 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; Al Green; and Von Jackson. Herschel Lewis was 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; Misty Humphries, Secretary; Sherry Wright, and Pat Yeakle.

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

There were no additions or deletions.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Dorsey moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of June 18, 2020. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE ON PROJECTS

Mr. Pinkerton reported that Phases I & II of the Cured-in-Place projects awarded to Insight were completed, and Insight had left town. Everything went smooth with the project. Mr. Logan asked about the Lawson Fisher representatives and the work at the 1400 building. Mrs. Shrader said that the representatives were working on part of the Long Term Control Plan.

COVID-19 UPDATE (GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER)

Mr. Binkerd said Order 20-33 had components that were going to affect the Utility. One of the items that pertains to the Utilities involves the disconnect moratorium which was prolonged until August 14th. Mr. Binkerd stated that lost revenue would have to be tracked. Another requirement was to make payment arrangements for at least 6 months and up to 18 months. IURC requires reporting to be done by July 15th and July 27th. Mr. Binkerd stated that phone calls have been made to customers that have past due balances and follow up letters are also scheduled to be mailed out. Mr. Binkerd then presented graphs illustrating pre-COVID revenue versus revenue collected once COVID began to affect the community through present day.



TRANSFERS & PAY REQUESTS

There were no transfer or pay requests.

2818 S. LINCOLN BLVD REQUEST FOR ADJUSTMENT

Ms. Pat Yeakle and Ms. Sherry Wright were in attendance. Ms. Wright said that the current water bill was \$82.00 and the sewage bill was \$167. Ms. Wright stated that she they have a pool at their residence, the pool has leaked into the ground and she didn't understand why they were charged sewage. Ms. Wright stated that her understanding was that toilets use sewage. The pool will hold 25,000 gallons. It has been repaired, it will be refilled, and sewage will be charged again. Ms. Wright stated that she wasn't aware that the pool adjustments had stopped in 2003 either. Mr. Binkerd explained that the policy had changed in 2003 because the water leaves the pool, and seeps into the ground, and goes into the storm water system or wastewater system. Mr. Binkerd stated that the water then has to be treated a second time. He also stated that this was a customary practice amongst utilities. Ms. Wright said that she did not agree with the policy. Her understanding was that the water was treated when it came in. However, when it leaks out and the pool is refilled, they will be charged twice. Ms. Wright asked if the water was treated again when it left. Mr. Binkerd stated that it was. Ms. Wright stated that they were being charged twice. Mr. Binkerd explained that the water is treated before it comes into the house and again when it comes out from the home, and this was a required and regulated practice. Ms. Wright reported that the leak was still trying to be located. They believe it has been found and fixed. However, they have been dealing with this for the last eight years, and paid over \$1,000 in water last year and the two years preceding it for a three-month period. Mr. Dorsey asked if there was anything unusual that was seen this year versus the other years. Ms. Wright said she just moved into the house with her mother. This is the first high bill that Ms. Wright had noticed. Ms. Yeakle stated that her husband had been on the fire department, and they would fill the pool for them so it wasn't an issue in the past. Ms. Wright clarified that the pool filling was done in the 1990s. Mr. Dorsey asked if Ms. Yeakle had noticed a large difference in bills from last year to this year. Ms. Yeakle answered no. Ms. Wright stated that her mother would just pay the bill in the past, but she can no longer afford it as she is living on social security. Mr. Logan assigned the request to the Water Committee.

38TH STREET SEWER BORING

Mr. Pinkerton said after 31 years it finally happened. There was a 15" sewer under the railroad tracks on Meridian Street just north of 38th Street that collapsed. Crews had been working on it for the last two weeks. Café Valley goes through that particular sewer. A pump was set up so that Café Valley did not have to be shut down. Under an emergency situation like this Dave's Excavating came out. They called in Midwest Mole who conducted tests. Mr. Pinkerton said he wanted them to bore through the existing tile and come out the other side. They came very close to getting that done. Long story short, the pump is still out there, but they should be able to break it down tomorrow. It will be an expensive bill. There wasn't time to bid the work. This was handled as a time and material project. Mr. Binkerd said this situation is covered statutorily which would

allow the work to continue without bidding the project as long as the cost and work were reasonable. Mr. Carl asked if Hutamaki fed into the sewer as well. Mr. Pinkerton said that Hutamaki fed into the sewer just north of the collapse. There were five or six customers that were inconvenienced. The lift station pumps for Café Valley had to be shut down temporarily, but they were back up and running quickly. The System Maintenance crews have had some long days and nights though. Mr. Dorsey asked where the money for the repair would come from. Mr. Pinkerton said Wastewater Construction. Mr. Binkerd added that there was \$500,000 budgeted into the Wastewater budget that had not been spent. Since this involved a sanitary sewer, the project could be paid from those funds without creating any issues. Mr. Pinkerton said that he anticipates the bill to be six figures.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP REPORTS

P. Pinkerton, Assistant Director for Engineering & Solid Waste

Mr. Pinkerton reported that last month Solid Waste averaged 54 tons per day and 973 tons for the month. This was the second heaviest month since the Utility's inception. Mr. Pinkerton also reported that the Recycling Center had been very busy. It was shut down on July 3rd for the holiday. The Monday after the holiday brought 99 vehicles through the Recycling Center. Traffic had definitely been picking up. Mr. Carl asked if there were times that people had to be turned away or their items were refused. Mr. Pinkerton said that those moments were used for teaching as staff would explain why the items were not recyclable. Mr. Carl asked if blue bags were still coming in. Mr. Pinkerton answered yes. He explained that some bring their recyclables in the blue bags. He also added that the semi-trailers were being filled about every three weeks which equated to approximately 50 gaylords loaded on the trailer per week. Mr. Pinkerton said it may be less than three weeks before the next semi is filled. Mr. Carl asked if the County workers were helping out. Mr. Binkerd said no, that never worked out. Lori Babb and Blaze Holt are working part time at the Recycling Center and are doing a great job.

R. Shrader, Assistant Director for Operations & Maintenance

Mrs. Shrader shared some photos of a main break on Horton Street. She said that the Distribution crew did a great job in repairing the break as did the other crews who were onsite helping with traffic control. Mrs. Shrader then shared two pictures of biosolids being hauled. She noted that Mark Theel, who often attends board meetings, was in one of the pictures. Mrs. Shrader said there were members of the Water crews that help with hauling. She stated that it has been a fantastic thing to have people cross trained and crews helping each other out. In closing, Mrs. Shrader stated that the Water lab work is coming along and will be finished soon.

C. Binkerd, Utility Director

Mr. Binkerd stated that AWWA requires a Risk and Resiliency study. There will be some costs to put this together. Mr. Binkerd stated that this will be tied into the Indiana Finance Authority's new requirement for a formal Asset Management Plan. Mr. Binkerd

also reported that on July 15th at 7:30 a.m. an employee appreciation breakfast would be held. He invited the Board to attend as well.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

There were no comments at this time.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mr. Logan thanked everyone for their attendance.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 23, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the L.E.A.D. Center, Building 101, at Marion Utilities, 1540 N. Washington Street.

There being no further business before the board, Mr. Carl moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, that the meeting be adjourned. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Robert Logan, Chairman
Marion Utilities Service Board

ATTEST



Misty Humphries
Its Secretary