



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: January 17, 2020
Re: Agenda for January 23, 2020 Utility Board Meeting

Dear Board Member:

This is to inform you of our Board Meeting to be held Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the Training Center Building 101 at Marion Utilities, 1540 North Washington Street, Marion, Indiana.

The following will be the agenda:

- I. **ROLL CALL**
- II. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**
- III. **CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS**
- IV. **APPOINTEMENT OF 2020 VICE-CHAIRMAN**
- V. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. Regular meeting of January 9, 2020
- VI. **FINANCIALS**
 - A. December, 2019
- VII. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Update on Projects – Pinkerton





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VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Transfers & Pay Requests - Senior Leadership Team
- B. 2020 Committee Appointments- B. Logan
- C. Lawson Fisher Annual Contract Renewal- R. Shrader
- D. 1300 Building Floor Project- P. Pinkerton
- E. Final 2019 Budget Revision Requests- Senior Leadership Team

IX. 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

X. BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

XI. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

XII. NEXT MEETING

Thursday, February 6, 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 JANUARY 23, 2020 MEETING

The Marion Utility Service Board held their meeting on Thursday, January 23, 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; Mike Barney; 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; Shana Martin, Accounting & Billing Coordinator; Brad Luzadder, Council Liaison; Misty Humphries, Secretary; and Mark Theel, Marion Utilities.

Mr. Logan began the meeting with a moment of silence in remembrance of Ron McVay, a former board member.

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

There were none.

APPOINTEMENT OF 2020 VICE-CHAIRMAN

Mr. Logan appointed Mr. Carl as Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Carl accepted, and thanked Mr. Logan and the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Dorsey moved, seconded by Mr. Barney, to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of January 9, 2020. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIALS

Ms. Martin presented the financials for December, 2019. Ms. Martin said that there was a large loss. For all of the Utilities, the disbursements were higher than usual. Because insurance carrier was changed, there were two insurance payments that occurred in the same month. United's December invoice was for \$106,623.77; and Anthem's January invoice totaled \$102,305.11. Ms. Martin stated that there was an interest payment on the bond in Wastewater. The interest payment was for six months. Storm Water Construction made a payment for the 46th & Carey in Storm Water project. Storm Water also purchased a new Vactor. Mr. Binkerd added that all of the large disbursements were approved by the Board. There being no further questions, Mr. Carl moved, seconded by Mr. Barney, to approve the December, 2019 financials. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.



UPDATE ON PROJECTS

Mr. Pinkerton reported that there were some projects in design and quotes on the 1400 Building's Floor project would be presented later in the meeting.

Transfers & Pay Requests

There were no transfer or pay requests at this time.

2020 Committee Appointments

Mr. Logan presented the 2020 committee appointments. He said that if everyone was comfortable with the assignments, the appointments would stand. If any changes were needed, Mr. Logan asked that Mr. Binkerd or Mrs. Humphries be contacted. There were no comments by the Board regarding the appointments.

Lawson Fisher Annual Contract Renewal

Mrs. Shrader presented the annual contract renewal for Lawson Fisher. She explained that this is done at the beginning of each year. The contract details a per hour rate for others that need to be worked with on the Long Term Control Plan. Mr. Logan added that Lawson Fisher had been a long-time vendor. Mr. Green moved, seconded by Mr. Carl, to approve the annual contract. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

1300 Building Floor Project

Mr. Pinkerton said that in 2020 a partial floor replacement for the 1300 building was budgeted. The 1300 building serves as a storage location for the Solid Waste trucks. Soon after the building's purchase, it was discovered that the concrete floor was only two inches thick and was compacting. It has continued to compact even more. There were three quotes submitted. Keith Sullivan quoted \$59,514.55; Dave's Excavating quoted \$66,700; and Bragg Excavating quoted \$79,047.71. Mr. Pinkerton recommended accepting the low quote of Keith Sullivan. Mr. Logan asked what the timeframe for completion was. Mr. Pinkerton said it would be soon as the contractors wanted to work on it now while weather was still cold outside. Mr. Jackson moved, seconded by Mr. Carl, to accept the Keith Sullivan's quote in the amount of \$59,514.55. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Final 2019 Budget Revision Requests

Mr. Binkerd explained that at the first of the year, the final budget revisions for the previous year are presented to close the year out with a balanced budget for each line item. Mr. Binkerd explained that Mrs. Shrader and Mr. Pinkerton had prepared the necessary transfers for each line item. The spending for 2019 did not exceed the approved budget. The transfers are being made only to close the budget year with each year line balanced, and for each increase there is a corresponding decrease. Mr. Logan added that this is a standard clean-up that is completed each year and is performed for accounting clean-up purposes only. Mr. Logan asked if there were any questions regarding the revision requests. There were no questions. Mr. Dorsey moved, seconded by Mr. Green, to approve the 2019 budget revision requests as presented. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP REPORTS

P. Pinkerton, Assistant Director Engineering & Solid Waste

Mr. Pinkerton said that the recycling disposal costs were \$750-\$770 per ton for 2019. Mr. Pinkerton stated that this may be a good time to start discussions about recycling options. Mr. Pinkerton said that there were some possibilities of working with the County. The problem is the quality of the items received. Not

all of the items received are recyclable items. If a change were made, costs for recycling bags could be decreased. Mr. Pinkerton added that Solid Waste ended the year in the black which was not the case for the previous year. Mr. Dorsey asked if any revenue was being made from recycling. Mr. Pinkerton said no. Mr. Binkerd added that the recycling market is no longer there as it was years ago. Mr. Dorsey said that there are issues with non-recyclable items being in the blue bags which contaminates the entire bag as well as containers not being cleaned as required. Mr. Dorsey asked what feedback the recycling vendor had regarding these issues. Mr. Pinkerton said there was no feedback; however, contaminated items are taken to the landfill or MERF by the recycling vendor. The vendor is charging us premium tipping fees for recycling even though the items are not actually being recycled. Mr. Pinkerton said that if a large item comes in that is metal, the item is separated and will be sent for metal recycling which may generate a small revenue. Mr. Dorsey furthered that another issue is customers' beliefs that they are recycling correctly; however, they are not. According to Mr. Pinkerton, the biggest misconception seems to center around pizza boxes. Pizza boxes are not recyclable. Mr. Binkerd told the board about China's refusal to accept recyclable goods any longer and how that has affected the market. This has caused a lot of larger cities to no longer offer recycling services to their communities. Mr. Binkerd said that he would like to meet with the Solid Waste Committee to discuss recycling and then bring a proposal back to the full board at a future meeting. Mr. Jackson asked if there was research being done on plastics at the moment. Mr. Binkerd said there is a lot of talk regarding plastics. If it is not the right kind of plastic or the plastic is not clean when it comes in, it cannot be recycled. Mr. Barney asked about the costs for recycling correctly with sorting facilities. Mr. Pinkerton said that if labor costs are not covered from the recyclable items then it is not worth it. Mr. Barney asked if it helped when industrial facilities help with recycling efforts by sorting. Mr. Binkerd said that is helpful, but recycling will never be a money maker. Mr. Binkerd said that there are options for recycling in a meaningful way. However, a change in the recycling process would mean that customers would need to do some things different. Trucks would not be able to maintain curbside recycling and do it properly. Mr. Carl asked if Mr. Pinkerton knew the number of people actually recycling. Mr. Pinkerton said that there were 33 tons of recycling last year versus the 10,000 tons of solid waste. He does not know the actual number of people though. Mr. Carl asked if people were using blue bags for trash. Mr. Pinkerton said yes. When some customers come in to get the blue recycling bags, the customer will ask where the free trash bags are. Mr. Carl asked if the number of customers coming in had ever been counted. Mr. Pinkerton said yes and he could get those numbers for the board. Mr. Pinkerton and Mr. Binkerd said that it is hard to police as people will come in and get them for their neighbor, elderly parents, and then there are others who use them at apartment complexes. Mr. Binkerd said that it all adds up to a lot of recycling costs.

R. Shrader, Assistant Director for Operations & Maintenance

Mrs. Shrader reported that next week is an exciting week. The new Water Operator starts, it is the AWWA conference, and a centrifuge will be onsite for testing bio-solids. Everything else is about wrapping up 2019 and getting ready for 2020.

Utility Director

Mr. Binkerd said he had a good meeting with the West Point Neighborhood Association on Tuesday. They talked about recycling. They are a great group and are active in their area. Mr. Binkerd said he always appreciates being able to work with the neighborhood associations. Mr. Binkerd also reported that a safety officer had been contacted. She will be onsite for a debriefing tomorrow morning. Mr. Binkerd said that the Personnel Committee would be contacted regarding a meeting for the Policy Manual. Mr. Binkerd said that there are also a couple of job descriptions to review.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Mr. Dorsey made a recommendation to send Mr. McVay's family flowers.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mr. Logan suggested that the Solid Waste Committee meet soon regarding the items discussed at tonight's meeting. Mr. Logan also welcomed to Mr. Luzadder and expressed his appreciation for Mr. Luzadder's attendance.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 6, 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. Green moved, seconded by Mr. Carl, that the meeting be adjourned. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Robert Logan, Chairman
Marion Utilities Service Board

ATTEST



Misty Humphries
Its Secretary