

Minutes

Meeting of the Water Utility Board

January 8th, 2024, 1:00pm

Agenda items 1-6: *Call to Order, Establish quorum, Town Council Liaison, Guests/Advisory Members, Approve minutes of 12/4/23 meeting, Approve/Amend Agenda.* The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm. In attendance at SVR Town Hall were Steve Crandall, Chairman; Chris Rok, Regular Member; Marty Aroian, Regular Member; Mayor Kathleen Buyer, Town Council Liaison; Boyd Siddoway, Advisory Member; Willie from the Department of Public Works and David Sankaran, Chairman of the Finance Board. Regular members Lee Hanse and Frank Young joined the meeting later via Zoom.

Minutes of meeting held December 4th, 2023 were approved by 3-0 vote. The Chairman proposed that a discussion of the Objectives of the Water Utility Board be added to the current agenda. The agenda was then approved by 3-0 vote.

Agenda item 7a: *Discussion of operator error which led to the Labor Day water outage.* A member of the Public Works department was not in attendance at this time, so the discussion of this item was deferred.

Agenda item 7b: *Status of Corrective Action Plan submitted 11/14/2023.* The Mayor stated that the EPA did not accept all of the items in the Corrective Action plan. The proposed shock treatment of the water system was not accepted. The installation of additional testing taps should be completed by the end of the month. All other requirements in the corrective action plan have been completed. The testing protocol was not able to isolate the source of the total coliform contamination. It does not appear to be coming from the Green Canyon tank as was originally thought. Lining the tank is still an option

but no longer a requirement of the EPA. The spring and the wells were also found not to be the source. The contamination appears to be isolated in the Green Canyon service area and not in the area serviced by the Prater Canyon tanks. The question was asked if the cause could be backflow through the anti-siphon valves. Both the Mayor and the Public Works director thought this to be unlikely. The Public Works operators believe the source would likely be found in the Vista Drive area where piping is scheduled to be replaced.

Chlorination was started as recommended by the EPA. The Midwest Assistance Program has been fully involved in the chlorination calculations and continues to work with the licensed water operators. Testing has shown that chlorine is reaching all areas of the water system. The chlorination process is automated, so it does not require much staff time to operate. After the Vista Dr project is completed, the EPA will allow us to retest and potentially discontinue chlorination. The Mayor reported that several residents of the Town had called to thank her for chlorinating the water system and wish it to continue.

Agenda item 7c: *Midwest Assistance Program progress on Procedure Manual and Water Emergency Plan.* The Midwest Assistance Program offered to assist the Town in the development of a Procedure Manual to be used by the Public Works Department as well as an update of the Town Water Emergency Plan. No communication has been received from them concerning the progress of these projects.

Agenda item 7d: *SCADA data.* Boyd Siddoway has met with both the Public Works employees and Forsgren Engineering regarding the SCADA data. The public works employees successfully use the SCADA system daily in the operation of the water system. The efficiency reports generated by the interface software, however, seem to continually show unexplainable discrepancies in pumps being run to fill tanks when there should be enough water generated by the spring. Discrepancies also appear when the total volume generated by the system is compared to

billing information. The accuracy of the sensors monitoring the system was again brought into question, but the Public Works director felt that sensors usually become inoperative rather than inaccurate. He also stated that a significant amount of water was lost in the operation of the pumps. Boyd stated that inaccuracies in the data may also be introduced by the manner in which the software compiles the data. Much research will need to be done to make this report a reliable tool.

Agenda item 8a: *Water rate setting tool.* A rework of the rate setting tool previously used by the board was sent out to board members for review. The goal of the rework was to enable those involved in rate setting to visualize the logic of the tool more easily. A new tool for rate setting is in development by the rate committee.

Agenda item 8b: *EPA Polyfluorinated alkyl substances (Pfas) regulations.* The EPA concern regarding Pfas substances (Polyfluorinated alkyl substances) found in water system nationwide was presented. Since they are considered a health hazard, EPA will likely require testing and perhaps filtering if found. Regulations were to be finalized at the end of 2023. This may be a concern for the Town in the future.

Agenda item 8c: *Objectives of the Water Utility Board.* Objectives of the Water Utility Board will be the subject of our February 5th meeting. The goal of the meeting will be to establish areas of focus which will become a template for our agendas. The chairman will send out thoughts on the subject to begin the discussion and requests that board members review them and give feedback prior to the meeting in February.

The next meeting of the Water Utility Board will be held Monday, February 5th, 2024, 1:00pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm

Minutes prepared by Steve Crandall