

**Delaware County Regional Wastewater District
Board of Trustees**

July 11, 2018

Members present: President R. Maynard, Mr. R. Parsons, Mr. P. Olson, Mr. J. Brooke, Mr. R. Hensley, Mr. L. Crouch and Mrs. B. Ragland.

Ex-Officio Member: Mr. J. Turner, Del. Co. Health Dept.

Staff present: Attorney D. Struble, Director J. Richards, and Mrs. P. Ring.

Others present: Mr. Rob Bellucci, Mr. Al Stong and Mr. Wayne Bailey, Commonwealth Engineers

President Maynard opened the meeting at 3:00 P.M.

Mr. Brooke motioned to approve the June 6th, 2018 meeting minutes. Mrs. Ragland seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Parsons moved to approve the claims from June 1st through June 30th, 2018 totaling \$317,716.22. Mr. Brooke seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

Director Richards reported everything is going smooth in the office and in the field. Delinquency amounts are down from \$80,316.27 to \$48,969.61 over all four districts due to the new collections ordinance. He presented two bids to the Board for outsourcing billing along with the cost savings of not hiring another employee. West Jay's bid is \$41,496.00; we would need different software, and F&E Payment Pros' bid is \$25,488.00; we are already set up with them for web and e-check payments. **Mr. Brooke motioned to table the quotes until next meeting so the Board may study them. Mr. Crouch seconded. Motion passed 7-0.**

Attorney Struble reported she was contacted by our IURC counsel and asked whether we have ever had a rate consultant look at the rates we are getting charged by MSD. She stated it would be a good idea to seek rate a consultant to do an evaluation of Muncie Sanitary District's rates they are charging us before we respond in IURC. **Mr. Brooke motioned to have Crowe Horwath LLP do an evaluation of Muncie Sanitary District's rates they are charging us for treatment. Mr. Crouch seconded. Roll call vote: President R. Maynard, yes; Mr. R. Parsons, yes; Mr. P. Olson, yes; Mr. J. Brooke, yes; Mr. R. Hensley, yes; Mr. L. Crouch, yes; and Mrs. B. Ragland, yes. Motion passed 7-0.** Mr. Brooke will make contact with Crowe Horwath LLC.

Mr. Olson stated the personnel committee finalized most of the edits to the personnel plan and will get together either in late July or the first of August to go over everything one last time and then will get it to the Board for review. The feeling from the consultants is that Salary is possibly not the correct place for Mrs. Ring to be so more discussion will be had regarding that issue.

Mr. Bill Walters, Town of Daleville addressed the Board. He asked where the Board was in making a decision regarding the lines in Daleville. President Maynard explained H.J. Umbaugh is completing a rate study and it will be finished by July 23rd; we will know more regarding Daleville at that time.

Commonwealth Engineers shared their monthly Progress/Status Report with the Board. This report is attached to the minutes. **Mr. Brooke motioned to authorize Commonwealth Engineering to proceed with the PER for the projects in Westbrook and Royerton. Mr. Crouch seconded. Motion passed 7-0.**

In 2017 Royerton residents filed a petition with the County Commissioners to appeal the rates charged to them by the District; the County Commissioners then hired an accounting firm to do an audit of the District's rates. The Commissioner's Findings of Fact report received today showed they modified the residential rate in Royerton and DeSoto by decreasing it by \$5.00 for the residential customers. Either side has the ability to file an appeal challenging the decision in Delaware County Circuit Court. **Mr. Brooke motioned the District not appeal the Commissioner's Finding of Fact report modifying the Royerton/DeSoto residential rates. Mr. Crouch seconded. Roll call vote: President R. Maynard, yes; Mr. R. Parsons, yes; Mr. P. Olson, yes; Mr. J. Brooke, yes; Mr. R. Hensley, yes; Mr. L. Crouch, yes; and Mrs. B. Ragland, yes. Motion passed 7-0. Mr. Brooke motioned to accept the County Commissioner's modification and reduce the residential rates for Royerton and DeSoto respectively from 102.69 and 88.04 to 97.69 and 83.04. Mr. Crouch seconded.** Mr. Olson asked if we need to have a second rate study done as some point because this is going to limit our cash flow; Muncie raised their rates and so we raised rates. Mr. Brooke stated that is why Crowe did the analysis for the commissioners; we have taken steps to reduce costs. President Maynard stated in the future we may need to. Mr. Ragland asked how many businesses would be affected. Mr. Brooke replied none because their rates will remain the same. Mrs. Ragland asked how to explain to them how their rate is not going to drop. Mr. Brooke stated businesses can pass that cost on, residential customers can't. President Maynard stated the appeal only applied to the residential customers. The new rates for Royerton and DeSoto are to start July billing. **Roll call vote: President R. Maynard, yes; Mr. R. Parsons, yes; Mr. P. Olson, yes; Mr. J. Brooke, yes; Mr. R. Hensley, yes; Mr. L. Crouch, yes; and Mrs. B. Ragland, yes. Motion passed 7-0.**

Mr. Stong reported on the 600 W lift station in Westbrook. He stated the station is in need of control upgrades to the electrical systems which will allow two pumps to be ran at the same time without being manually switched over and will increase gallons per minute of flow. It provides an automatic backup and no loss of service as required by IDEM. **Mr. Olson motioned to make the improvements to the 600 W lift station in the amount of \$34,000.00. Mr. Crouch seconded. Motion passed 7-0.**

Mr. Stong presented the Preliminary Engineering Report for a treatment plant; possibly joint with Liberty Regional, to the Board. This presentation is attached to the minutes.

Mrs. Hayworth, her mother lives in the Royerton area, addressed the Board. She is concerned about the cost of the bill.

Mr. Hillary, Country Village board member, addressed the Board. He appreciates the information from the Board.

Hearing no further comments, President Maynard adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ray Maynard". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Mr. R. Maynard, President