

South Sangamon Water Commission
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
January 21, 2025
Water Plant, 9199 Buckhart Road, Rochester IL

Commissioners:

Present: Jim Roth, Dave Johnson

Absent: Cindy Morris

Quorum: yes

Others Present:

Stephen Bivin and Autumn Tibbs (SSWC); Randy Segatto (Barber, Segatto, et. al.); and Max Middendorf (MECO).

Proceedings:

- The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Jim Roth, and roll was taken.

Operating Report:

- Stephen Bivin gave report and discussed highlights of the December 2024 report. The total gallons pumped from the well field was 42 million gallons of water and almost 38 million in finished water. Sampling was within limits.

- We had a little bit of a manganese problem but it has been fixed. We ordered pumps to replace the brine pumps.

- Stephen reported on the Cardinal Hill Road leak. It has been fixed.

- Stephen reported on Well #9 that has a bad check valve. We lost power for a very short time and Well #9 shut off and started backfeeding. Well #9 is valved out right now.

- Stephen reported on check valves. Three have gone out in the last three months that need replaced. He is recommending that from now until we get them all replaced, anytime we pull a well for cleaning, we will replace the check valve as well. Current check valves are stainless steel and are about \$10,000 each. It has been recommended to him that we go with ductal because the check valve will fail before the casing will fail. Pricing for ductal are about \$1,700 each. If we order 10, to have on the shelf, we could get for about \$1,000 each. Commissioners discussed.

MOTION by Roth, second by Johnson to purchase 10 check valves not to exceed \$12,000.

Roll call vote: Morris – absent Johnson – yes Roth - yes Motion carried.

Engineering Reports:

- Max Middendorf reported on and provided Pay Application #5, for the Well #11 project, for \$142,563.40. They still have final testing to do and will need to have the contractor bring in a generator to test and evaluate the mechanicals. Joe Lee stopped in the plant with his trencher but they weren't ready for trenching yet.

Commissioners reviewed the Pay Application #5.

MOTION by Roth, second by Johnson to approve Pay Application #5 for \$142,563.40.

Roll call vote: Morris – absent Johnson – yes Roth - yes Motion carried.

- Jamie Headen did not attend but provided an email with an update on the SSWC Emergency Valve Vault project. It is close to being 100% complete.

Public Comments:

- There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION by Johnson, second by Roth to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2024 regular meeting as presented.

Voice vote: Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

- Autumn Tibbs reported that December's financial report printouts were provided for review. There is nothing out of the ordinary to report.

- Autumn reported on the IMRF rate for 2025. It is down from last year. The 2024 rate was 7.14%. The 2025 rate is 6.99%

- Autumn reported on a FOIA request received on behalf of the City of Springfield. Our response was originally due Friday 1/17/25. An extension of time to respond was requested. The new due date is Friday 1/24/25. Autumn and Stephen have been working together on the answers. We don't anticipate any problem with being able to respond by the 1/24/25 due date.

- Autumn reported that her and Stephen have started working on our FY26 Budget. Stephen and Autumn will meet with Commissioner Roth, to discuss and make any changes, on Wednesday 1/29/25.

Approval for Payment of Invoices:

- Autumn Tibbs reported that the vendor payable's printout was provided for review.
- Commissioners reviewed a list of payable items totaling \$108,109.38.

MOTION by Roth, second by Johnson to approve payment of all invoices as listed.

Roll call vote: Morris – absent Johnson – yes Roth - yes Motion carried.

Approval for Prepayments:

- Autumn Tibbs reported that a list of prepayments made was provided for review. These are vendors that are not on the vendor payable's printout. They are not on the vendor payable's printout because (1) it is automatically deducted from our checking account every month and therefore no check is necessary or (2) it is a timing issue where the actual bill is not available until after our board meeting but it is due before our next board meeting.

- Commissioners reviewed a list of prepayments made 12/13/24 – 1/16/25 totaling \$506.10.

MOTION by Johnson, second by Roth to approve payment of all prepayments listed.

Roll call vote: Morris – absent Johnson – yes Roth - yes Motion carried.

Approval of Ordinance #25-1:

- Commissioners discussed Ordinance #25-1 regarding a temporary reduction in wholesale water rates (from \$9.28 per thousand gallons to \$8.68). We did not receive a waiver of the 60-day notice requirement from all four wholesale customers therefore the reduction will be effective 3/1/25 – 4/30/25. If all four wholesale customers would have waived before today's meeting, the reduction could have been effective 2/1/25.

MOTION by Johnson, second by Roth to approve a temporary reduction in wholesale water rates, from \$9.28 per thousand gallons to \$8.68, effective 3/1/25 – 4/30/25.

Roll call vote: Morris – absent Johnson – yes Roth - yes Motion carried.

Approval of Resolution #25-1:

- Commissioners discussed Resolution #25-1 regarding amending our paid sick leave policy to include earning sick time in all months of the year (and no longer excluding April and October) but at the same yearly rate/total.

- Autumn Tibbs reported that this is just a housekeeping issue. We should have amended our paid sick leave policy when we amended our paid vacation policy several months ago. Zumbahlen et al has taken over our payroll responsibilities and their system has no way to exclude certain months.

MOTION by Roth, second by Johnson to approve amending our paid sick leave policy.

Roll call vote: Morris – absent Johnson – yes Roth - yes Motion carried.

Old Business:

- Autumn Tibbs gave an update on the E-Pay program through the Illinois State Treasurer's Office. This is a free program that we can utilize for our customers to be able to pay their water bills online. We have completed our application with the Treasurer's Office. They need us to sign their Merchant Service Agreement to move forward. Commissioner Roth will sign tonight.

New Business:

None.

Executive Session:

None.

Adjournment:

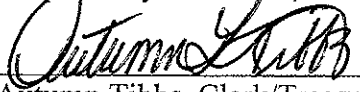
- The next regular meeting of the South Sangamon Water Commission would be held Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at the water plant, 9199 Buckhart Road, Rochester, Illinois at 5:30 p.m.

MOTION by Johnson, second by Roth to adjourn.

Voice vote: Motion carried.

- The meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Autumn Tibbs, Clerk/Treasurer