

NORTH LITTLE ROCK WASTEWATER TREATMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2022

A meeting of the North Little Rock Wastewater Treatment Committee was held on Tuesday, June 14, 2022, at the administrative offices located at the Faulkner Lake Treatment Plant.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Matthews at approximately 12:12 p.m. The roll was called, and a quorum was present. Those in attendance at the meeting were Mr. K.W. Matthews, Mr. Ed Nelson, Ms. Karen Bryant and Mr. Gabe Stephens. Also in attendance were Mr. Michael Clayton, Director, Ms. Gina Briley, Mr. Richard Penn, City Engineer with the City of Sherwood, Ms. Jane Ginn, Alderwoman for the City of North Little Rock, Mr. Scott Hilburn with Hilburn & Harper, Ltd. and Dawn Harmon.

First, Chairman Matthews presented a plaque to Brian Kirkendall and commended him for his thirty years of service to the Utility.

The Committee reviewed the minutes of its May 10, 2022, meeting. After review, a motion was made by Mr. Stephens, seconded by Mr. Nelson, to approve the May 10, 2022, minutes as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Next, the Committee reviewed the cash disbursements for the month of May 2022. There being no questions or comments, a motion was made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Mr. Stephens, to approve the cash disbursements for May 2022 reflecting total cash disbursements of \$2,054,084.05 and fund transfers between accounts of \$1,691,100.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Upon motion made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Ms. Bryant, the Committee unanimously approved the Financial Statement for May 2022.

The Committee then discussed the contract for renewal of health care services received from Change Center for Health. The current contract will expire June 30, 2022. Health care services provided include immunization, routine office visits, annual physicals, and lab tests. Also provided are services for the Utility for pre-employment physicals, department of transportation physicals and flu vaccines. The agreement has an annual cost of \$39,768.00 (same price as last year) for the period July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. The cost is included in the 2022 budget in the amount of \$41,800.00. It was asked if this contract covered drug testing. Ms.

Briley explained that the tests are performed at the time of the yearly physical and for drug and alcohol testing as the WCC randomly selects 2 or 3 employees each quarter for testing. A motion was then made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Ms. Bryant, to authorize the staff to enter a contract with the Change Center for Health at a cost of \$39,768.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Matthews then asked the Committee to consider an additional 1% to 3% pay raise for the approximately 90 Utility employees. Chairman Matthews added that due to the increase in fuel costs, food and general cost of living, this would be a great assist to the Utility employees. It was noted that one, maybe two employees had to quit due to rising fuel prices because they live so far from work. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Mr. Stephens, to approve an additional 2% increase to each employee effective July 1, 2022. The motion carried unanimously. Ms. Briley added that she is working on a revised budget which will be presented at the next meeting.

Director Clayton then called to the attention of the Committee, the Director's Highlights attached to the Agenda dated June 10, 2022, specifically the issues with Union Pacific Railroad and the SOS numbers. Mr. Nelson then requested a 5-year trend on SSO's.


There being no further action to come before the Committee, a motion was made by Mr. Nelson to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:45 p.m.

Upon adjournment, Mr. Gene Pfeifer presented himself and asked to address the Committee. He introduced himself and stated he had been a long-time business owner and developer in the City of North Little Rock. He added that he worked with the Utility to establish an emergency back door policy with the Utility which gives the Utility access to its property through Mr. Pfeifer's property. However, the plan to expand the sewer pond development at White Oak has Mr. Pfeifer concerned with all the development and expansion he has brought to the North Shore Business Park, located in the same area. He asked the Committee to reconsider its current plan.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


K. W. MATTHEWS, CHAIRMAN

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,


SYLVESTER SMITH,
VICE-CHAIRMAN/SECRETARY