

**WATER BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Regular Meeting**

**May 14, 2018**

**4:00 PM**

**Location: 1208 South 7<sup>th</sup> St.**

**Agenda**

1. Approve Agenda.
2. Approve minutes of the April 11, 2018 regular meeting.
3. Approve invoices and Financial Statements.
4. Customer Forum.
5. Discussion of wastewater operations.
6. General Manager's update.
7. Updates from members of the Board of Trustees.
8. Adjourn.

## **INFORMATION CONCERNING AGENDA ITEMS:**

### **Agenda Item #4**

Chair – Please read this statement to the audience.

“This is the item reserved to receive comments from the community, our customers, for concerns whether or not they are included in the current agenda. The community is encouraged to come and speak before the Water Board of Trustees and asked to keep statements brief. Any questions are to be asked of the Water Department staff and Board of Trustee members prior to speaking to the full Board of Trustees so concerns may be properly researched and answered away from the meeting. Comments are to be directed to the Board of Trustees only.”

### **Agenda item #5**

*Collection System Operations;*

Staff have met with engineers from Garden & Associates multiple times to discuss different collection system projects including South D Street replacement to Phase 2 and Phase 3 collection CIP projects. They have dealt with the jetter/vac truck breaking down multiple times and being towed to Bill & Ray's and trying to get it repaired only to have another issue come up. At this point we have not been able to get a full day in the collection system jetting without a breakdown occurring. It has been determined that the PTO shafts on the transmission have failed and need to be replaced. Staff at Bill & Ray's were checking on prices and have recommended that we replace the transmission at a cost of \$13,000 versus repair it for a comparable price. As of this writing we are waiting on PO approval before moving forward. We were able to get the County's shop pit cleaned out in between one of the breakdowns. Staff were able to wrap up grease trap inspections. There are a couple of facilities that still need to install grease traps and we are working with them to help accomplish that goal. Staff responded to alarm call-outs at the lift stations during rain events that have occurred during the last month. They have looked into sewer complaints at 1006 Penn Boulevard, South B and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue West, American Inn, and 410 South 1<sup>st</sup> Street, while also inspecting sewer disconnections for various demolitions around town. Staff have investigated different sink holes that are appearing and if they are determined to be homeowner issues, letters have been sent informing those owners of the need for repair. If they are determined to be City issues, we are working with local contractors to get pricing so we can get POs issued and get the needed repairs made. Staff repaired a sewer main on North A that had been damaged, worked with the contractor from Phase I Division I who had removed old manholes to determine if those sections and castings were worth keeping and reusing. The transfer switch at the west end lift station is acting up and staff met with Francis Electric, the contractor who installed the new generator, to resolve the problem. The lift station for World Foods has a pump down and in order to change it out we will need to replace three different valves, all of the original valves are stuck in place and cannot be shut down. We are working on pricing of materials for the replacement. Staff ordered a new gas monitor for entering manholes as one of the old ones had failed and could not be repaired. They worked on the list provided by

Garden & Associates of collection system problem areas such as manhole rings and covers that need to be replaced as part of the I&I reduction plan. Staff are getting prices of new rings and lids to replace ones that were identified as deficient so we can continue to work towards eliminating I&I from the system. They worked with the contractor completing work for Phase I Division II who has had some unexpected issues arise within the collection system as spot repairs are being made. On C Avenue East there is a manhole with water main running through it that is not being replaced, and we are not sure why. I have inquired and can share that later when more information is available. There was a pre-construction meeting Thursday the 10<sup>th</sup> for the South D Street project to get things kicked off. The contractor will begin mobilizing on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

*Plant Operations:*

Staff have worked to demolish old blower pumps so that the new air compressor could be installed in their place. They have worked with vendors to obtain pricing on a few pumps that are scheduled to be replaced and when possible have put in POs and been able to order some of those replacement pumps. They also worked with vendors to find pricing on replacing the grit tank at the northeast plant, this work will be done within the report issued by Fox Engineering for short term plant improvements. Another area that will be identified in that report is the replacement of the digester boiler. This boiler has had needed repairs completed in the last couple of years, but the internals are worn out and replacement is being recommended at this time. Staff replaced rubbers on the skimmer arms for all of the clarifiers, cleaned out the scum beaches, cleaned rags out of the sludge tank and the grit pump at the northeast plant, cleaned clarifier units at both locations, replaced some lights at the north plant, and had a safety walk through with City Safety Committee staff. Staff were able to get Cornerstone Excavating in to replace the sludge line at the southwest plant. This was a capital project. They worked with Overbergen Electric to determine the problem they were having with the sludge transfer pump and get it working again and in that same building noticed the backflow preventer was having problems as well. They are currently waiting on pricing before moving ahead with replacement of that unit as well. Sludge has been hauled from the northeast plant and Oskaloosa Food Products throughout the month. Plant grounds were prepped for mowing as there was gravel that had been pushed into the grass over the winter and the grounds were then mowed. A seasonal hire was made to complete the mowing for the next couple of months. He started May 7<sup>th</sup> and is having an immediate impact. The air conditioning for one of the control rooms at the north plant was having problems and staff from Cunningham's were able to come in and complete the needed repairs. The rain we received meant that both plants started to alarm and staff responded to those alarms. At the north plant there was a PLC card that had failed and would not allow the pumps to send the extra water to the EQ basin. Jetco staff came in and repurposed an unused PLC card to temporarily fix the issue. At the southwest plant one of the aeration basins is in need of being drained and cleaned. Staff are working to gather pricing on replacement nozzles so that we can order some and have them on-hand before we drain that unit. We also had

students from William Penn University's Public Health class come out for a tour of the southwest plant. This is the second year that we have provided tours for this class.

*Storm Water Operations:*

The intersection of South 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue East has been flooding and staff found that the storm sewer was partially blocked due to offset pipe. There was electric, fiber and telecom that were directionally drilled in for the new fire station and caused the upheaval. We will work with MidAmerican as they were the ones that did the horizontal drilling work. We unplugged storm intakes on C Avenue East, North Park, out in the industrial park, and other ones that have been noted over the years as problematic. They televised the storm sewer out at the school, looked into the sinkhole next to the storm intake out by Interpower, and cleaned out a dead-end manhole on 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue West. Staff replaced lids on storm intakes by the Christian school and North B and B Avenue West. They also cleaned up an area near a storm water discharge on South Market and looked into a water leak in a storm sewer line on North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.

**Agenda Item #6**

*Distribution System Operations:*

There were no water main breaks this last month but staff did excavate for a potential leak on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue East to find that it was a leaking service line to a house that had not had an active account since 2005. We tried to contact the property owners to no avail and subsequently shut off the corporation and disconnected the service line. Staff have finished installing and making all connections on the South F Street project, hooked up the service lines for the dog park and graded and seeded the entire length of the project. We have been working on GPSing the water system as we continue to complete other work duties. There was a pre-construction meeting Thursday the 10<sup>th</sup> for the South D Street project to get things kicked off. The contractor will begin mobilizing on May 21<sup>st</sup>. At this point, there shouldn't be any invoices for work until sometime in June which will be paid out of next year's budget. The contractor who will be cleaning and painting the water towers is supposed to be here mid-month to start on one of the towers. This project was also originally scheduled for completion by the end of May, but the weather has played a part in the delay. Due to the delayed start and then also the delayed payments, we will need to amend next year's budget during our budgeting process. Staff have rebuilt the valve at the intersection of C Avenue East and North Park before work began on the sewer main on C Avenue East because the contractor was going to need to shut down the main and reroute it around a couple of manholes. They have also been there to assist during the different shutdowns that have occurred. Staff flushed hydrants this last month and then compiled the list of needed repairs so that they can begin making those repairs. The water quality complaints stopped after we were able to get the system flushed.

*Plant Operations:*

Cahoy Well and Pump have pulled wells 27, 28, and 33. Well 33 had a broken shaft and the pump has in bad shape. We will be replacing this particular pump, which had been a vertical

turbine pump, with a submersible pump. All 3 wells will be cleaned and 27 and 28 will be rehabilitated as it has been quite some time since they were last cleaned. The plant continues to have stable operations with the occasional hiccup here and there. We had contractors out at the plant removing overgrowth and volunteer trees around the pond on the hillside. They have also mowed for the first time now that the weather has turned around. The furnace and air conditioner unit at the plant house are being replaced in the middle of May. The current units are from 1988 and have outlived their useful life span. We also had William Penn students out at the plant for a tour and a discussion about how we help protect public health through water treatment.

*Office Operations:*

We had 55 shut-offs this last month. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> month in a row with lower numbers, hopefully we can continue this trend. As you have seen in your reports our water sales are lagging behind our budgeted estimates, our overall revenue is still close to target as we have seen increases in other areas to help offset the drop in consumption. Crystal has been working with Justin to monitor the distribution budget so that we can order some materials to have on-hand and still stay within budgeted resources.

**Agenda Item #7**

This is an item for members of the Board to provide updates or request future agenda items.