

**RED SULPHUR PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT**  
**REGULAR SCHEDULED**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2021**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Kevin Belcher called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Present: Kevin Belcher, Robert Williams Sr., Bobby Harvey

Also, in attendance: Porter Robertson,

Zach Wright, Jonathan Carpenter, and Derek Johnson with Thrasher. Jeremiah Tuggle and Rick Chitwood with T & L. Jason Ballard with Headley Ballard (via phone)

**III. INVOCATION**

The invocation was given by Chairman Belcher.

**IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by Chairman Belcher.

**V. PAYMENT OF WARRANTS**

A motion was made to pay the bills and invoices as presented.

**Motion: Robert Williams Sr.      Seconded: Bobby Harvey      Unanimous**

**VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES REGULAR MEETING March 16, 2021**

A motion was made to approved the minutes of the March 16, 2021 meeting as presented with no corrections.

**Motion: Robert Williams Sr.      Seconded: Bobby Harvey      Unanimous**

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jonathan Carpenter stated his firm had received the contract termination letter from the District and wanted to come meet face to face to get some feedback on why the decision was made. He expressed that the project was near beginning and changing direction at this point would set the project back 90 days. He also said that his firm had performed work that the District would need to pay for if the District went in a different direction. Chairman Belcher welcomed the Thrasher team to the meeting and appreciated them coming. From his perspective the lack of continuity of personnel has been a problem. He read off a list of names who had been involved at various levels beginning with personnel before Wayne Morgan in 2015 to most recently introduced Mr. Carpenter. Mr. Belcher explained that he wasn't on the Board when the project started, but communication and continuity have been the biggest issues. Mr. Belcher also agreed that since the District was terminating the contract for convenience, Thrasher would be paid for their preliminary work (\$20,000) and for obtaining the User Agreements (\$5,000) the two tasks agreed to at this juncture. Belcher had a check for \$20,000 that was signed and handed to Carpenter at that time. A check for the remaining \$5,000 will be soon forthcoming from the District. Mr. Williams agreed that there was considerable confusion surrounding the project from the first. Communication from Thrasher including the potential cost to the District

going back to the first projections were unclear. He also said that Mr. Carpenter mentioned a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) being completed and he expressed that he didn't think he had seen it. Mr. Harvey said he didn't think in his brief time with the Board that Thrasher had did a very good job at all. Mr. Robertson said from the first interaction with Thrasher there was confusion surrounding anything the District Board or Staff asked of the firm. The most recent was a request by the Board to the project manager to compare the original project cost to the current revised alignment cost that reduced the overall project by about a mile. Also requested were Thrasher's fees for the original project compared to the most recently discussed one. What was provided via e-mail to the Board he believes was the most recent prior version which is not what was requested at the previous meeting. Another example of poor internal communication. Mr. Belcher encouraged Thrasher to submit on future advertisements for engineering services.

Rick Chitwood stated that Thompson and Litton have performed several projects to date for the District and listed each. He hadn't met new Board member Mr. Harvey and wanted to introduce himself. Jeremiah Tuggle talked about the different projects including Asset Management/Capital Improvement Plan to the most recent CCTV Wastewater contract management task. He provided a cost estimate for the upgrades at the wastewater treatment plant from CI Thornburg just received totaling ~\$15k but also said he didn't see labor included so he would follow up with them and get back to the Board. The CCTV project was discussed about how to maximize the dollars spent by the District to make the biggest impact on the inflow/infiltration experienced at the wastewater treatment plant. There was much discussion about foundation and roof drains tied into the wastewater collection system. All agreed that this was a problem needing further exploration to develop a solution. The Board then said the next step was to get an estimate of what the cost of a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) would be and for TL to provide it at the next meeting. Also, TL would check with Region 1 to ensure that the procurement performed for Term Services Engineering met the 5G requirements.

## **VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Water Loss Update**

Water loss is the same as reported last according to Mr. Robertson.

### **2. CCTV Wastewater Project Closeout-**

Check approved today and documents signed. The District has all deliverables required via contract.

### **3. Status of Modifications to Wastewater Plant-**

Previously discussed.

### **4. Safety Meeting Update-**

Porter reported they had two safety meetings since the last Board meeting but he did not have the topics on hand.

5. Water and Sewer Services Sonny Horney Project-

Porter reported we haven't made tap at the road for the water nor the road bore. The Board directed Porter to have Between the Ditches perform the work beyond the road bore.

6. Advertisement of Engineering Services- Little Rich Creek Valley Rd, Adair Rd, & Pinhook Rd Water Project-

In the paper for responses.

7. Restricted Reserve Account Development

*A motion was made to develop a restricted reserve account for Repair and Replacement Sewer at First Community Bank. Signers will be Kevin Belcher, Robert Williams Sr, Bobby Lee Harvey, Porter Robertson, & Whitney Bowers.*

**Motion: Robert Williams Sr**

**Seconded: Bobby Harvey**

**Unanimous**

8. Potential Infrastructure Stimulus Funds

Present infrastructure 2.9T Biden legislation for airports, roads and bridges. Nothing water/sewer related at this juncture but Board will monitor closely to take advantage of opportunities should they arise.

9. Survey of District Water Meters

Region 1 are QA/QC survey data as they have let the surveyor go that worked on the project and want to ensure what they provide is correct according to Jason Roberts.

10. Critical Needs or Resilience Application Pinhook Rd

The District may not qualify for critical needs as rates aren't high enough but connecting Bozoo and Ballard tanks zones good resilience application. User agreements are required for submission. Mr. Robertson will acquire. There are 5-7 of these. Region 1 will do the application. Engineering services required are included with Adairs/LRVR advertisement.

*A motion was made for the submission of critical needs and resilience application.*

**Motion: Robert Williams Sr**

**Seconded: Bobby Harvey**

**Unanimous**

11. Wastewater Collection System Rehab-Next steps

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

**X. MANAGER REPORT**

Porter gave his report.

Much discussion about Fairley Long sewer. Porter was directed to tell the homeowner to get a contractor to perform the work as we simply don't have time or resources to do the work.

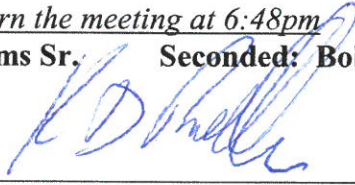
**XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Not Required

**XII. ADJOURN**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:48pm

**Motion: Robert Williams Sr. Seconded: Bobby Harvey Unanimous**

  
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Chairman

  
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Secretary