

**Gratiot Area Water Authority
September 8, 2017**

A regular meeting of the Gratiot Area Water Authority was called to order at 12:03 p.m. by Chairman Kurt Giles in the Alma Municipal Building. A quorum of the Authority was present.

Authority members present: Melissa Allen, Tom Reed, Kurt Giles, and Matt Schooley.
Authority members not present: Roxann Harrington, and Don Pray.
Others present: Ron Turner, John Willemin, Keith Risdon, Dave Ringle, Cynthia Michels, Bill Pilmore, Don Everhart, and Linda Ludwig.

Motion by Schooley, seconded by Reed, to approve the minutes of August 11, 2017, as presented. Motion carried with voice vote.

Requests for Payment

Motion by Reed, seconded by Allen, to approve a request for payment to Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, Inc. for Invoice #369492 in the amount of \$33,355.64 for services rendered through August 11, 2017. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Requests for Purchase

Chairman Giles asked for clarification on the request for purchase to USA BlueBook for a turbidimeter.

Roxann Harrington appeared at 12:06 p.m.

Motion by Allen, seconded by Harrington, to approve a request for purchase to USA BlueBook in the amount of \$2,375.62 for a bench top turbidimeter. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Other Business

Motion by Harrington, seconded by Reed, to correct an amendment known as Amendment #6, which was passed at the August 11, 2017, meeting, to reflect an increase to the approved budget of \$45,562.89 instead of \$33,355.64.

Brief discussion followed and Member Harrington moved to amend her motion.

Motion by Harrington, seconded by Reed, to approve Amendment #6 of the Professional Services Agreement with Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, Inc., as corrected, to reflect an increase to the approved budget of \$45,562.89 rather than \$33,355.64, which will supersede the Amendment #6 approved on August 11, 2017. Motion, as amended, carried with a voice vote.

Reports

John Willemin, of Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, provided the following Engineer's Update.

Water Plant

- A repair to the paint on the new finished water storage tank is outstanding.

- The sodium hypochlorite transfer pump replacement and a few O&Ms from the mechanical contractor are outstanding.
- CCI SCADA reporting is outstanding.
- A final change order will be forthcoming for final balancing when all closeout items are documented and a final completion date is established.

Booster Stations

- The final change order and pay application have been forwarded to the City of St. Louis for approval and payment.

Wells 10 and 11 Raw Water Transmission Main

- Phase I: Top course of paving is complete. Restoration that is not acceptable will still be addressed.
- Phase II: Top course of paving completed to Purdy. Purdy to be paved with Phase IV.
- Phase III: Water main completed, sidewalk completed. Restoration to be finished.
- Phase IV: Traffic control and removals completed. Water main placement over ½ completed.
- Phase VII (Ennis Road): Grading substantially complete, final restoration to follow.

Wells 10 and 11 Well Houses

- Buildings are generally complete.
- Well pumps have been installed.
- Electrical equipment installation is ongoing.
- Easements for electrical service are still outstanding such that Consumers is unable to install power to the well houses. This will impact the schedule. The City of St. Louis is facilitating discussions between Consumers and the land owners.
- Site work and restoration around the well houses is generally complete with the exception of areas where crops are still in place.

Hydrogeological Study and Well 12

- This project is complete in its current scope.

Ron Turner provided a water production report for August. He reviewed consumption numbers and answered questions about comparison of numbers.

Chairman Giles called for questions about the August financial statements. There were no questions or comments.

Motion by Allen, seconded by Harrington, to receive the Engineer's Update, August Water Production Report, and August Financial Statements, and place them on file. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Motion by Allen, seconded by Harrington, to approve Warrant 18-02 and the several amounts scheduled therein, also to ratify payment of the same. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Public Comment

Don Everhart, 4696 W. VanBuren Road, and Linda Ludwick, 5289 N. Ennis Road, had many questions for the Authority about effects of the Authority's new wells on local resident wells. Everhart and Ludwick both expressed concerns that resident wells would go dry due to the amount of water expected to be pumped out of deep aquifers by Pumps #9, #10, and #11. John Willemin offered to provide maps of test well locations, and also offered to perform additional testing and monitoring at both residences, and others, if requested.

Willemin, Turner, Giles, and Pilmore, worked together to answer questions, and explained that drawdown from the wells is temporary and levels typically return to normal when wells aren't pumping. Also, that the aquifers are separated by a clay layer, not a bedrock layer, which acts as a type of coffee filter allowing aquifers to recharge from rainwater as well as from other underground sources. Giles emphasized test wells are being closely monitored, and there is a plan in place for any indication of problems as a result of the Authority's pumps, with the initial step being reducing production.

Ludwick noted there had been a problem when mailboxes were relocated without notice to residents, and she asked for an expected completion date. Willemin agreed to follow up on the mailbox issue and Turner advised expected completion at this point is November 7th.

Motion by Harrington, seconded by Reed, to adjourn the regular meeting at 1:02 p.m. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Sara Youngs, Recording Secretary

Date of Approval