

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ROCKWOOD WATER, WASTEWATER & NATURAL GAS BOARD**

September 26, 2023 @ 6:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at Rockwood City Hall at 6:00 P.M. with Chairman Mark Clem presiding. Commissioners Paul Kamikawa, Joe Moore and Ronnie Thompson were present. Commissioner Larry Davis was absent.

Public Comment: None

Approval of August Minutes: Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Commissioner Moore seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of August financials: Tausha Bruneel reported that water and sewer revenues for August were \$370,664; expenses were \$311,899. Year to date, water and sewer revenue exceeded expenses by \$15,387. Gas operating revenues totaled \$169,594; operating expenses not including the cost of gas were \$95,182. Year to date, gas revenue exceeded expenses by \$47,090. Commissioner Moore made a motion to accept the financials as presented and Commissioner Kamikawa seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

General Manager's Report: Kim reported we had two large leaks causing multiple outages across our service area in the last 2 weeks. The crews have fixed a minimum of 20 leaks in the last 2 weeks.

Update on Victorian Square from last meeting as they are still behind with another bill coming in 2 days putting them at over \$8K owed. They are expecting a \$40K grant to pay utilities along with \$300K to "get them out of the hole" They will also be adding more residents to their facility that should help. Commissioner Kamikawa stated that once the funds come in we could not play around anymore with not receiving payment. Kim is concerned it could be brought up in an audit for not following our cut off policy and not cutting them off.

An update from last month's public comment to put gas in for Mr. Fugate would cost \$75K for the contractors to extend the line and an additional \$15K for materials. Board agreed that was not cost effective for 2 to 3 homes. Kim will deliver the news to Mr. Fugate.

We have had five new employees start this month and we are really thrilled with them and they have all jumped in eager to help especially with all the leaks we have had.

The admin building has a few things that need to be fixed along with getting furniture in but we are getting close. We plan to open to the public Oct 16th with a Grand Opening the week of Oct 30th but need to check with the chamber for a ribbon cutting to make sure that week will work. We plan to have tours and snacks to celebrate. Signage should be here within 2 weeks. Kim would like to put a commemorative plaque to show the board members in place during the process of the new building to include current members as well as Loren Bone and Darryl Meadows. We are in the process of getting a realtor for the old shop location along with getting it surveyed out to be sold.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **Operation Report:** Brian Reed and Bonnie Fugate presented with no questions.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Consideration and approval of retainer agreement for Class Action against PFAS manufacturers:** PFAS is a source water pollutant that EPA is expected to add requirements to the public water systems. It is a contingency contract with the attorneys with no fee involved in participating. Our attorney recommends we do this. Commissioner Moore made a motion to approve and Commissioner Kamikawa seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

After a brief communication from board members, the meeting was adjourned at 6:32 PM by motion of Commissioner Moore and second by Commissioner Kamikawa.



Mark Clem, Chairman



Tausha Bruneel, Secretary