

A regular meeting of the Gratiot Area Water Authority was called to order at 12:06 p.m. by Vice-Chairman Kurt Giles in the Alma Municipal Building. A quorum of the Authority was present.

Authority members present: Melissa Allen (by telephone), Kurt Giles, Matt Schooley, and Don Pray.
Authority members not present: Roxann Harrington, and Tom Reed.
Others present: Ron Turner, Keith Risdon, Dave Ringle, Rosemary Horvath, Jane Keon, Bill Pilmore, Cynthia Michels, and Brian Phillips.

Election of Officers

Vice-Chairman Giles opened the floor for nominations to fill the office of Chairman which was vacated when former Chairman Phillip Moore, an ex-officio member of the Authority, resigned from his position with the City of Alma. Interim City Manager, Matt Schooley, was appointed to the Authority on August 8, 2017, to fill the seat.

Motion by Pray, seconded by Allen, to nominate Kurt Giles for Chairman, close nominations, and declare that he be elected Chairman. Motion carried with a voice vote; all members present voting yes.

Motion by Pray, seconded by Allen, to nominate Matt Schooley for Vice-Chairman, close nominations, and declare the he be elected Vice-Chairman. Motion carried with a voice vote; all members voting yes.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Giles, second by Pray, to approve the agenda with an amendment to move items requiring action to the forefront. Motion carried with a voice vote; all members voting yes.

Mick Koutz appeared at 12:10 p.m.

Other Business

Motion by Allen, seconded by Pray, to approve FTC&H Professional Services Agreement Amendment #6 as presented. Motion carried with a voice vote; all members voting yes.

Appropriations

Motion by Allen, seconded by Schooley, to approve Warrant 18-01 and the several amounts scheduled therein, also to ratify payment of the same. Motion carried with a voice vote; all members voting yes.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Pray, seconded by Schooley, to approve the minutes of July 14, 2017, as presented. Motion carried with a voice vote; all members voting yes.

Authority Member Allen left the meeting at 12:15 p.m. Though there was no longer a quorum of the Authority, members opted to move ahead with review of reports.

Members briefly discussed the communication from Alexander Chemicals. No changes in service are expected with the Mason facility closure.

Brian Phillips offered the following engineers update:

Water Plant

- The status of remaining completion items was discussed with RCL on July 11.
- A repair to the paint on the new finished water storage tank is scheduled for this month.
- The sodium hypochlorite transfer pump replacement and a few O&Ms from the mechanical contractor are outstanding.
- CCI to be onsite on Wednesday/Thursday this week to work on SCADA reporting.
- 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

- A final change order for final balancing was issued to the City for approval.
- A roof leak at the Michigan station was reported to RCL. The warranty has expired, but they will follow up with the roofer.

Wells 10 and 11 Raw Water Transmission Main

- Phase I: Top course of paving is complete.
- Phase II: Top course of paving scheduled for this week.
- Phase III: Sidewalk removal is complete and horizontal drill work is scheduled to begin this week.
- Phase VII (Ennis Road): Piping is installed and contractor is installing gravel for road restoration.

Wells 10 and 11 Well Houses

- FTCH is evaluating the drainage of the farm field in the area of Well House 11.
- Consumers will need easements to proceed with electric service installation.
- Masonry, roof and doors are installed.
- Interior walls and ceilings are painted.
- Site work around the well houses is mostly complete including water service and drainage structure.
- Site restoration around the well houses is in progress pending the harvesting of the crops planted in some of the restoration areas.

Hydrogeological Study and Well 12

- This project is complete in its current scope.

Ron Turner, Public Services Director, reviewed the water production report and answered questions.

No questions were asked about financial statements. Cynthia Michels noted she is still working on closing entries for the fiscal year, and financial statement numbers are subject to change. An update will be provided, if necessary.

Chairman Giles called for public comment.

Jane Keon asked about the sediment in drainage ditches following installation of new culverts, and who is responsible for clean-up and payment. It wasn't known if the issue was construction related or a result of flooding in June. Phillips will follow up on the situation.

Mick Koutz noted there is much debris piled along the West side of Russ Ludwick's property, and asked if it would be repaired.

Keon asked if there was an updated schedule, and if the Ennis Road crew would be returning to continue work on that end of the project.

Turner said the Ennis crew would not be coming back. The crew currently working on the directional bore on Superior Street would ultimately be moved to bore under Honeyoey Creek in about two weeks and the crew on Superior would continue to move towards Honeyoey Creek. He expects they will be at the intersection of Superior and Luce by late next week.

Koutz explained he is concerned about setting up school bus routes to work around the construction. Turner said they are keeping that in mind and it will determine how they cross.

Koutz asked if Riverview was still scheduled for September, and Turner said it will likely be seven to eight weeks to finish Riverview as there are so many obstacles there. Koutz asked if Luce would be paved before they move to Riverview. Turner explained about valve pressure testing, but said it should be operational.

Koutz told Turner he has to contact parents soon if students will need to be sent out to Luce Road for pickup.

Turner said they may be on Riverview the second week of September and into October. The project is a moving target and subject to change.

Bill Pilmore, Water Treatment Plant Supervisor, told the Authority he had been contacted by a contractor from the wind tower project who was looking to pull 8 ½ million gallons of bulk water over the seven month construction season next year for dust control during their construction project. Pilmore assumes they will sell at the regular bulk rate, but it will mean added processing time and added work for his crew. When asked why the contractor didn't pump from a lake or river, Pilmore said he didn't know, but he just wanted the Authority to be aware of the request.

The meeting concluded at 12:38 p.m.

Sara Youngs, Recording Secretary

Date of Approval