

Griffith Sanitary Board
Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2022

Meeting called to order at 1:30pm.

Roll Call:

Rick Ryfa
Jim Hennes
George Jerome

Also attending:

Gina Smith
Sean Mikos
Michelle Velez
Andy Raab

Election of Officers:

1. Ricky Ryfa nominated Jim Hennes as President. No other nominations. George Jerome seconds nomination. All in favor, Motion carried.
2. Jim Hennes nominated George Jerome as Vice President. No other nominations, nominations closed. All in favor, Motion carried.
3. George Jerome motions to make Michelle Velez Recording Secretary. Rick Ryfa seconds motion. All in favor, Motion carried.

Bills and Expenditures: No bills or expenditures.

Reports: No reports.

New Business:

1. 2022 Meeting Dates

Monthly meetings will be held on the 3rd Thursday of each. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 17, 2022.

2. Financial Update: No financial update.

3. Facilities update:

Andy Raab, Public Works Director, SCADA is fully installed and complete. Updates- repairing and refurbishing pumps at the stations. A lot of minor repairs. No major repairs. Biggest thing going forward will be the sanitary improvements at Cline. Negotiations are in the process with Hammond and the EPA. By 2026, the Cline Avenue station will have to be upgraded with a ballpark cost of 20-50 million dollars. Public Works is currently creating an assets management plan. Creating a budget going forward for the next 5 years that will consist of repairs and maintenance.

Rick Ryfa- We are 90% through the rate study which is being conducted by Reedy Financial. They are looking at Water and Sanitary. Reedy isolated apartment complexes and has been

found that Park West is nowhere near paying their fair share. Fee changes for meter sizing for water may be the best option for apartment complexes. Town Council makes up the Water Board and they will sit down to discuss further. There will be a future joint meeting with the Town Council and Sanitary Board to discuss what is coming and why.

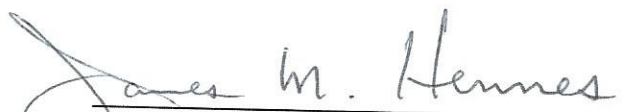
4. Consent Decree with US Department of Justice/US EPA


Rick Ryfa- In the final stages of negotiating things with the Consent Decree. Wessler Engineering performed a pre-comprehensive study with smoke testing throughout the entire town. Sanitary rates- going to need an increase 15-20 million dollars- Thoughts of doing a blend of a bond and rate increase so it's not as big of a hit on the water bill. EPA mandate charge will be potentially listed at the bottom of the water bill.


Water basin- agreed that the town will need a capacity of 10 million gallons. Original thought was to build a 15-20-million-gallon basin, store it in there, and pump it out during large rain events. Worked with Hammond and have developed a plan- Griffith will send everything to a plant, they will filtrate it and dump it right into the river. Griffith will have to build the infrastructure to get it there. Need to increase the pipe and increase the size of wet well and add pumps. Need to choose an engineering firm to complete the engineering. Put out an RFP. George Jerome motions that the Sanitary Board authorizes Resolution No. 2022-09 the Town Council to continue to negotiate agreements with the EPA on behalf of the Sanitary Board. Rick Ryfa seconds motion. All in favor, Motion carried.


Pending Items: No pending items.

Meeting adjourned at 2:09pm.


Jim Hennes, President


George Jerome, Vice President


Rick Ryfa, Member


Michelle Velez, Recording Secretary