

OSCEOLA WATER BOARD
JANUARY 4, 2024
(UNAPPROVED)

The Osceola Water Works Board of Trustees met for the regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, January 4, 2024. This being the time and place as legally posted, the meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M. by Chairperson Alisha Kale, with the following Board Members present: Sara O'Hair, Sandra Ramos. Jim Kimball, Larry Bishop. Also present were Superintendent Brandon Patterson, Utility Business Director Patti Snyder, Andrew Clarke of Spoke Communications, LLC, John Kempen, Calleigh Klein, Janene Nelson, Paula McClafin, and Maria Evers.

Board member Kimball motioned to approve the agenda as presented and board member Bishop seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

Ayes: Kimball, Ramos, O'Hair, Bishop, Kale
Nays: None
Motion Passed

Board member Kimball made a motion to keep the Board Chair and Vice Chair positions the same for 2024 as Board Chairperson Alisha Kale and Vice Chairperson Larry Bishop. Board Member O'Hair seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

Ayes: Kimball, O'Hair, Ramos, Bishop, Kale
Nays: None
Motion Passed

No one was present to address the board about items not on the agenda. Chairperson Kale announced that the meeting can be found livestreaming on Facebook and if anyone has a question, please call 515-414-9066. A period of 1 minute passed with no calls.

No one was in attendance for representation for 603 N. Main, Osceola, IA as had been requested to be added to the Board Agenda. No action was taken at this time and will table this discussion until next month.

Utility Business Director Patti Snyder suggested that the Board not take any action on Procedures for Public Comment and table this until the next month.

Utility Business Director Patti Snyder opened the discussion regarding a Resolution Approving Submission of a Grant from CCDC for Unbudgeted Expenses incurred during Water Emergency. Board Member Kimball recused himself from the discussion. The Grant request is for reimbursement of \$110,100.00 of expenses incurred with the relocation of the intake at West Lake and communications during Water Emergency. After discussion, board member Bishop motioned to approve the Grant request from CCDC for reimbursement of the unbudgeted expense items. Board member O'Hair seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

Ayes: Bishop, O'Hair, Ramos, Kale
Recused: Kimball
Nays: None
Motion Passed

Superintendent Brandon Patterson opened the discussion regarding a Quote for Carbon Filter Exchange at the Water Treatment Plant. After discussion, board member Bishop motioned to approve the quote not to exceed \$151,727.00 and proceed with the Carbon Exchange. Board member O'Hair seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Ayes: Kimball, O'Hair, Ramos, Bishop, Kale
Nays: None
Motion Passed

Utility Business Director Patti Snyder opened the discussion regarding a Quote for Upgrades to Security and Access Control System. At this time, the information received is incomplete so it was recommended to table this discussion until next month.

Board Chairperson Kale opened the discussion regarding Residential Water Rates during a period of Water Conservation. The Board was asked to provide an incentive for Residents to conserve water. Three (3) Residential Rate Options were presented to the Board. All (3) options suggested to remove the Minimum Usage of 2,000 gallons and that those customers using less than 2,000 gallons be billed at their actual number of gallons instead. Payment arrangements can be made by coming to the Water Works office and completing paperwork. Questions were asked regarding rate changes to other Categories of users. Residential users are the only ones being discussed at this time and different options will be presented to the board than what are here. Commercial, Industrial and Institutional rates are not being discussed. No further action will be taken at this time and will be tabled until the next meeting.

Board Chairperson Kale opened the discussion regarding a Resolution for Setting a Date for a Public Hearing for Residential Water Rates During a Period of Conservation. Board member Bishop made a motion and board member Kimball seconded the motion to Set a Date for a Public Hearing regarding Residential Water Rates during a Period of Conservation to be held on Thursday, February 8th, 2024, at 5:30 pm, at the Clarke Community High School Auditorium, 800 N Jackson St., Osceola, IA 50213. Motion passed.

Ayes: Kimball, O'Hair, Ramos, Bishop, Kale

Nays: None

Motion Passed

Board Chairperson Kale opened the discussion regarding Scheduling a FY 2024-2025 Budget Work Session. The Budget for FY 2024-2025 is due to City Hall on February 9th, 2024. After discussion, a Work Session was scheduled for Wednesday, January 17th, 2024 at 10 am to be held at Osceola Water Works, 208 W Jefferson, Osceola, IA 50213.

Board Chairperson Kale opened the discussion regarding a Resolution for Setting a Date for a Public Hearing for FY 2024-2025 Budget. Board member Kimball motioned and board member O'Hair seconded the motion for a Public Hearing to be held regarding the FY 2024-2025 Budget, on Thursday, February 8th, 2024, at 5:30 pm, at the Clarke Community High School Auditorium, 800 N Jackson St., Osceola, IA 50213. Motion Passed.

Ayers: Kimball, O'Hair, Ramos, Bishop, Kale

Nays: None

Motion Passed

Water Superintendent Brandon Patterson opened the discussion regarding Osceola Water Works Staffing. Currently, there are 2 full-time openings in Water Distribution. We would like propose to the board an option of hiring a Part-time person to possibly work a few hours each day to read meters, perform turn-ons and turn-offs, etc. At this time, we would like permission to move forward with filling the Part-time position, filling 1 of the Full-time openings and delay filling the other Full-time position until after the start of the new Fiscal year. The Board agreed to move forward with hiring to fill a Part-time and a Full-time position now.

Water Superintendent Report: Water Superintendent Brandon Patterson reported that conservation seems to be working and daily withdrawal rates are getting closer to the "safe" level every day. Each week, on Friday, the water levels from West Lake are measured and reported on-line at osceolawaterworks.com. As of 12/29/23, West Lake measured at 1,067.37 feet, or 6.63 feet below full pool, which means 319 days remaining of water at the worst possible conditions of not receiving any precipitation. Mr. Patterson and Mrs. Kale met with SIRWA today. In the next few days, SIRWA should be discontinuing withdrawals from West Lake from 2 of their locations; reducing their consumption by 350,000 gallons/day. Ty

Wheeler from the City of Osceola and Superintendent Patterson are working to find answers from the DNR regarding Water Reuse. Mr. Patterson provided information that there were 4 water main breaks that were repaired. Next week there is a meeting with engineers to discuss opportunities and/or options, with the goal of providing viability and the costs associated. Osceola Water Works is working with Andrew Clarke of Spoke Communications, LLC on an FAQ report that has been posted on the Osceolawaterworks.com website to provide continued information regarding options, etc. Mr. Clarke is also working with CCRC to provide monthly updates to a separate website. A report was given that Emergency Management has looked into “The Water Train”. Due to cost this was deemed as not a viable option to deliver water. Mr. Patterson would also like to say thank you to Patti and all the staff for their hard work.

Board Chairperson Kale presented the consent agenda. Board member Kimball motioned and board member Bishop seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. The consent agenda included minutes from the regular board meeting held on December 7, 2023 and the Special Board meeting held on December 21, 2023, Aging Report, YTD Revenue & Expenses, and the following Bills and Claims:

ADVANTAGE GROUP	PAYROLL	\$855.20
AGSOURCE LABORATORIES	LAB TESTING	\$87.00
ALLIANT ENERGY	UTILITIES	\$8,314.53
BADGER METER	METERING SERVICES	\$142.45
BRETT STREET	SERVICES	\$30.00
BUD JONES CONSTRUCTION	SERVICES	\$12,650.00
CARD MEMBER SERVICE	SERVICES	\$2,565.73
CASEY’S GENERAL STORES	FUEL	\$737.34
CENTERPOINT ENERGY SERVICES	NATURAL GAS	\$227.15
CHEM-SULT INC.	CHEMICALS	\$16,248.15
CINTAS FIRST AID & SAFETY	SERVICES	\$50.31
CITY OF OSCEOLA	MONTHLY COLLECTIONS	\$242,837.26
CITY OF OSCEOLA – HEALTH	HEALTH INSURANCE	\$15,162.53
CLARKE COUNTY SHERIFF	SERVICES	\$885.77
CORE & MAIN LP	LAB TESTING	\$750.10
COUNTRY CONCRETE	SERVICES	\$5,512.00
CRESTON PUBLISHING	PUBLICATIONS	\$250.10
D & D PEST CONTROL	SERVICES	\$45.00
FAREWAY	LAB TESTING	\$15.72
FP FINANCE	POSTAGE	\$155.10
CSG FORTE PAYMENTS, INC.	SERVICES	\$377.25
GILBERTS TRUE VALUE	SERVICES	\$53.96
GWORCS	SERVICES	\$137.00
HACH COMPANY	SERVICES	\$3,503.00
HAWKINS	CHEMICALS	\$3,665.00
IA DEPT OF HUMAN SERVICES	PAYROLL	\$1,010.44
IDEAL READY MIX CO	SERVICES	\$3,615.70
ILLINOIS MUTUAL	PAYROLL	\$450.16
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	PAYROLL	\$10,203.13
IOWA DEPT OF REVENUE	TAXES	\$1,799.92
IPERS	PAYROLL	\$8,687.78
JETCO	SERVICES	\$2,926.25
MET LIFE	INSURANCE	\$745.87
METERING & TECHNOLOGY SOL	SERVICES	\$6,562.04
MIDWEST OFFICE TECHNOLOGY	OFFICE OPERATIONS	\$234.65
MUNICIPAL SUPPLY INC.	REPAIRS	\$7,668.99
MUTUAL OF OMAHA	LIFE INSURANCE	\$106.68
O’REILLY AUTO PARTS	REPAIRS	\$9.98
ONSITE SERVICE SOLUTIONS, LLC	SERVICES	\$575.00
OSCEOLA FARM & HOME	SUPPLIES	\$128.51
SCHILDBERG CONSTRUCTION	SERVICES	\$1,094.41
SHAZAM	MONTHLY FEE	\$25.00
SOLUTIONS	OFFICE OPERATIONS	\$634.35
SPOKE COMMUNICATIONS LLC	COMMUNICATIONS	\$2,250.00
STATE HYGENIC LABORATORY	LAB TESTING	\$264.50
STOREY KENWORTHY	OFFICE OPERATIONS	\$1,250.02
U.S. CELLULAR	COMMUNICATIONS	\$501.82
UMB BANK NA	INTEREST	\$250.00
VEENSTRA & KIMM, INC.	ENGINEERING SVCS	\$14,982.63
WINDSTREAM	COMMUNICATION	\$452.15
ZIEGLER, INC.	REPAIRS	\$49.14

TOTAL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE \$381,736.77

MOE AUNG	UTILITY REFUND	\$71.78
ONELIA GONZALEZ HERNANDEZ	UTILITY REFUND	\$40.93
WILLIAM JENSEN	UTILITY REFUND	\$75.84
TAYLOR POLING	UTILITY REFUND	\$49.67
CAROL E RUBLE	UTILITY REFUND	\$63.17
LEANNE MORGAN STODDARD	UTILITY REFUND	\$85.97
AMY WALKER	UTILITY REFUND	\$109.13
IDIA ROSA ZULUETA	UTILITY REFUND	\$65.31

TOTAL REFUNDS	\$561.80
TOTAL PAYROLL	\$30,661.89
TOTAL PAID	\$412,960.46

Roll call of the vote was:

Ayes: Kimball, Ramos, Bishop, O'Hair, Kale

Nays: None

Motion Passed

Utility Office Manager Report: Utility Business Director, Patti Snyder informed the board of the number of disconnects for the month, and presented the December Month-end Revenue.

Board Member Reports: Board Member O'Hair would like to say Thank you to the Community for participating in Water Conservation as well as all Water Works staff for all the hard work. Board Member Kimball stated it is good to hear that as a community we are working together. Board Member Ramos had nothing to report. Board Member Bishop shared that Southern Iowa counties surrounding Clarke should form a central committee to meet with engineers and discuss interconnection of the water systems for a long-term solution. Chairperson Kale's report included thoughts and prayers go out to the Perry Community. Mrs. Kale gave updates on the ongoing discussions with Private property owners. Meetings are scheduled with State Representatives and Ambassador Branstad. Osceola Water Works is working with Spoke Communications to put develop FAQ's to be posted to the Osceolawaterworks.com website for accurate information to help answer public questions. Mrs. Kale would also like to thank Brandon and all of the staff for doing their best and keeping the public informed.

There being no further business to discuss, board member Kimball motioned and board member Bishop seconded the motion for adjournment at 7:00 p.m.

Ayes: Kimball, Ramos, Bishop, O'Hair, Kale

Nays: None

Motion Passed

Alisha Kale, Chairperson

Attest:

Patti Snyder, Utility Business Director