APPROVED

Pendleton Water Association Minutes of Monthly Meeting at PWA Office December 11, 2023

- I. The meeting was called to order at 4:59 p.m. Those board directors in attendance were: Curt Carver, Carl Jeanise, and Charln Stewart. It was noted that a quorum was present.
- 2. Proof of meeting was confirmed.
- 3. The previous November 13, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes were considered. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Charln Stewart, seconded by Curt Carver, and unanimously accepted.
- 4. Guests in attendance were Mike Stewart, Robert Hable, Jr., Mayor of the Town of Many, and Jeremy Koss, Operations Manager, Town of Many.

5. Directors' Reports

<u>President's Report</u>: Due to family illness, Mike Meyer had to step down from the Officer position of President but will remain an active Board member of PWA. A Special Director's Meeting was held on November 26th at which time Christine Bass accepted the role of Treasurer of PWA and Tony Laska, PWA member, was appointed Secretary of PWA. <u>Treasurer's Report</u>: In the absence of the Treasurer, Financial Reports for October (as corrected) and November were distributed and discussed. On a motion to approve by Curt Carver and second by Carl Jenise the Treasurer's Report was approved. Tony Farrell will get with the Sheffield & Sheffield accounting firm to verify sales data.

6. Operator's Report

Tony Farrell briefly summarized PWA's responses to specific "Deficiencies" in the written report that was due at LDH by October 10, 2023.

Deficiency 67: While it wasn't even required equipment, information on the backflow preventer was supplied to LDH.

Deficiency 68: PWA's report of cross-connection has been provided annually since 2019 but LDH hasn't ever acknowledged receiving it. Board President Charln Stewart asked to be copied on these communications with LDH.

Deficiency 69: Rather than periodically, the non-residential list is updated every time a new meter is added on.

Deficiency 74: Briars at fence. Removing them was claimed by LDH as a means to prevent unauthorized access.

Deficiency 81: Insufficient operators. LDH acknowledges that operators are hard to find and all systems in the state have the same staffing problem. Tony Farrell referred to the recent trainee who didn't work out. And passing the drug test is a frequent impediment. He stated that thus far "6 or 8 haven't worked out". While we recognize PWA has to hire an Operator, 'no way' it could be a Class II in today's market.

Deficiency 82: Regarding Screen Inspection, historically this has taken place annually but now the practice appears to be twice a year. It was suggested that we move the tank ring and screen to ground level for ease of inspection.

Grant Discussion

The deadline for land purchase under the grant is the 3rd week in December. Tony Farrell reported that an informal agreement to purchase the closer property was "locked' pending Board action to make it official. While the closer site costs more, the infrastructure costs to get water out to, and back from, the further site is substantially more. After a discussion on possible scenarios, a motion to approve a price for the site up to \$350,000 was made by Curt Carver, seconded by Charln Stewart and approved with the provision that any higher price would need to be presented to the PWA Board for its consideration.

"Plan B", no new site purchased, is not feasible since a smaller clarifier that could fit on existing PWA property would not be acceptable.

General Updates

Fish-n-Fuel development at crossroads will have water supply looped; at both sides of site.

Meter count for November is 863, with 4 new ones. Two more are going in at present.

Customer complaint with 2 leaks in a row. They were given consideration on their bill for the first time, but a repeat isn't justifiable.

Novemb<u>er plant run time</u> was 539.5 hours. Average = 17.98 hrs/day.

October run time 641.5 hrs; average = 20.69

7.Bonus

<u>End of Year Bonuses for \$2500 apiece</u> for Jennifer and Tony were approved under a motion by Carl Jenise, seconded by Curt Carver.

Community Input

Mayor Robert Hable has headed the town of Many for 2.5 years, and has been getting better acquainted with public utilities in his jurisdiction, in this case, drinking water supply. The town's water intake is in Lanan Creek, at Matthews Lodge Road. It is at -20 feet but with the current drought the intake is at -15 ft and turbidity has been a problem. When readings reach 50 they shut down.

Many is considering extending a 12-inch intake line to the fourth bay of the Pendleton bridge, in a creek. This line would pass near PWA's facility. The Town of Many's Operations Manager was interested in seeing whether this new source could be mutually beneficial to the water works of both areas, and if so, whether a collaboration might be given some consideration. Following more conversation, a motion to keep the discussion going was made by Charln Stewart, seconded by Carl Jenise and approved.

On a motion by Carl Jenise, seconded by Curt Carver the meeting was adjourned at 6:06

The next meeting will be at the same location on January 15th starting at 5 PM.