

Directors Only

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m. by Board President Charln Stewart. Board directors in attendance were: Carl Jeanise, Tina Barrett, Charln Stewart, Gloria Thompson, Jerry Burnaman and Robert (Bub) Sepulvado. It was noted that a quorum was present. Advisors to the Board, Mike Meyer and Mike Stewart were also present.

2. Points for Discussion

- Rate Study
 - The draft report calls for a 51% increase in order to meet requirements of the financial model. That calls for an annual ratio of expenditures to income ratio of 1:1.15. Revenues must increase for the numbers to work.
 - Very practically, treating surface water is more complex and expensive than selling groundwater.
 - While the cost of water to customers in Many appears comparable to the rate at PWA, Many is able to subsidize its costs through bundled bills for services and other financial authority.
 - The increase can be different for different customer classes. Thought must be given to providing for special classes of members such as fixed income.
 - The plant is old (1985) and resources must be available to build a replacement.
 - A slow reduction in meter count appears to be an assumption based on parish-wide demographic data and does not reflect the growing number of connections observed by PWA year over year.
 - The State-required land purchase and major repairs have depleted reserves. The required land purchase loan is at a currently high interest rate, though this loan will ultimately be paid off and this obligation will fall off the balance sheet.
 - The Grant is critical to future operations; however, it replaces the clarifier and does not rebuild the whole system as is needed.
 - Mike Meyer offered to speak with the authors of the draft Rate Study.
 - Charln volunteered to lead the process of drafting a rate increase letter for customers.

- Performance Evaluations
 - In order for an evaluation to be valid it must be Meaningful, Specific and Measurable.
 - The Board discussed the myriad practices that are not quantified and generate frustration.
 - Expectations and quantifications should include the following:
 - Time keeping
 - Grade from DH
 - Meter installations (timing)
 - Leak repair
 - As-builts
 - Outage notifications/Communication to membership
 - Complaints to Board
 - Action items completed.

- 2024 Bonus
 - PWA's current financial status must be improved to afford bonuses.
 - On a motion by Carl Jeanise, second by Robert "Bub" Sepulvado, no bonuses will be paid this year.

- Hiring of Business Manager
 - There is insufficient funding to add staff

- Purchase offer
 - A letter of interest to purchase and attachments from CSWR was distributed to the Board for their review
 - The motion not to consider this offer was made by Carl Jeanise, seconded by Charln Stewart, and approved.

3. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by Charln Stewart at 6:34 PM

The next regular meeting of the PWA Board will be at the Venue on Tuesday, December 17, 2024, starting at 5:00 PM.