

LA RUE BOARD OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
August 2018 minutes

The La Rue Board of Public Affairs met in regular session August 20, 2018. Present were board members Tom Tucker, Doug Shawver, and Wendy Crabtree. Also present was Clerk Mary Price, Mayor Lightfoot, and Tyler Howell. Guest: Richard Holcomb and Panfil Costea

The regular meeting minutes were read and approved with a motion by Tom Tucker and second by Wendy Crabtree.

The financial report - was given and bills presented for payment. Wendy Crabtree moved to pay the bills and seconded by Tom Tucker, motion passed.

Complaints – No complaints.

Delinquent Bills- 36 shut off notices were mailed out and shut off date is 9/3/18 if not paid.

Old Business-

New Business –

Report from Tyler Howell from this past month:

Water line was replaced on the North Marsh Street along Price Street due to the line breaking.

Due to the low water pressure at the plant Jamison well drilling came in, pulled the pump on the south well, and flushed the well. The pump that was pulled was caked with mineral build up and was replaced with a stainless steel pump that should help with preventing buildup. The cost to have everything completed to the south well was \$19,600. The north well has a leak within the well somewhere and needs to be flushed.

Due to all the hard water that was pumped through the plant when the well issues were occurring, the membranes in the ROs have been damaged. The plant has been run manually the last several weeks because with the low pressure the computer would not stay on. RO #1 was shut off as much as possible to save it and mostly RO #2 was used during the hard water issues. The motor on RO #2 is having issues and not running properly so it will need to be repaired. To replace a whole skid of RO membranes it will cost \$10,000. The board agreed at this time to replace the RO membranes in RO #1 so we have a fully functioning skid then the next repair will be cleaning the north well.

Nomadic cylinders at the plant are failing and Tyler Howell reported he has had a ton of difficulty locating replacements but today he was able to locate them. The company had 7 available so he is going to purchase all that they have.

Rob Shoaf and an engineer came to the plant and they want to rebuild the softening system at the plant. The plan would be to soften 100% of the water that enters the plant and send 80% of it thru the RO. All the water will be chlorinated then route 80% to the ROs and 20% would be placed into the clear well. The RO cannot take chlorinated water so it would be treated with Bisulfate before it enters the RO and then treated with chlorine once it exits the RO. The idea in this new method would be adding life to the ROs because the water entering it would be cleaner. Tyler Howell had several concerns with this new method being if the bisulfate pump fails and it sends chlorinated water into the RO, it would ruin all the

membranes. Lastly adding extra life to the membranes does not outweigh the extra cost of chlorine and risk of chlorine getting into the membranes.

Meter reading people came in to give Tyler all the materials needed so he can read meters electronically and then communicate with the new utility software.

Dale left a resignation at the water plant so Tyler Howell contacted the EPA and got all the necessary paperwork submitted to get his license. The board thought Dale was going to remain on until Tyler Howell officially got his license.

Rob Shoaf is supposed to come 8/21/18 to clean the ROs and he has the acid needed to clean the membranes. Tyler Howell does not think cleaning is going to work because to clean the membranes you use pressure but since they are so clogged from the hard water issue replacing them maybe the only option. The life span is typically 5 years for the membranes. The wells are going to have to be cleaned routinely to avoid all the issue that occurred this past month.

Mayor Milton Lightfoot reported that the County Commissioners said they would help financially if the Board needed money however, it would not be free.

Panfil Costea stated he had a load of laundry that was ruined and his water is still discolored at times. Tyler Howell reported that the water is safe and every Wednesday an outside firm collects samples that tests the water separate from the testing he does at the plant.

Hydrant in front of the Methodist Church is stuck wide open so Tyler Howell is going to check it out.

GPD Group was going to be at the meeting to discuss grant projects but they did not show.

Richard Holcomb presented he could repair the patches along Market Street that need done from all the water line repairs for \$11,500. The board agreed to have all the patches done at once and Mr. Holcomb stated he could start the work next week. The patches to be repaired along Market Street would be the intersections of Swain, Section, and Chestnut St.

Wendy Crabtree reported she has a hole in front of her mailbox on Marsh Street that has been there for several years and needs filled in along with the mess from the water line replacement.

The next regular meeting will be September 17, 2018 in the Village Council Room.

Chairman

Clerk