

LA RUE BOARD OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
August 2019 minutes

The La Rue Board of Public Affairs met in regular session August 19, 2019. Present were board members Wendy Crabtree and Doug Shawver. Also present was Mayor Milton Lightfoot, Clerk Mary Price, and Tyler Howell. Visitors: Connie Kendall

The financial report –Doug Shawver made a motion to approve the bills with a second by Wendy Crabtree, motion passed.

Old Business-

Tyler Howell reported that Pickens Underground should be here sometime in September to replace the meter at Kiwanis Village. The materials for the meter replacement have already been purchased so there should only be labor charges.

The letter was mailed to Ridgway Hatchery requesting proof of their backflow device inspection with no response. The Board would like the letter to be sent again certified mail with a 10-day period that they must respond. The backflow device inspection is required by the EPA.

Follow up from the June meeting with the EPA inspection:

- Contingency plan updates have been completed
- Well maintenance has been completed
- Assessment management still needs to be addressed
- Customer education will be completed by sending out a pamphlet provided by EPA every 5 years and posting it on the Village's website.

New Business –

Tyler Howell reported that after the water line break on North and Section Street many complaints were received regarding the chlorine level. The EPA required the chlorine level to be increased to 2 parts per million after the tower issues and the pressure was lowered. Prior to the tower issues and the water level in the tower being lowered the Village had a 1 part per million chlorine level. Testing the water in the system typically 1 part per million at the plant would equal .2 part per million out in the system and 2 part per million at the plant has been equaling 1 part per million in the system. Tyler Howell reported he contacted the EPA because residents were complaining of the high chlorine smell and the EPA approved that the Village could lower the level back to 1 part per million. The last tests that Tyler Howell has completed resulted in .44 from his house and Steve Kendall's water was .42. Residents also around the water plant will always experience higher chlorine levels than those further away from the plant. Tyler Howell will be lowering the chlorine level in town now that the EPA has approved the drop. The EPA has no cap on how high the chlorine levels can be.

Tyler Howell reported he spoke with Rob Shoaf and Wigens about the antiscalant and chlorine pumps in the plant that he is having issues with. The antiscalant pump has completely quit. The chlorine has two separate systems and the chlorine pump prior to the sand filter is no longer working. Wigens is trying to find something that will be compatible with the PLC and then Rob Shoaf will look it over to double check. The Chlorine pump needs to be replaced and the antiscalant could possibly be replaced with an on/off type pump.

Tyler Howell reported he has heard of some customers complaining of how meters are read. The Board felt the meters being read every other month was adequate and nothing needed to change with that process. Tyler Howell stated he would be going around and programming all the meters so they come through on the meter gun in 1,000 unit and Mary Price does not have to manually drop the last digit.

The Board approved for Tyler Howell to order a dozen new meters since he is out.

Tyler Howell reported the Village received 500 tons of asphalt millings for giving away \$5 a day of water to the construction crew on St Rt 37 curve project.

Steve Kendall has been coming to the plant to perform the daily chemical testing and will be taking his test in September. The next step after the chemical certification Mr. Kendall will learn how to run the plant.

A large water break occurred on North and Section Street in August because the construction crew in the area hit the line and roughly 200,000 gallons of water pumped out. Tyler Howell reported he was unable to get the water turned off and eventually just had to repair the line. The line was repaired then broke again so the plant was shut off and the line was completed a second time which held up. Tyler Howell reported he contacted several people like Clarence Greer and everything they were saying was not helping with the shut off of the line. The location of the old map that has all the lines and valve locations is unknown. After the repair was finally made everything was brought back on line and all the hydrants were opened to allow all the air to be released so we did not have any more breaks. Bacteria samples were taken and once they retuned negative the boil alert was lifted. An invoice was sent to Axis the construction crew for the cost of parts with the break.

Customer complained of having brown water on the south side of town so the hydrant in the area was flushed.

Lift station #3 on South Street has a compactor that blew out and one of the two pumps is not working. It appears that someone has cut the lock and may have been inside messing with equipment. Tyler Howell reported that the equipment in the pump station looks old fashioned. The situation was reported to the county and they are taking care of everything.

Tyler Howell reported the yearly cleaning around the lagoons has been completed by spraying the weeds and they will be burned down once they dry out. The water level is very low at the lagoons currently.

The little house/building on Front Street that Tom Tucker used to own is requesting a sewer hook up. The unit already has water installed. The Board will need to get some quotes to figure out what a sewer tap would cost. The last sewer tap that was installed on the Howell's property the charge was \$860.

The discussion was brought up by Doug Shawver about charging each unit at Kiwanis Village the base rate. The board discussed what would be involved with charging each unit and Kiwanis should be charged more than just one base rate with 30+ units. Furthermore, there are other properties in town that have one meter and multiple living units like at Bookmans, Alan Barnes, and Holcomb. More discussion and information needs to be gathered on the topic so it was tabled at this point.

The status of the Vine Street line and valve replacement is unknown at this point.

The board is going to contact RCAP about bringing in the valve exercising machine to use on some of the newer valves.

The next regular meeting will be September 16, 2019 in the Village Council Room.

Chairman

Clerk