

Minutes #812

February 20, 2024

Ledbetter Water District

5:30 P.M.

THE EIGHT HUNDRED-TWELVETH MEETING OF THE LEDBETTER WATER DISTRICT WAS HELD AT THE LEDBETTER WATER DISTRICT OFFICE IN LEDBETTER KENTUCKY FEBRUARY 20, 2024 AT 5:30 P.M.

MEETING WAS HELD ON PURSUANT TO NOTICE AND CONSENT BY SAID DISTRICT, TERRY TEITLOFF, CHAIRMAN; MICAH JOINER, VICE-CHAIRMAN; ARNIE PUCKETT, SECRETARY-TREASURER; PHILIP ORR, COMMISSIONER; AND LANCE WOOTEN, COMMISSIONER.

Those present: Micah Joiner, Terry Teitloff, Arnie Puckett, Lance Wooten, Alan Fox and Paula Malone.

Guests: Dave Roberts, Kyle Cunningham and Judge Executive Teris Swanson.

Terry called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

Kyle Cunningham addressed the Board first. He told us that he and Alan have been working on the Grant application. Emphasis on Water at this time. The well as a backup and extra water sources are a good thing. Here we don't have access to a second source of water and our best chance is to apply for an upgrade. KIA is the main source of funding that the PADD office works with, and it is a loan. They do offer loan forgiveness according to your score (rating) on the Grant application, It will be two to three months before we find if we get an invitation for the loan. House bill 9 is a new matching fund that has just begun. It won't match a full loan. This is our best option.

Arnie asked about the Loan Forgiveness with KIA and how much is it. Kyle replied 50% of the loan or it is capped at a certain point. It depends on how well you rate on the scoring.

Kyle said that Crittenden/Livingston has put in for a plant expansion and that cost is about \$40 million. Stage one is for the clear well. Their clear well is going to be mainly for storage and not a long-term fix. There are two more stages until they finish the project and finally are able to get water to Marion. They are hoping for a time frame of 5-7 years.

Arnie said their water in their lines still has a long way to go to get here and the Quality is still not good.

Terry asked Kyle if they are going to have to show wholesale sales to get the loan like before. Our water purchase contract, and others assured their loan the last time because of the income contracted. Teris Swanson stated that redundancy is a hot topic right now.

Micah stated that he feels that we need to work in unity with C/L Water. What are their plans in 5 years? What are ours and how does that affect our customers? If we dig a well, do we need it larger, or even smaller. We need to look at the plan long term.

Kyle said the C/L makes the most sense in the case of Marion. Terry stated that they need to have a bigger emphasis on Water Quality. For the length of the lines, they are not flushing enough. This causes problems with pressure and with our booster stations.

Terry asked if our well we had dug will have to be moved. Alan said it does, about 10 feet. He said we are blessed to have another water source and he is hoping we get some support getting it running. Lance said we don't want to be stuck in the future relying on one person for water because we only have one operational well.

Terry told Kyle that the Board appreciates his hard work. Kyle said hopefully adding the plant expansion and another well together on the project will maximize our points. We can certainly talk about the water quality when we talk to the loan company.

Paula asked Kyle, If we already owe KIA, will that hinder us in getting another loan? He said that they factor rates, income, and expenses in also.

Terry suggests that we co-ordinate with the Fiscal Court if we do get an invitation for the loan. Kyle said that we are off to a good start.

Dave Roberts:

Dave said he just wanted to find out what the Board decided on Barb's 3 weeks of vacation she feels she is due. Terry told him that the Board has done all they are going to do. She got paid the extra week vacation and her bonus. Dave said that her 4 weeks were due her on October 1. Micah explained that vacations on your anniversary date are for the following year. She was her 15 years, and she was paid the extra week earned for the 15 years.

Dave said the Barb was told on September 6th that her position will be terminated on September 15th. Terry said that we extended that until the 22nd. He thought she was told before the 6th, and that wasn't enough notice. Arnie said she knew it was coming and he told her about signing up for Medicare.

Dave said it takes a while to get things in order when you retire, like insurance. In the future he hopes that the Board does a much better job handling this type of situation. This was handled poorly. There were only a few minutes of conversation with her. They should have sat down and talked to her and made sure she knew where she stood and about the insurance. Her insurance ended on October 15th, and she didn't know on the 22nd when she went to the doctor, she assumed she had it the whole month. Dave thanked the Board for listening.

Terry said we could have done better. We appreciate her time and services.

Stewart Lane Hydrant:

MCS owns the property there and they want to widen the Road so they can get semis back in the lot. Our hydrant is in the way, and they asked if we can move it. Alan said he told them they would probably have to pay for a new valve.

Terry asked how much labor this will involve. Alan said 4-5 hours. The valve is in a poor spot. Lance said moving it will protect it, right. Yes. The owners are Jordan Duncan and Andrew Neal.

Arnie made a motion to move the valve at cost and move the hydrant also. Micah seconds the motion.

Engineering for Lift Station #13:

James Marine is planning a trailer court at the end of Hwy 60. This will be 160 – 199 new trailers. Lift station 13, on Peach Orchard will not be able to accommodate the increase without upgrades. Our pumps are not big enough. Alan asked the Board if he should send the upgrades needed to them in the design stage. Terry asked what would happen if we get it engineered and nothing happens. Alan said at the start of the project we need to tell them they need to pay for it. Lance asked if this is to benefit the county. Teris said she had heard of this as well but has not talked to them about it yet. Warm bodies are good, unintended consequences are not.

We can't stop it. Alan heard that they are supposed to be new trailers. James Marine will get it up and have it as a place for their workers to live if they want.

Arnie made a motion to Submit this upgrade cost to be included in their design phase. Lance seconds the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carries.

Misc. Business:

Arnie told the Board that we have had two days training on UMS this month. Paula said on the 28th they are going to pull a "dummy" file for billing to compare with our current software. Bills sent out March 31st will be on the new software if all goes well.

On this new system we need to update our customer information, phone number, email address, etc. We will have the capability to send out alerts to targeted areas for boil water, leaks and repairs. Paystar will be changing to Stripe. They have a lot more information on their customer portal. Micah suggests that in the future we could send out notices asking for information updates and send a return postage paid envelope. Arnie said that it costs us about \$750.00 to send out our statements.

Micah asked if the Board members could receive the minutes and financials prior to the meeting. They will have more time to read them. As it is they just have time to skim over them before the meeting. Paula agreed it is a good idea.

OLD BUSINESS

Cameras:

Carnie Hopkins installed the camera system in the jail so Arnie asked him if he could quote us for cameras at the plant. The quote is 4 cameras and a recorder with installation, \$1,562.98, Terry asked if this is wired, No. He said he will do some checking on what they have at his church. He thinks they installed them themselves.

Miscellaneous Business:

Cell phone. Cricket wireless is \$30.00 a month for a 5G phone unlimited talk and text. Terry said it is worth trying. Lance made a motion to go with Cricket Wireless for our cell phone service. Arnie seconds the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carries.

Micah made a motion to enter executive session at 6:41 p.m. Arnie seconds the motion. At 7:33 p.m., Arnie made a motion to return to regular session. Micah seconds the motion.

Financials:

Arnie asked Paula to check GL #'s 618-000 and 620-000. 620-175 to 620-180 and 620-200. It seems like they maybe incorrect. With these inquiries or corrections, Arnie makes a motion to accept the minutes and financials from January. Micah seconds the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carries.

This completes our agenda for the evening. Terry adjourns this meeting at 7:55 P.M.

WE THE UNDERSIGNED BEING THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE LEDBETTER WATER DISTRICT, ORGANIZED AND EXISTING UNDER AND BY THE VIRTUES OF THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF KENTUCKY, DO HEREBY SEVERLY WAIVER ANY AND ALL NOTICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF SAID DISTRICT, AND RATIFY, APPROVE AND CONFIRM ANY AND ALL BUSINESS TRANSACTED AT SUCH MEETING AND HEREIN SET FORTH.

Terry Teitloff, CHAIRMAN

Micah Joiner, VICE-CHAIRMAN

Arnie Puckett, SECRETARY-TREASURER

Lance Wooten, COMMISSIONER

Philip Orr, COMMISSIONER

Paula Malone, OFFICE MANAGER