

Rural Water District No. 1
Ellsworth County, Kansas a/k/a Post Rock Rural Water District
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
October 18, 2022

At 6:46 pm, Chairman Martin Bland noting a quorum called the regular board meeting to order.

Roll Call: Directors present were Martin Bland, Butch Teppe, Jon Wright, John Dolezal, Howard Wehrman, and Ralph Larson.

Directors not Present: Brad Miller and Kayla Errebo.

Others Present: Leslee Rivarola (Virtual), Doug Janssen, and Kendra Neuman in the District Office.

Guests: Alex Darby w/ Professional Engineering Consultants attended virtually.

At 6:47 pm, Chairman Bland called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Director Dolezal made a motion to approve the consent agenda as written. Seconded by Vice Chairman Wright. Motion carried. Director Teppe made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from September's Board Meeting. Director Christy seconded. Minutes were approved.

At 6:49 pm, Chairman Bland called for Item #4 on the agenda. Vice Chairman Wright called for a motion to approve the bills and to pay the bills, not to exceed the amount of \$122,766.02. Seconded by Director Dolezal. Motion carried.

At 7:01 pm, Chairman Bland called for Item #5 on the agenda, the discussion regarding the Russell Supply of Water Agreement. Ms. Rivarola stated that Mr. Luckman, the District's Attorney, contacted the City of Russell. Ms. Rivarola contacted Mr. Kelley but has not had any response yet. Director Teppe started the discussion. He thinks maybe it's time to go back to Purefield to see if they are willing to move forward with our terms. If they accept the terms then the project moves forward; if they don't, then the District thanks them for being good customers and everyone moves on. Director Teppe suggests our terms as 1.) Purefield funds the entire project. 2.) The District owns all the assets. 3.) Once the project is finished, Purefield pays for the water at the normal rate. He would like to see Mr. Luckman draft an official letter with the legalities that could be sent to Purefield. Chairman Bland asked for Ms. Rivarola's input. Ms. Rivarola noted the Board has two issues. One is the plant capacity. The plant continues to run at full capacity. There is a need for funding to increase the capacity at the plant. The second issue is the need for another source of water. She suggested the Board allow Mr. Luckman to negotiate with Purefield and let them know that the project will not continue unless Purefield pays for the Engineering Study as well as the Mitchell 2 Study. She also noted that the District cannot provide water to Purefield without the City of Russell's consent so the agreement with them is still necessary. Most of the board agreed. Director Teppe made a motion to have Ms.

Rivarola reach out to Mr. Luckman. Mr. Luckman should draft a letter stating the District will not proceed unless Purefield agrees to the above stated terms. Director Wehrman seconded. Motion carried.

At 7:56 pm, Chairman Bland called for Item #6 on the agenda, the feasibility of a connection with Mitchell 2. Secretary/Treasurer Larson noted that he didn't have anything new to add and that the project just needs started. Mr. Darby with Professional Engineering said he can put a contract together for review. Ms. Rivarola will contact the North Central Regional Planning Commission to let them know the Board would like to proceed with the project.

At 8:05 pm, Mr. Darby gave a quick update on the engineering study by Professional Engineering Consultants. He said the first part of the project is finished. Next, he will need to get pump and tower info. Once he has that information from the District, he can move forward with the next step.

Mr. Darby left the meeting at 8:06 pm.

At 8:07 pm, Chairman Bland called for Item #7 on the agenda, the discussion on wages per Vice Chairman Wright. The discussion is a continuation from the September meeting when Vice Chairman Wright asked the Board what could be done to make employment with the District more enticing. One idea was to change the current vacation and leave times. Ms. Rivarola created a new accrual table for vacation and changed sick leave to an accrual as well. In the new model, vacation and sick leave is accrued each pay period.

Years of service	Accrued hours per pay period	Total hours per year
Hire date – through year 3	3.076	80
4 – through 5th anniversary	3.692	96
6 – through 7th anniversary	4.307	112
8 years and up	4.615	120

Vacation time is based on years of service while sick leave is a standard time of 3.692hrs per pay-period with a maximum of 480hrs (60 days). She included the changes in a draft print of the employee handbook. There were also some changes to the on-call response time. It allows Distribution Employees an hour to respond to a call rather than the previous time of thirty minutes. The Board discussed the changes. Director Christy made a motion to approve the changes as written by Ms. Rivarola. Director Dolezal seconded. Motion carried.

Director Errebo arrived at the meeting at 8:10 pm.

Regular Board Meeting
October 18, 2022
Page 3

At 8:16 pm, Chairman Bland called for Item #8 on the agenda. Mr. Janssen presented the General Manager's report along with the Distribution and Plant reports. Ms. Neuman presented the Office Manager's report. During the reports, it was noted that a temporary meter was installed for a customer. The customer was not charged for installation but was charged for the water used. The Board discussed the need for fees to install and take out temporary meters. It was also mentioned that there is not a fee for transferring services from one benefit unit to another and that there should be a fee. The potential fees for both items were discussed. Vice Chairman Wright made a motion to charge a \$207 fee to hook up temporary meters in addition to the charges for the water used. He also made a motion to introduce a \$500 transfer fee. Both fees are effective immediately. Director Christy seconded. Motion carried.

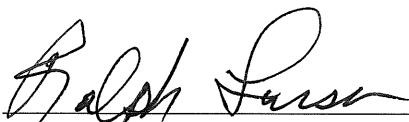
At 9:13 pm, Vice Chairman Wright called for Executive Session for twenty (20) minutes to discuss non-elected personnel pursuant to K.S.A 75-4319(b) (1); to include all board members present, Ms. Rivarola, and Mr. Janssen. Director Dolezal seconded. Motion carried.

At 9:33 pm, the Board of Directors reconvened in open session.


At 9:35 pm, Director Teppe made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Director Christy. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:



Ralph Larson, Secretary/Treasurer



Date