

Rural Water District No. 1
Ellsworth County, Kansas a/k/a Post Rock Rural Water District
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2024

At 6:39 pm Chairman Bland called the meeting to order and called for roll call.

Directors present at roll call: Director Bland, Director Christy, Director Dolezal, Director Robbins, Director Wehrman, Director Griffith, and Director Splitter were present. Director Teppe was absent.

Staff present: Jon Wright, Angela Naegele, and Roxanne Stevenson

Others present: Leslee Rivarola (consultant), Rick Penner (Viking Industrial Painting), John Reimer (Viking Industrial Painting), and Stacie Minson (Kansas State University)

Chairman Bland called for public comment. No public comment was presented.

Chairman Bland called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Director Dolezal motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Director Robbins seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman Bland called for any discussion on the minutes from the September 17, 2024 regular board meeting. No discussion or revisions were offered. Director Robbins motioned to approve the minutes for September 17, 2024 as presented. Director Dolezal seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman Bland called for the next item on the agenda the bills to be paid and the District's expense report. Discussion followed with a couple of questions and responses from staff. Director Griffith motioned to approve the bills to be paid and accounts payable in the amount of \$128,261.49. Director Splitter seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman Bland called for a presentation from Viking Industrial Painting regarding the District's tower inspections and recommended repairs. Mr. Wright provided a brief introduction regarding the report the Board of Directors received from Viking. Mr. Wright mentioned the area of focus is on the condition and suggested improvements and repairs to Towers 5 and 6. Mr. Wright also shared the information provided to the Board of Directors identifies a way to amortize the cost of repairs and inspections over a period of time. Mr. John Reimer provided an overview of the inspection report prepared by Viking Industrial Painting and recommended repairs. Mr. Reimer also provided an overview of the limited-service contract and the inspections and repairs that would be performed as part of that Agreement. Discussion followed. Following discussion, Mr. Reimer indicated the focus of priority repairs should start with the interior condition of towers, as that impacts water quality and then move to the exterior. Discussion followed. Director Griffith inquired how quickly work would begin if the District moved forward with a scope of work. Mr. Reimer indicated that Viking is full with work, but the company would make sure to get the

work scheduled if contracted. Mr. Reimer estimated a week or more to perform repairs to tower 6, and a month or so to perform interior and exterior work to tower 5. Mr. Reimer also said, those timeframes could fluctuate based on the District's needs as it would require the towers to be drained and that is District driven. Discussion followed. Board members inquired if the District's inspections and repairs would be prioritized if the District entered into a limited service agreement. Mr. Reimer indicated Viking does prioritize contract work. Discussion followed with questions regarding the term of the limited-service agreement and the cost. Board members inquired about the cost to perform repairs if they just contracted the specific repairs rather than entering a limited-service agreement. Mr. Reimer provided an estimate of approximately \$1.6 million dollars to perform all the repairs over a ten-year period. Discussion regarding the length of a limited- service agreement followed. Board members inquired the total amount of inflation calculated per year. Mr. Reimer indicated Viking uses 4% per year. Mr. Reimer also explained there is a difference between the limited-service agreement and a full-service agreement. Mr. Wright shared that tower inspections and maintenance is a KDHE requirement and that this information is necessary to be able to provide to KDHE. Discussion followed. The consensus of the Board was that Mr. Wright would receive a copy of the limited-service agreement and a quote to perform the repairs to towers 5 and 6 with Viking. Mr. Wright would request Mr. Luckman to review the language of the limited-service agreement. Mr. Wright will return with this information to the Board at the November Board of Directors meeting. Mr. Reimer and Mr. Penner departed the meeting.

Chairman Bland called for the next item on the agenda, a presentation by Stacie Minson, Watershed Specialist with the K-State extension office. Ms. Minson provided an overview of her role as a watershed specialist and the different programs and services offered through the extension office. Ms. Minson had an interactive discussion with the Board of Directors on various pollutants found in water and their primary sources. Ms. Minson provided an overview and discussion with the Board on various literature and handouts, including private wells, and livestock watering. Discussion followed. Ms. Minson also said she is available to provide education to school groups and they would like to do tours of the water treatment plant with students. Ms. Minson described the partnership she has with the schools in Hays. Ms. Minson left her information with staff and the Board of Directors and offered to be a resource to the District. Chairman Bland, the Board, and Mr. Wright thanked her for attending the meeting and for the information. Ms. Minson departed the meeting after her presentation.

Chairman Bland noted there was no attorney report.

Chairman Bland called for board member reports. Director Dolezal inquired about the status of a bill he had contacted Mr. Wright about the previous week. Mr. Wright shared that Ms. Stevenson was looking into it. Mr. Dolezal provided some additional detail to the board on the inquiry. Discussion followed.

At 7:53 pm Chairman Bland called for a 10-minute break.

At 8:03 pm Chairman Bland called the meeting back to order.

Mr. Wright provided the General Manager's report. Mr. Wright provided an updated on the Wilson and Company agreement for hydraulic modeling. Mr. Luckman is still reviewing the agreement. Mr. Wright shared an update on a 6" leak near Luray and a 10" leak near Wilson. Mr. Wright noted they discussed the Viking report earlier in the meeting. Mr. Wright noted he had received a quote to repair tower 6 in the amount of \$7900 but the individual had never looked at the tower. Discussion on tower repairs and inspections continued. Chairman Bland asked if the Board has to legally receive 3 bids. Ms. Rivarola responded the purchasing policies of the District are set by the Board and that there are numerous items that are either single source or multiple bids is not possible, so the Board can accept a single bid if they find it in the District's best interest. Discussion followed. Discussion on the term of a limited-service agreement followed among the board members. Mr. Wright told the Board he will follow up with Viking to obtain a copy of the limited-service agreement, full service agreement, and a quote to repair towers 5 and 6. Mr. Wright asked if the Board wanted sealed bids for the sale of old truck 7. He is going to look at placing it on Purple Wave. Mr. Wright provided an update on the radios at booster 7 and booster 10. Mr. Wright noted that Alex is waiting on a few radio parts. Mr. Wright also shared that the new computer has been installed at the water plant. Mr. Wright also provided an update on the FEMA fire disaster funding Ms. Condit and Mr. Janssen previously submitted and received on behalf of the District. The funding required certain repairs and replacement to occur that were not completed. Mr. Wright and the distribution staff are now working on compliance to ensure the District meets all the requirements of the funding that was received. It has been a significant effort. Chairman Bland asked the Board to contact Mr. Wright if they see a standpipe that is not marked. Mr. Wright attended the second meeting on the Kansas Water Plan in Salina, Kansas. Mr. Wright asked the Board if they want to have a Christmas party this year. Discussion followed. Multiple suggestions were offered, including hosting the party at the local bowling alley and making it more family friendly or having something earlier in the evening with finger food, appetizers, and more happy hour style. The consensus of the Board was for Mr. Wright to follow up with the employees to see what their preference is on the Christmas party. Mr. Wright will report back at the November meeting. Mr. Wright reviewed the water usage reports and discussed capacity at the plant and water production. Discussion regarding the ongoing drought conditions followed.

Chairman Bland called for a motion to recess into executive session. At 8:51 pm Director Dolezal motioned to recess into executive session for 10 minutes under K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) to discuss non-elected personnel with the justification to discuss performance of individual employees to include all Board members, Mr. Jon Wright, and Ms. Leslee Rivarola. Director Griffith seconded the motion. All directors present voted in favor of the motion.

At 9:01 pm the Board reconvened in open session. Director Dolezal motioned to extend the executive session for 5 minutes under K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) to discuss non-elected personnel with the justification to discuss performance of individual employees to include all Board members, Mr. Jon Wright, and Ms. Leslee Rivarola. Director Griffith seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

At 9:06 pm the Board reconvened in open session taking no action.

At 9:08 pm Chairman Bland called for a motion to adjourn. Director Christy motioned to adjourn the meeting. Director Griffith seconded. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Respectfully Submitted:



Secretary/Treasurer

11-19-24
Date