

Rural Water District No. 1  
Ellsworth County, Kansas a/k/a Post Rock Rural Water District  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
September 17, 2024

At 6:46 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 Teppe, Director Robbins, and Director Wehrman were present. Director Griffith and Director Splitter were absent.

Staff present: Jon Wright, Angela Naegele, and Roxanne Stevenson  
Others present: Leslee Rivarola (consultant)

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 August 20, 2024 regular board meeting. No discussion or revisions were offered. Director Robbins motioned to approve the minutes for August 20, 2024 as presented. Director Teppe seconded.

Mr. Wright stated that there were two services to be installed at Wilson Lake Estates.

Chairman Bland called for the next item on the agenda the bills to be paid and the District's expense report. Discussion followed. Chairman Bland inquired the period of service for Angel Accounting's invoice. Ms. Stevenson provided a copy of the invoice with a detail of services performed to the Board. Discussion on Gorham Communications followed. Mr. Wright provided details on various projects. Director Christy inquired if the payment to Wilson and Company was included in the bills to be paid. Mr. Wright stated that it does not and that there was a potential action item on the agenda for Wilson and Company. Ms. Stevenson stated there was 10" pipe at \$30.53/foot included in the bills to be paid. Discussion followed on pipe sizes serving different locations in the District. Chairman Bland called for any further discussion or questions on the bills to be paid. Chairman Bland inquired about the software expense for the accounting software. Ms. Stevenson provided information. Director Teppe motioned to pay the bills presented in the amount of \$154,966.52. Director Christy seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman Bland called for the next item on the agenda for new service requests. Chairman Bland inquired if the information was in the packet. Mr. Wright indicated that was not in the packet. Mr. Wright provided information on locations in the District where new services can be added and locations where services cannot be added, based on pipe sizes and pressures available in the line. Discussion followed regarding what to do with new service requests and not allowing new

services until the Board has received an updated hydraulic study. Discussion followed on the amount of water the District has sold to PureField on a monthly basis. Ms. Naegele asked how long would the new service requests be on hold as she had four calls inquiring about getting service. Discussion on contracts, service types, and the by-laws continued. Director Teppe inquired the timeframe to complete the hydraulic study. Mr. Wright indicated it wouldn't start until October or November and likely take a few months to complete. Discussion regarding PureField usage and historical usage continued. Contractual and by-law obligations continued and various locations and pressures in the District. Chairman Bland expressed the District needs to hold off on adding new services until the District can complete the engineering analysis. That this information is necessary and we have a number of meters that do not have any use. Discussion regarding dole valves continued. Director Christy indicated he thought the District should hold off on adding new services. Mr. Wright requested the Board make a motion regarding new service requests if that is the direction of the Board. Ms. Naegele stated that last month's meeting the Board voted to revisit new service requests each month. After discussion, Director Dolezal motioned the District not accept new service application or to allow new service connections until the District has received and reviewed the updated hydraulic study. Director Christy seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor.

Chairman Bland called for the next item on the agenda, the scope and fee presented from Wilson and Company to create a hydraulic model of the District. Mr. Wright provided an overview of the scope of work. Mr. Wright asked Ms. Rivarola to provide some additional details. Ms. Rivarola provided an update of the review and answered questions. Discussion followed regarding the timing of the study and how quickly it could be performed. Ms. Rivarola suggested adding time is of the essence language. The consensus of the Board was to get a timeframe from Wilson and Company to express urgency as the District is not considering new service requests. Ms. Rivarola suggested the Board of Directors could motion to authorize the General Manager to work with Mr. Luckman and Ms. Rivarola to revise the draft scope with their recommendations, and then get the project under contract without returning to the Board. Following discussion, Director Dolezal motioned to authorize the General Manager to execute the scope of work with Wilson and Company with revisions from Mr. Luckman and Ms. Rivarola. Director Teppe seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor. Director Christy suggested Mr. Wright ask Wilson and Company if there is a viewer version of the WaterCad that might be available for the District to view the model without having to buy a seat or license. Director Christy also suggested getting the price for a seat or license to the software. Chairman Bland inquired if the deliverables would include updated maps. Mr. Wright said he's planning to get updated maps as the ones available are outdated and worn.

Chairman Bland called for the General Manager's report. Mr. Wright provided the report. Mr. Wright provided an update on the leaks on the 10" line east of Wilson. That the staff has taken possession of the new vehicle authorized by the Board in Salina. Mr. Wright provided an update on the tower inspection firm, Viking on performing inspections of tower 5 and tower 6. Mr. Wright provided an update on the solar farm project and communications he had with Mr. Luckman regarding issues with their encroachment on the District's easements. Discussion followed. Mr. Wright provided updates on the meters that were installed. Mr. Wright provided

updates on the quotes he received but is still waiting on quotes for repairing the gear box on the clarifier. Mr. Wright discussed a property owner on top of the 10" line and that they are out of water when the District has to shut off valves to repair the lines. Discussion followed. Mr. Wright went through usage by PureField since 2002. Discussion regarding usage at the City of Ellsworth and contract terms.

Chairman Bland called for the KDHE reports. Director Dolezal mentioned a customer who had low water pressure. Mr. Wright said staff would take a look. Chairman Bland called the Board's attention to wholesale contract usage over the last month versus normal usage. Director Christy asked if Brookville had approached the District about their plans for a splash pad. Discussion followed. Chairman Bland inquired what the percent of usage average is measuring for time period. Mr. Wright discussed the AMRs and how they are identifying potential leaks. Discussion followed. Discussion regarding the water sold and produced followed.

At 7:58 pm Chairman Bland called for a 10-minute break before executive session.

At 8:08 pm Chairman Bland resumed the meeting.

Chairman Bland called for a motion to recess into executive session. At 8:09 pm Director Christy motioned to recess into executive session for 30 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 Robbins seconded the motion. All directors present voted in favor of the motion.

At 8:39 pm the Board reconvened in open session. Chairman Bland called for a motion. Director Teppe motioned to increase Mr. Wright's base salary by \$5,000. Director Dolezal seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion. The Board also discussed allowing Mr. Wright to drive the company vehicle to and from home and for use at his discretion.


At 8:42 pm the Chairman called for a motion for an executive session. Director Christy motioned to enter into executive session for 20 minutes under K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) to discuss non-elected personnel with justification to discuss the performance of individual employees to include all Board members, Mr. Jon Wright, and Ms. Rivarola. Mr. Teppe seconded the motion. All directors present voted in favor of the motion.

At 9:02 pm the Board reconvened in open session.

Director Wehrman informed the Board that Director Splitter was not in attendance because his mother had passed away.

At 9:03 pm Chairman Bland called for a motion to adjourn. Director Teppe motioned to adjourn the meeting. Director Christy seconded. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
Secretary/Treasurer

10-15-24  
Date