



JOINT CAPITAL & CONSTRUCTION MEETING AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Tuesday September 6, 2022, at 4:30 p.m.

Memorandum

Ms. Foley called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

Members Present: Committee Chair Amanda Foley, and member Steve Pittman. Others in attendance were Board member Eric Hand, Legal Counsel Anne Poindexter, Utility Director Andrew Williams, Engineering Manager Wes Merkle, and Administrative Assistant Maggie Crediford. Member Jeff Hill was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one present from the public.

PROJECT UPDATES

#1902 Plant Expansion- Mr. Merkle said punch list work continues at the plant. He is reviewing change order requests with Thieneman and closing out paperwork. Mr. Merkle expects the project to be under budget.

In the coming weeks staff will receive quotes for wet well piping reconstruction and pump installation at Lift Stations 1 and 21. The consultant is wrapping up final plans for the Lift Station 8 Reconstruction and Lift Station 26 Force Main Extension projects; both will be bid in October.

Mr. Pittman asked if contractors are more interested in bidding on projects and if they are more available. Mr. Merkle said it is mixed. There are some who are still busy and some that are looking for work.

Mr. Merkle said Lift Station 16 reconstruction is dependent on the progress of The Farm project; he expects it to bid about a month behind Lift Stations 8 and 26.

Mr. Merkle asked the Committee to recommend the Board approve the purchase of two new variable frequency drives (VFDs) for Lift Station 14. The cost of the VFD's will be \$26,260. The installation of the materials will be bid later. TriCo uses VFD's from one manufacture to alleviate issues with maintaining different products and maintain staff familiarity. Mr. Merkle said Donahue & Associates is designing a new control panel at that location. Mr. Merkle plans to present quotes at the Board meeting on September 12.

Mr. Merkle said pumps, controls, and VFDs will need to be quoted for Lift Stations 8 and 16 soon. A new backup generator and transfer switch will also be quoted for Lift Station

8. He expects a six-month lead time on those items. Public Bidding for construction will be in October.

Mr. Merkle said CMID is finishing the engineering design for the Biosolids Building addition. Staff is expecting it to come in substantially over budget. The contractor estimated \$300,000 to \$400,000. Staff budgeted \$200,000 for the project. The addition will create climate-controlled storage for the cleaning truck. The garage bay where it was previously stored was eliminated during the office building remodel. It is imperative that the cleaning truck have climate-controlled storage in the event it is needed in an emergency during the winter months. Mr. Williams reminded the committee that last winter an employee was injured when a valve broke on the truck even though it was winterized. The second bay will create a workshop for the plant staff so they can have a workspace with their tools in one location. Mr. Williams clarified that climate-controlled means heating to prevent the truck piping from freezing. There will not be AC in the summer.

Mr. Hand asked if the Utility has any formal or informal availability to local rescue response teams for the use of the Cleaning Truck. Mr. Williams said this was arranged several years ago through InWARN. The Board signed an interlocal agreement that if another agency needs assistance TriCo can assist and will be reimbursed. Several years ago, TriCo employees trained with Carmel Rescue, but has not been called upon.

The Committee will recommend the Board Approve the purchase of VFD's for Lift Station 14 in the amount of \$26,260.

DRAFT PERMIT MODIFICATION FROM IDEM

Mr. Williams said updates to TriCo's NPDES permit included the requirements for additional testing. Mr. Watkins asked IDEM to reduce toxicity testing requirements since TriCo doesn't have any industrial customers. Toxicity testing costs around \$1,000 per test. Staff requested to reduce testing frequency if TriCo can show it does not have toxicity issues. The number of required tests could be reduced from four times a year to twice a year. IDEM agreed. TriCo uses Microban for metals testing, including cyanide, and their equipment doesn't test for cyanide levels as low as IDEM is requiring so they must send the samples to another laboratory. TriCo runs two cyanide tests a week which would typically cost \$20 at Microban but sending them onto the lab that can test for low limits raises the costs of those tests to \$300 each. Cyanide typically comes from industrial processes. TriCo doesn't currently have any industrial customers and Staff requested removal of the cyanide limit if the more advanced and frequent tests show cyanide is a non-issue, and IDEM agreed.

Mr. Hand said he had asked Mr. Williams earlier if these requests would impact TriCo's request to add water to its charter. Mr. Williams and Mrs. Poindexter said it would not. Mr. Hand said he also wanted to be sure that TriCo was establishing a record of due diligence regarding what it discharges into the water source so issues or questions wouldn't arise later. Mr. Williams said IDEM has approved the addition of water to TriCo's Charter. Ms.

Foley asked if there are any updates on the sewer and water expansion to Baker's Corner. Mr. Williams said at this time he believes the County is working to establish their own regional sewer district, although they had previously indicated that this would be done parallel with a potential solution involving TriCo. Mrs. Poindexter indicated there are still opportunities to work with the County on this utility.

BURIED MANHOLE SUMMARY

Mr. Williams referred to Mr. Strong's report showing that in the 2022 manhole inspection program 53 manholes were not initially found and were identified as Buried/Engineering Assist. Of the 53, Mr. Strong was able to locate 26 manholes using GPS. Eight of the manholes were under warranty and were sent to developers to be raised. And 19 structures were raised to grade by staff using 2-3 inch drop in adjusting rings. The issue is far less of a concern than originally believed. Mr. Williams suggested creating educational materials that could be delivered in the form of a door hanger to affected properties.

Mrs. Poindexter said the Board asked her to review easement language to see if anything needed to be added to address this issue. She explained various property rights surrounding easements and right-of-way. She believed the educational materials suggested by Mr. Williams would be a good starting point to reduce the number of covered manholes. Mrs. Poindexter said if the Board was still interested in adding in a penalty or fine system in the event of pushback from property owners after being educated on the need for access to manholes, it could be added with the next update to the Sewer Use Ordinance.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Wes Merkle
Engineering Manager