

Dorr/Leighton Wastewater Authority Regular Meeting

November 17, 2021

7:00 p.m.

1. **Meeting called to order** by Chairperson Wolbrink at 7:00 p.m. at the Leighton Township Hall.
2. **Members present:** Akers, Bultsma, Fennema, Marr, Miling, Sewers, Wolbrink  
**Member(s) absent with notice:** VanderWoude  
**Others present:** Joe Baxter, Steve Deer, Fern O’Beshaw, Brandon Mieras
3. **Minutes:** Motion by Sewers, support by Bultsma to approve the minutes from the May 20, 2021 meeting. All members voted yes; motion carried.
4. **Agenda:** Motion by Bultsma, support by Sewers to approve the agenda as written. All members voted yes; motion carried.
5. **Plant Expansion/Change Order #8-Brandon:** Discussion of each change order and costs involved. Discussed operations and warranties—both manufacturer and USDA. Funding for change orders will come from a combination of the USDA loan and owner contribution. Exact dollar amount to be determined.
6. **Public Comment:** None.
7. **No Correspondence**
8. **Operations Report – Joe Baxter, B&B Waste Water:** Joe reported that operations are running smoothly. Pumps have been pulled from stations 1 and 2 and are getting repaired. The EPA is coming to inspect the plant post construction. EGLE has been through the plant and found no violations.
9. **Old Business:**
  - A. **Sump Pump I & I:** All violations have been inspected and repairs made if needed. The project is considered completed.
  - B. **E-billing and online payments:** Joe Akers and Fern are working on e-billing. They have received approximately 180 email addresses to send e-bills to for the next billing. Still looking into the possibility of online payments.
  - C. **Changing Quarterly billing to monthly:** It has been decided that switching to a monthly billing at this time would be too costly and time-consuming.
10. **New Business:**
  - A. **Meter reads/REU calculations:** Motion by Bultsma, support by Marr to approve the REU calculations presented. All members voted yes; motion carried.
  - B. **Board Member Pay/Finance Committee Pay:** Motion by Bultsma, support by Sewers to raise the meeting pay to \$50 per board member, \$75 for the Secretary, and \$100 for the Dorr Township Chair; and pay the Finance Committee \$25 per Finance Committee meeting; and pay the Leighton Township Chairperson \$3600 yearly total with no extra meeting fees; starting in January 2022. All members voted yes; motion carried.
  - C. **Fern’s Pay:** Motion by Marr, support by Miling to raise Fern’s Treasurer salary to \$10,000 per year. Roll call vote: Yeas: Sewers, Wolbrink, Marr, Miling, Akers. Nays: Fennema. Abstain: Bultsma. Motion carried.
  - D. **2022 Budget:** Motion by Marr, support by Bultsma to increase B & B Waste Water contracted compensation by 6% for 2022. All members voted yes; motion carried. Following budget review and discussion, Wolbrink motioned and Marr supported to approve

the budget with expenditures of \$1,251,422.05. Roll call vote: Yeas: Wolbrink, Sewers, Bultsma, Akers, Marr, Miling, Fennema. Nays: None. Motion carried.

E. **Set rate for 2022:** – Motion by Bultsma, support by Sewers to make no increase to resident sewer rates for 2022. All members voted yes; motion carried.

F. **Hardship Rate Idea:** Discussion regarding reduction of rates for qualifying individuals. Tabled until May meeting.

**11. Public Comment:** Steve Deer thanked everyone present for their work.

**12.** Next regular meeting date has been set for May 19, 2022 at 7 p.m. at Leighton Township.

**13.** Motion by Sewers, second by Akers to adjourn. Motion carried.

**14.** Meeting adjourned at 10:08 p.m.

Sec'y: \_\_\_\_\_

Chair Wolbrink: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-Chair Miling: \_\_\_\_\_