

# UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD- DRAFT MINUTES

Thursday, June 14, 2018- 5:15 p.m. – Lemon Creek Shop 5433 Shaune Drive

**Board Members Present:** Leon Vance-Chair; Geoff Larson- Vice-Chair; Janet Hall-Schempf; Grant Ritter, Kevin Buckland; Bryan Farrell

**Board Members Absent:** Andrew Campbell

**Staff Present:** Mike Vigue; Autumn Sapp; Breckan Hendricks; Nathan Coffee

## I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:20 p.m. by Chair Vance.

## II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Reviewed and approved

## III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 10, 2018 Draft UAB Meeting Minutes- Chair Vance motioned to approve the minutes with minor amendments. Motion passed with no objection.

## IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

## V. ACTION ITEMS

None.

## VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

- i. **Dryer Update-** Mr. Coffee presented an update of the progress of the dryer. Mr. Coffee stated that the old building has been demolished and a new structure built in its place. The dryer is located inside the structure and all of the large pieces of equipment were placed before the roof was completed with the exception of the condenser. The condenser will be built inside. Mr. Coffee explained that some of the site work requires the ground to thaw for utility work and that the testing of equipment is

estimated to occur in mid-October. Mr. Coffee stated it is undetermined what will happen with the waste product when it's done and that DEC has been focused on odor control, emissions and complaints from the neighborhood.

Mr. Farrell asked if there would be opportunity for public comment. Mr. Coffee stated there would be a plant tour scheduled at a later date. Vice-Chair Larson requested notification when a tour was scheduled and Ms. Hall-Schempf requested a mailed notification. Staff will follow up once more details are known.

Vice-Chair Larson inquired on the storage area. Mr. Coffee said that there has been some discussion of purchasing land that is housing pieces of the dryer.

Mr. Buckland asked if there was a budget breakdown and staff referred Mr. Buckland to the dashboard reports.

Mr. Ritter asked what the life expectancy of the dryer was and asked for clarification if the vendor and contractor have a say in the materials used. Mr. Coffee stated that he is open to suggestions which do not affect the durability or end product.

iv. **Rate Study/Asset Evaluation Update-** Mrs. Sapp reported on her conversation with W Wilks who worked on the rate study in 2014. Mrs. Sapp stated that W Wilks was very familiar and recalled the rate study very well. Mrs. Sapp stated that when evaluating inventory and assets the project becomes very expensive and requires guessing of what the state of infrastructure is.

Mr. Ritter shared his concerns that CBJ has a price and depreciation on assets that does not add up to him and that we (CBJ) doesn't know what some of our assets are. Staff shared that CBJ now has Lucity a software that can track inventory and assets. Vice-Chair Larson explained that the depreciation Mr. Ritter was referencing takes

into account certain assumptions that do not reflect the same period of time the materials are in service.

Mrs. Sapp shared that Scott Lester with FCS is also very interested and would need a months' time for an estimate and timeline.

Mrs. Sapp stated that Lucity could recommend partners, but that they do not provided asset evaluations. Mr. Vigue clarified that there has been no direction from the assembly yet to do a rate study. Mr. Vigue stated that more information is required from FCS and it is undetermined when this will be presented.

Mr. Buckland shared his concern for UAB approving rate increases and not considering differentiated rates when previous studies have recommended them. Mr. Buckland encouraged that UAB recommend an updated study. Staff noted the need to collect the rest of information from FCS and see where the assembly wants to take it.

Vice-Chair Larson stated what we really want is a financially sound utility. How do we balance the strength and integrity of the utility? Are there other things that will help the utilities going forward? Staff encouraged this question to be discussed with the new Superintendent Brian McGuire when he is back in office.

ii. **AWWA Benchmarking-** Chair Vance asked to table the item regarding AWWA Utility Benchmarking. Staff to review the benchmark more thoroughly and to review with Brian McGuire.

v. **Meeting Schedule-** Mr. Vigue stated that the next PWSC meeting is July 9, 2018.

## **VII. NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

**None.**

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Vance confirmed the July UAB meeting will be canceled. The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.