

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF WATERWORKS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 18, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS:

Henry Ventura, President
Joseph Ochoa, Vice-President
John Bakota, Member
Anthony Askounis, Member
Ray Lopez, Member

STAFF:

Joseph Allegretti
Alysia Dunbar
Bill Biller
Winna Guzman

Reported by: Fissinger & Associates, Ltd.

By: Peggy S. LaLonde

Call to Order: 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present in Chambers: Henry Ventura, Joseph
Ochoa, John Bakota, Anthony
Askounis, Ray Lopez

STAFF Present in Chambers: Alysia Dunbar
Joseph Allegretti, Winna Guzman, Bill
Biller

MR. VENTURA: Meeting of the East Chicago
Department of Waterworks Board will come to order.
Entertain a motion to approve minutes of October 4,
2021.

MR. LOPEZ: Motion to approve.

MR. BAKOTA: Second.

MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?

(None)

Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
Opposed: None

MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.

Next we have Warrants.

WARRANT 101521 - amount of \$34,643.88-Utilities Payroll
Dates of 9-25-21 to 10-8-21

MR. OCHOA: Make a motion.

1 MR. ASKOUNIS: Second

2 MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?

(None)

3 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
4 Opposed: None

5 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.

6 WARRANT 100821 - amount \$32,000 - Utilities Payroll
7 Dates of 10-8-21 to 10-8-21

8 MR. LOPEZ: Motion to approve.

9 MR. OCHOA: Second.

10 MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?

(None)

11 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
12 Opposed: None

13 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.

14 WARRANT 101521 - amount \$11,004.72 - Payroll
15 Dates of 9-25-21 to 10-8-21.

16 MR. OCHOA: Make a motion.

17 MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

18 MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?

(None)

19 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
20 Opposed: None

21 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.

22 WARRANT 1018021 - amount of \$9,375.00 - Payroll
23 Dates of 10-8-21 to 10-8-21

24 MR. LOPEZ: Motion to approve.

25 MR. OCHOA: Second.

MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?

(None)

Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
Opposed: None

1 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.
WARRANT 101821 CD - amount \$600.50

2 MR. BAKOTA: Motion to approve.

3 MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

4 MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?
5 (None)

6 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
Opposed: None

7 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.
8 WARRANT 101821 WF - amount of \$59,653.00

9 MR. ASKOUNIS: Motion to accept.

10 MR. OCHOA: Second.

11 MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?
12 (None)

13 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
Opposed: None

14 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.
15 WARRANT 101821 WT - amount of \$1,524.00

16 MR. ASKOUNIS: Motion to approve.

17 MR. OCHOA: Second.

18 MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?
19 (None)

20 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
Opposed: None

21 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.
WARRANT 101821 WB - amount of \$123,575.18

22 MR. OCHOA: Make a motion to approve.

23 MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

24 MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?
25 (None)

1 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
Opposed: None

2 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.

3 WARRANT 101521 WB - amount of \$135,649.45

4 MR. BAKOTA: Motion to approve.

5 MR. OCHOA: Second.

6 MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?

(None)

7 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
8 Opposed: None

9 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.

Next we have reports. Filtration

10 Report.

11 MS. GUZMAN: Winna Guzman, Water
Department Director. Just to inform the Board, Mr.
12 Perez had a death in his family so he is out of the
office and will be returning on Thursday.

13 Some of the items on the agenda,
because of time, I have Tom on the line to respond or
14 discuss any items relating to Filtration, but there is
no report. Thank you.

15 MR. VENTURA: Water Report.

16 MS. GUZMAN: Just for notification
17 purposes I provided the Board with a spread sheet. This
reflects the CEDIT allocations approved by the City
18 Council for the amount of \$1,550,000 for items that are
listed and attached, and I attached also the ordinance
19 that reflects that amount. There is an additional
\$500,000, but that hasn't been approved by the Council
20 yet, but we do have that money in a different -- it was
processed differently.

21 So the total amount reflected on
this spread sheet is \$2,500,000 and it's for leak
22 repairs, hydrants, valve repair program, valve
inventory, B-box repair. So different types of projects
23 that we are working on, that funding was needed and
actually some of this is already in motion as you can
24 see. Mr. Lee has provided a list of all items that he
has been working on.

25

1 MR. GOMEZ: Any questions for Winna?

2 MR. OCHOA: Under leak repair, are there
3 contractors that do that?

4 MS. GUZMAN: Unfortunately, at this time,
5 yes. We are trying -- Allan is trying to work on
6 getting additional staff to assist with those efforts.

7 MR. VENTURA: Any other questions for
8 Winna on the CEDIT report?

9 MS. GUZMAN: And then I also provided for
10 informational purposes reports from Sanitary District
11 and also from Fire Department relating to metered
12 hydrant use. They are providing this on a monthly basis
13 and also would be looking for Public Works to also
14 provide us with reports regarding the same.

15 MR. BAKOTA: Fire Department hasn't been
16 giving reports, have they?

17 MS. GUZMAN: Yes, they have. I believe
18 they have.

19 MR. BAKOTA: We receive them in our
20 packets?

21 MS. GUZMAN: Yes. And I believe -- I can
22 take a look at the last time I sent it and update you at
23 the next meeting. They are really good about that and I
24 know they changed with, you know, the chief, so I think
25 there was a little backup there, but definitely I will
check and see what report is due. I will give you a
report at the next meeting. That completes my report
for today.

MR. VENTURA: Thank you.

MS. GUZMAN: You are so welcome.

MR. VENTURA: Next we have Distribution,
Allan S. Lee.

MR. LEE: We are waiting on parts like
everybody else is waiting on parts to get that blue
tooth piece, to get that meter working. I called and
it's on the way. As soon as he gets it, he's going to
get it to us, hopefully this week.

1 We are still with Hasse putting that
2 line back in in November. That's still on. I guess we
3 are all done with the leak repairs in Markstown.

4 We are at 56 meters. I think we
5 might have had a couple come in today, I'm not sure.
6 I'm not going to say what I don't know. 56 meters of
7 the 150 meters have been tested and being brought back
8 this week, so 50 are done. Even though we sent out 35,
9 we got 15 done.

10 The number of the shutoffs are still
11 about the same. You get new ones every day, but we were
12 like at about \$26,000 not collected and I think we are
13 now at 15,000. Still a large number, but chopping down
14 the big ones first.

15 Instead of just telling you numbers,
16 I gave you a copy of my master list. I have a list for
17 the hydrants, the shutoffs, the valves all operate, but
18 that's also on that master list. So you can look along
19 there and you can see which non pays went out, the
20 address for the valves, hydrants are all the way over to
21 the right. When you see a complete, that's a happy face
22 at the end because those are all done. But if it
23 doesn't say complete, there is the X.

24 Restoration hasn't got a check
25 because I check every restoration to make sure it's
26 checked. I thought it may be nice for you to see
27 exactly where everything is, you can look where the
28 hydrants are. So we have 32 hydrants that needed to be
29 replaced or repaired, and we still have 12 to go.

30 Inventory, I'd like to say that we
31 have a clamp for every size main, but we still have one
32 main that we don't have a clamp for, but we are in the
33 process of getting that, just for inventory. We have at
34 least one for the other mains and trying to get two
35 clamps for each size. We started ordering some
36 fittings. We got our fittings inventoried and I think a
37 larger purchase will come up at the next meeting.

38 So we have been ordering, getting
39 our stuff filled out. The problem with just fixing the
40 valves, we are just getting those raised up, replacing
41 the ones in the ground; it's waiting on materials. You
42 can't fix something if you don't have the materials to
43 fix it.

44 So ME Simpson, on the fire hydrants,
45 I went and checked on. They give us an update every day
46 where they are at in case somebody might want to go spy
47 on them, make sure they are doing what they are suppose
48 to be doing, what we are paying them for. They seem to
49 be doing a good job. As soon as they get done, Giant

1 will come in and paint. I think we have a meeting this
2 week on the flow --

3 MS. GUZMAN: The 27th.

4 MR. LEE: We have got that set up to
5 check to see how much water we are pumping out so we can
6 figure out how much our lost water is. If we can get
7 Public Works a little bit on not stealing, at least
8 telling us what they use so we know exactly what we got.

9 MR. OCHOA: Are you going to figure it
10 out on the new plant or the old one also?

11 MR. LEE: Well, I think we are just going
12 to do the new plant because eventually we are going to
13 get rid of the old plant. I'm not sure, depends how
14 long that takes. I think that's got to run awhile. I
15 was concerned with that when it got really cold that it
16 wasn't working and they had to sort of use the old one.

17 MR. OCHOA: The new wasn't working?

18 MR. LEE: When it got cold. So my
19 thinking was, we need to maybe figure out how to
20 mothball it and bring it online. And then we need -- we
21 can use it, so it works good this winter. So we don't
22 have, well, it's frozen; now we got no water. That's
23 what we are working on there too. But the old plant
24 does need to go, but you need to do the process. Don't
25 give all your eggs away until you know you got more.

So we got four hydrants that came in
the last two days that ME Simpson found don't work at
all. They are on the list of that 12. And there is 128
jobs that went out, and that's the master list you have.
It shows you everything that I have given out and what
we have done, what is complete, and what is in the works
coming up.

And right now we are working on our
next project, which is cleaning the meter testing room
and the hydrant parts. That's another room to work on.
But it's now on the list and that's where we are right
now.

MR. OCHOA: Out of those hydrants that
are ready to be repaired, you said 35?

MR. LEE: Everything is done except 12
hydrants.

1 MR. OCHOA: How much of the 200,000 is
2 that going to take up?

3 MR. LEE: All of it and might not be any
4 left. We still might be short a couple hydrants. If we
5 can get a little water out, we'll leave them, but we
6 want to get the ones that don't work at all and then
7 work from there.

8 MR. VENTURA: Thank you.

9 MR. BAKOTA: Winna, I do have the fire
10 department report. I overlooked it.

11 MS. GUZMAN: Okay.

12 MR. VENTURA: Next report is from legal
13 counsel.

14 MR. ALLEGRETTI: No report.

15 MR. VENTURA: Any report from Financial,
16 Bill Biller.

17 MR. BILLER: There is a report in your
18 packet. I will just hit a couple of the highlights for
19 you. Receipts in September are 581,000, which consisted
20 of things usual for the month. In September we received
21 our semi annual reimbursement from the Sanitary District
22 for their share of customer accounts, which was \$77,000.
23 And that was kind of offset by non receipts from the
24 Civil City of the fire hydrant charges. I think that
25 was just a timing factor from the Civil City. That has
happened a couple other times this year and the
following month we get double payment. So I am looking
for that to be in next month.

Annually our customer collections
are up about \$100,000 from last year. That's mainly in
the industrial accounts. That's on the pulse side.

On expenditures side, disbursements
for the month, I have the page that has the total of
\$547,000 for the month. Your major items in there was
212,000, which was our semi annual reimbursement to
Utility Fund for our share of the cost, which we share
with Sanitary District and Solid Waste. The other
things are normal expenses, payroll, debt service, and
some contractual services. Ending balance for September
is \$541,000.

The other thing I will mention, we

1 are still forecasting we will have to borrow an
2 additional 200,000 by year end from Storm Water. Any
3 questions? (None) Thank you.

4 MR. VENTURA: Next we have New Business.
5 Resolution WD 21-16, Water Utility Fund 601, transfer of
6 appropriations. And this is a resolution of the Board
7 of Trustees of East Chicago Water Department authorizing
8 the transfer of appropriations in different fund
9 categories.

10 MR. LOPEZ: Motion to accept.

11 MR. OCHOA: Second.

12 MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?
13 (None)

14 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
15 Opposed: None

16 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.
17 Next Resolution WD 21-17, East Chicago Water Department
18 Fund 601, Re-appropriation. Do I have a motion?

19 MR. ASKOUNIS: Motion to accept.

20 MR. LOPEZ: Second.

21 MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?
22 (None)

23 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
24 Opposed: None

25 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.
Next Resolution WD 21-18, Water Utility Construction
Fund 605, additional appropriation. Do I have a motion
to accept?

MR. LOPEZ: Motion to accept.

MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?

MR. BAKOTA: Can I have an explanation on
this? We are transferring money here?

1 MR. BILLER: This appropriation actually
2 deals with the SRF. When we did the budget, we knew
3 there was going to probably be additional appropriations
4 required. We did one, I think, two months ago, month
5 and a half, of 600,000. And there is still more claims
6 coming through for work that's being done on the various
7 projects. So we needed an additional 400,000 and the
8 money is there, we just appropriated it in pieces.

9 MR. BAKOTA: Thank you.

10 MR. VENTURA: Any other questions or
11 comments for Bill? (None)

12 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
13 Opposed: None

14 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.

15 Next we have Agreements. Lockwood,
16 Andrews, & Newman Inc., 4506 Cline Avenue, 24-inch line
17 repair. The amount of \$35,655.00. You want to explain
18 this?

19 MS. GUZMAN: I believe we have Jim Dean
20 from Lockwood on the phone and he can elaborate on these
21 next two items.

22 MR. VENTURA: Go ahead, Jim.

23 MR. DEAN: This is requested engineering
24 construction services. We had originally submitted
25 part-time inspection fee and Director of Public Works
for City of East Chicago, Julio, asked it be revised for
full-time inspection instead of part-time, which would
tap this cost.

This cost is for a month of on-site
observation and construction management services,
including chapter review, change orders, anything else.
It's not expected to be a month; it's expected to be
three weeks or less, but this is the T and M cost. So
it won't exceed the \$35,655, but it's expected to be
less, but this is for full-time inspection requested by
the City for the repair of the 24-inch water main.

I guess I should give a little
background here. This 24-inch by the CSX railroad has
been out of service for over a year. It's a critical
arterial main. It was bid back in March, which may come
in in the next item, and it was then proceeded to be
approved for Hasse Construction in September. Any

1 questions on this?

2 MR. VENTURA: Any other questions?

3 MR. ALLEGRETTI: I want to remind the
4 Board, the delay was not any fault of the Department.
5 It was rather at the request of the City engineer's
6 office, which the result is going to be the next item,
7 increase change order to Hasse Construction, but through
8 no fault of our own. Stuff happens.

9 MR. VENTURA: Do I have a motion to
10 approve?

11 MR. LOPEZ: Motion to approve.

12 MR. OCHOA: Second.

13 MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?
14 (None)

15 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
16 Opposed: None

17 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.

18 Next agreement is Hasse
19 Construction, change order, 4506 Cline Avenue, 24-inch
20 line repair, amount of \$6,626.85. This is due to delay
21 in starting the project. Any questions for Winna?

22 MR. DEAN: This additional cost was from
23 increase in material cost from when it was bid in March
24 and expecting to be constructed shortly after, and
25 approved later on in September; and the cost of
materials increased by approximately 4200 to 41. And
the other 2500 was for CSX railroad insurance that had
expired during that time and had to be repurchased for
this project to continue, which it is expected to occur
in December, early to mid December, due to material
availability.

MR. VENTURA: Any other questions for
Jim?

MR. BAKOTA: Is this Ferguson Water Works
attached to that?

MR. DEAN: The Ferguson Water Works
proposal, we have that as backup. I don't know if it

1 was included in the minutes, but I can transfer it on.
2 The quote was during bid, and then when it was awarded,
3 the new quote for materials was provided and itemized by
4 Hasse Construction.

5 MR. BAKOTA: On the front sheet is a
6 total of \$6,626.85. On page 2 of the Ferguson there's a
7 total of \$27,527.73. I don't understand how Ferguson is
8 attached to Hasse, it's way above that amount.

9 MR. DEAN: You see the material total,
10 the addition is the 4200 and something dollars. And
11 that was the recent quote of August 4th was \$27,527.00.
12 And back in March 17th, it was 1600.

13 MR. BAKOTA: I can see the math. Again,
14 maybe I'm confused. Page 2, Ferguson shows \$27,527.73.
15 And are we voting on all of it or is that -- is that
16 spent already?

17 MR. BILLER: I think the Hasse change
18 order, the first line is 4126. That's the net change in
19 the Ferguson quote. The first quote you look at. That
20 17,000, I think that's the latest quotation.

21 MR. DEAN: Right.

22 MR. BILLER: The first quotation from
23 Ferguson was 23,000 or whatever the total was.

24 MR. BAKOTA: This is a correction of the
25 original quote?

MR. BILLER: 27 is the quote now. The
original one was 23, the difference is 4126 here.

MR. BAKOTA: Thank you.

MR. VENTURA: Any comments
or questions? (None) Do I have a motion?

MR. OCHOA: Make a motion.

MR. BAKOTA: Second.

Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
Opposed: None

MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.

1 Agreement for Wonderware Q-Mation,
2 Training quote of \$1,575.00.

3 MS. GUZMAN: I believe Tom Uran is on the
4 line from Filtration representing Obed Perez. Tom, do
5 you want to elaborate on this? This is that Q-Mation
6 for the training, for upgrading of the software for the
7 SCADA system. It's two quotes, one for training, which
8 is the first item on the agenda of \$1,575.00.

9 MR. URAN: It was my understanding when I
10 spoke with them, and I spoke with Pat Leonard from
11 Austgen Electric, I was under the impression that since
12 we were buying their software to keep part of our
13 network with our SCADA going, the training was an added
14 incentive and it was free. So that's the part I am a
15 little perplexed about. Now they are saying that they
16 are going to charge us.

17 Dr. Abdul, before he left, he called
18 me in the office and explained to me, and told me that
19 there was training involved with this and it was like a
20 gratis, if you will, for buying their software or
21 staying with their software.

22 MS. GUZMAN: No, there is some additional
23 cost.

24 MR. URAN: Then that's fine, but that was
25 the assumption that I was under. But as far as the
software, this is something that we need for our system.

MR. OCHOA: They train on-site?

MS. GUZMAN: I believe they do.

MR. LOPEZ: So which amount are we
approving?

MS. GUZMAN: First item is \$1,575.00 for
training. This is again in relation to the additional
item, but if you want to look at this first and then do
the second one. We have two items to vote on.

MR. VENTURA: Any questions for Winna on
the training for \$1,575.00?

MR. BAKOTA: Are you going to combine
these two?

1 MR. VENTURA: I wasn't, but we can.

2 MR. BAKOTA: It's up to you. We can do
3 the other one too.

4 MR. VENTURA: We are going to take the
5 second one and combine these.

6 MS. GUZMAN: No problem.

7 MR. VENTURA: The second one is for
8 Wonderware Q-Mation, DR-1000-50/10-7050, amount of
9 \$9,750.00. And that's the equipment that goes with the
10 training?

11 MS. GUZMAN: No, this is the upgrade of
12 the software.

13 MR. VENTURA: Any questions for Winna?

14 MR. OCHOA: We are not getting new
15 software?

16 MS. GUZMAN: No, it's upgrading of the
17 existing software.

18 MR. VENTURA: So do I have a motion to
19 accept Wonderware Q-Mation, training quote for \$1,575.00
20 and Wonderware Q-Mation, DR-100-50/10-7050, amount of
21 \$9,750.00?

22 MR. OCHOA: Motion to accept

23 MR. LOPEZ: Second.

24 MR. VENTURA: Roll call.

25 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
Opposed: None

MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.

Next we have F.E. Moran Fire
Protection proposal, and this is for \$95,950.00

MR. URAN: Back some time ago Obed Perez
Junior was making his rounds and we had what we refer to
as an arc flash in our switch gear on variable frequency
drives. They immediately called me. I was out in the
field. The fire department came.

1 When I got there I had noticed that
2 we had a surge suppressor that's suppose to protect the
3 system from a condition like that. It took a hit. And
4 the reason why it took the hit, I found out later, was
5 because the wiring inside the surge suppressor broke
6 loose from the circuit, the 300-volt 3 phase arced and
7 then our ten tanks -- we have primary and secondary in
8 our high service room, which is argon gas, went and did
9 what it was suppose to do, and depleted -- took the
10 oxygen out of the air and everything to snuff out the
11 fire and smoke, if you will.

12 After that though, it's been brought
13 to my attention, and I have been with F.E. Moran and few
14 of their engineers, they are no longer going to use
15 argon gas. They are switching over. So right now to
16 put that in there would probably run you about \$60,000,
17 which is ridiculous because we can switch over to Novak.
18 I don't really -- I'm not a chemist -- I don't really
19 understand what that chemical is, but it's the gold
20 standard that they are using now. And instead of having
21 10 and 20 tanks, we are going to have two large tanks
22 that are going to take the place of that, and it's going
23 to be a lot more cost efficient.

24 Because if we have another
25 contingency anywhere in the building, like with any of
our other tanks, once they are being systematically
replaced; it's going to be a lot cheaper to replace the
gas that's in the tank, along with the hoses and the
gauges because they are doing away with a lot of
incidentals they don't need to have anymore. So right
now that would just cover our electric room, our motor
control center to protect our switchgear.

 And just for the record, each one of
the drivers, variable frequency drivers, are
\$1.5 million a piece, as well as having a transformer
and all kind of other equipment that's in there that's
essential to the operations of that plant. Any
questions?

20 MR. LOPEZ: You said you cut down from 20
21 to 2 tanks?

22 MR. URAN: Correct.

23 MR. LOPEZ: You were saying how many
24 tanks you cut down to, was that two?

25 MR. URAN: Yes, sir. You have usually a
primary and secondary. And if one goes, the primary,

1 depending on how they are tied in, the secondary is
2 backup if it needs to expand it, but doing away with
3 that as the years go by, each tank has a hose and gauge.
4 Each hose and gauge has to be replaced and they have to
5 be certified. They have to be sent out. F.E. Moran
6 doesn't do that at the facility, which is very time
7 consuming and costly. Switching over now with the two
8 tanks, you are only looking at two hoses, two gauges and
9 you are no longer looking at the cylinders that actually
10 are like starter gun full. If they suspect something,
11 the cylinder opens up and then allows the gauges to open
12 up and expend the argon gas out of the first ten tanks
13 and so on and so forth.

14 With the Novak gas, it's just -- you
15 eliminate all of that unnecessary equipment because it's
16 up-to-date now and totally complete different type of
17 gas that's a lot cheaper.

18 So, in order to do that, if we want
19 to just switch gears with the gas that's in them tanks
20 right now, it would be close to \$60,000, because you
21 literally have to meet all the criteria with the gauges,
22 hoses, the pressure testing. And then only for our
23 demise, we are going to find out, oh, well, you can't do
24 it no more because it's obsolete. They switched over
25 through whatever OSHA standards or what have you, the
fire protection system, saying Novak is the new gas that
they are using.

MR. LOPEZ: As long as we are in
compliance, right?

MS. GUZMAN: Just to note, they will be
designing the drawings and the plans, and it will be
sent down State for construction design release; that's
included in the cost.

MR. VENTURA: Can I have a motion to
approve?

MR. LOPEZ: Motion to approve.

MR. OCHOA: Second.

MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?

(None)

Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
Opposed: None

1 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.

2 Next we have Austgen Electric Inc.,
3 for 12/5 kv Switch Gear, at \$23,150.00.

4 MS. GUZMAN: Tom, can you elaborate?

5 MR. URAN: The field protective relays
6 are the newer relays. Back sometime, I want to say like
7 2010, 2011 and we had some problems arise over there, it
8 was our field protective relays. They operated these
9 field protective relays and they are actually
10 unnecessary part of the system because one takes care of
11 the automatic transfer switch for our generator, which
12 is 12.5 or 12,500 volts stepped down. And if we lose
13 power, say somebody hits a transformer, something like
14 that, it senses that and then automatic transfer switch
15 kicks in, but we can only do that through the field
16 protective relay, and the 12.5 is the automatic transfer
17 switch.

18 Now, there is two of them. If you
19 notice that says 12 each because the other one we have,
20 or had a spare that was in there, and we had a problem.
21 When Ben El Harit and Doc was there, and myself, we had
22 to come out in the middle of the night, pull one of the
23 spare ones out and reprogram it to get that automatic
24 transfer switch working so that we could get power back
25 to the plant. These two are going to be our standby.
If we should have any type of problem at all, one will
take care of the automatic transfer switch, the other
one can handle any other field protective relay that's
in that cubicle. So it's once again, like the fire
protection system, it's needed. It's necessary.

18 MR. VENTURA: Any other questions for
19 Tom? (None) Do I have a motion to approve?

20 MR. OCHOA: Make a motion to approve.

21 MR. LOPEZ: Second.

22 MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?
(None)

23 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
24 Opposed: None

25 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.

Next are past due invoices.
Communication Company, this is for \$90.00. And the

1 reason for delinquency, invoice was not sent to me by
2 6-22-2021, had to contact company to have them send it
to me. Do I have a motion to approve?

3 MR. ASKOUNIS: Motion to approve.

4 MR. OCHOA: Second.

5 MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?

6 (None)

7 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
Opposed: None

8 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.

9 Next, Department of Water Works,
\$435.43. Reason for delinquency, invoice was not
10 processed by former AP personnel. Do I have a motion to
approve?

11 MR. OCHOA: Make a motion to approve.

12 MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

13 MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?

14 (None)

15 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
Opposed: None

16 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.

17 Next is Water and Sewer bill,
\$1,751.96. The reason for delinquent invoices, late due
18 to funds having to be transferred in the sewage account.
Do I have a motion to approve?

19 MR. LOPEZ: Motion to approve.

20 MR. OCHOA: Second.

21 MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?

22 (None)

23 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
Opposed: None

24 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.

25 NIPSCO, \$55.00, reason for
delinquency, invoices were being sent to me, but talked

1 to NIPSCO so we have to pay the trip charge. Had been
calling and e-mailing them, and finally got a call back.
2 Do I have a motion to approve?

3 MR. OCHOA: Make a motion to approve.

4 MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

5 MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?

(None)

6 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
7 Opposed: None

8 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.

9 Next we have other business,
scrapping of material approval. And this is for fire
hydrants and pits, related material for various
10 distribution items. Winna, you want to explain?

11 MS. GUZMAN: This is just requesting
approval for Distribution Division to dispose of scrape,
12 which I attached photos of basically various
distribution items, fire hydrants, pit related
13 materials, piping sets. Again, these items are no
longer in operational state and respectfully request
14 that the Board approve this so we can dispose of these
items. And I can provide, as I always do, a copy of the
15 check that we receive once it's scrapped.

16 MR. VENTURA: Any questions for Winna?

(None) Do I have a motion?

17 MR. LOPEZ: Motion to accept.

18 MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

19 MR. BAKOTA: I have a question on -- we
20 just passed this -- on this memo for delinquent water
bill, but also shows a Heartland Control bill attached
21 to it for \$10,200. It's on the third page and that was
attached to the past due.

22 MS. GUZMAN: This is just a quote. This
23 was inadvertently attached. This is something
different.

24 MR. BAKOTA: We already passed it, but I
25 just noticed that.

1 MS. GUZMAN: Just the invoice relating to
the memo.

2 MR. VENTURA: Any other questions for
3 Winna? (None) There's a motion on the floor to approve
the scrapping of material. Roll Call

4 MR. VENTURA: Any comments or questions?
5 (None)

6 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
Opposed: None

7 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.
8 Do we have any Unfinished Business?
(None) Public Comment: (None)
9 Next meeting will be held
10 November 1st, 2021, 5:00 p.m., in Council Chambers.
Do I have a motion to adjourn?

11 MR. ASKOUNIS: Motion to adjourn.

12 MR. BAKOTA: Second.

13 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
Opposed: None

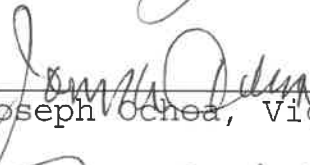
14 MR. VENTURA: Motion carries.

15 ***** Meeting adjourned *****
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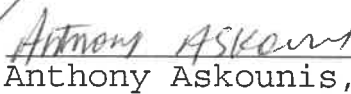
Approval of the Meeting Minutes of
October 18, 2021

Approved and signed November 1, 2021


Henry Ventura, President


Joseph Ochoa, Vice-President


John Bakota, Member


Anthony Askounis, Member


Ray Lopez, Member


Alysia Dunbar, Secretary.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Peggy S. LaLonde, a competent and duly qualified court reporter, do hereby certify that I did report in machine shorthand the foregoing proceedings and that my shorthand notes so taken at said time and place were thereafter reduced to typewriting under my personal direction.

I further certify that the foregoing typewritten transcript constitutes minutes of the said proceedings taken at said time and place, so ordered to be transcribed.

Dated at Munster, Indiana, this 21st day of October, 2021.

Peggy S. LaLonde



Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR