



Marion Utilities
1540 N Washington St.
Marion, IN 46952
www.marionutilities.com

Service Board

BOARD MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 9, 2020 MEETING

The Marion Utility Service Board held their meeting on Thursday, January 9, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the L.E.A.D. Center, Building 101, at Marion Utilities, 1540 N. Washington Street, Marion, Indiana.

Roll was called and those board members present were: Bob Logan, Chairman; Mike Barney; Bill Dorsey; and Al Green. Doug Carl, Von Jackson, and Herschel Lewis were absent.

Also present at the meeting were: Chuck Binkerd, Director; Pat Pinkerton, Assistant Director for Engineering and Solid Waste; Robin Shrader, Assistant Director for Operations and Maintenance; Mike Conner, Attorney; Misty Humphries, Secretary; and Mark Theel, Marion Utilities.

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

There were no additions or deletions.

ELECTION OF 2020 CHAIRMAN & VICE-CHAIRMAN APPOINTMENT

Mr. Dorsey moved to nominate Mr. Bob Logan as the 2020 Chairman. Mr. Barney seconded. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Dorsey moved, seconded by Mr. Green, to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2019 meeting. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE ON PROJECTS

Mr. Pinkerton reported that there are not any projects at this time. He will bring quotes on the floor project for the 1300 building to the next meeting. Mr. Dorsey asked if the floor would be such that maintenance work could be done in the building. Mr. Pinkerton said that the existig concrete is only two inches thick. The heavy trucks have turned that into crushed stone. The floor project will provide a floor that is substantial enough to withstand the weight of the trucks. It will also allow maintenace work on the trucks to be completed when needed.

TRANSFERS & PAY REQUESTS

Mr. Pinkerton presented a transfer request in the amount of \$100,000 from the Storm Water Depreciation Equipment Reserve account into the Storm Water Operations account in order to maintain the required minimum amount. Mr. Green moved, seconded by Mr. Barney, to approve the transfer presented by Mr. Pinkerton. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.



SEPTIC & F.O.G. RECEIVING RATES

Mrs. Shrader said this item went along with the residuals information presented at the last board meeting. Currently, septic hauler waste is accepted and \$0.075 per gallon is charged. The number of gallons was based upon what the driver reported. Mrs. Shrader said once staff started measuring the number of gallons, the reporting by the drivers became more accurate. Pam Kirklin performed a cost analysis and calculated that it costs the utilities \$0.055 per gallon to receive the waste and process it with labor costs included. Mrs. Kirlin also reviewed rates charged at other facilities. Rates ranged from \$0.03 to \$0.91 per gallon. Mrs. Shrader explained that an average load is 2,000 gallons at a rate of \$0.055 would total \$110. If a load is over 2,500; Mrs. Shrader proposed charging an additional \$60 per 1,000 gallons. Mrs. Shrader also explained that acceptance of restaurant/food grease trap waste would boost the utilities' ability to produce more energy which would be a benefit. Again, Mrs. Kirklin did some research and found that it would cost approximately \$0.075 per gallon to process. Other facilities charge \$0.09 to \$0.11 per gallon. Mrs. Shrader asked that a rate of \$0.09 per gallon to be charged which would include subsequent costs. This would be charged according to the size of the truck. If a truck is a 1,000 gallon truck, the truck would be charged 1,000 regardless if the truck was full or not. This would be an encouragement for accuracy in reporting as well as filling trucks to capacity before dumping. Mr. Dorsey asked where this would be received at. Mrs. Shrader explained that the location is just to the east of building 101. She explained the receiving process as well as the biological breakdown. Mrs. Shrader said this would provide local customers a way to dispose of fats, oils, and grease locally as there is not currently a provider. Mr. Barney asked where they were going now. Mr. Binkerd said Indianapolis, Ft. Wayne, or Muncie. Mr. Logan asked if other small communities might use our facilities. Mrs. Shrader said that they might depending upon their current need and vendors. Mrs. Shrader said that a target of 15,000 gallons per week would maximize the plant which the bugs in the tanks would love. It's like jet fuel to them. Mr. Logan asked if the utilities might pick this up in the future. Mr. Binkerd said he can't imagine having a truck for pick up as there are so many vendors in the area. He would anticipate remaining a receiving facility only. Mr. Dorsey moved, seconded by Mr. Barney, to approve the recommended rates as presented. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

CHARGE OFFS

Mr. Binkerd reminded the board that two to three meetings ago, the first batch of charge offs were brought to the board. These are essentially uncollectable accounts. The total cost is \$169,000. This is the first batch of those uncollectable accounts. All of the balances are more than three years old, and the accounts are final. Mr. Binkerd explained that all of the accounts are minimal in amount, but the totality is \$11,897.67. Mr. Binkerd said that there is one account on the list, AP Marion, that is \$60,000. Mr. Binkerd said he would like to hand that off to Mr. Conner to find out what might be done in order to collect on the account. Mr. Green moved, seconded by Mr. Barney, to approve the charge offs. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP REPORTS

P. Pinkerton, Assistant Director for Engineering

Mr. Pinkerton reported that the permitted limit of solid waste is 60 tons. There were a few months in 2019 where the limit was almost reached in the transfer station. This year more than 10,000 tons were handled. The increase amounted to almost 10 tons per day based upon a four-day work week. The typical load to the landfill was 12-15 tons. This means that there was almost one more load to the landfill that was brought in. Mr. Binkerd said that there is more solid waste being brought in. The community is cleaning up. It is helpful to have a local resource that others can use. Mr. Pinkerton said that the recycling tonnage was about the same as last year. However, costs were \$770/ton to send material for recycling. Mr. Logan said this is a reminder to review how recycling is handled, whether drop off stations should be established, or if another method should be

undertaken. Mr. Binkerd said that there would be some conversations this year especially with the county about possible partnerships and even suggestions on handling recycling.

R. Shrader, Assistant Director for Operations and Maintenance

Mrs. Shrader said that a new water operations specialist has been hired to replace Steve Keen who retired. The new employee is Matt Guerin. Mrs. Shrader stated that everything is focusing around reporting whether for year-end or for new year reporting.

C. Binkerd, Utility Director

Mr. Binkerd reported that we are still waiting on the Anthem implementation. Employees may use temporary programs in the meantime. Anthem saw an abundance of new plans. Mr. Binkerd said that he is reaching out to the newly City Council. There are four new Council people. He would like to introduce himself and tell them a little about what is being worked on. Mr. Binkerd said that the State of the City address is February 19th at noon. Please let Mrs. Humphries know if you would like to attend so that a ticket may be procured for you. Mr. Binkerd said that a new website is being worked on as well to keep things fresh and current. Brittany Riner is working on the website update. As a reminder, the Wastewater rate increased as of January 1, 2020. Mr. Binkerd said he thought 2025 would be the last year for the increases. Mr. Binkerd presented a breakdown of 2019 Payment Methods used by customers. Mr. Binkerd said that 17% of payments were made with cash. Checks are still the preferred method at 51%. The kiosk was up and running later in the year, so he is hoping to see more activity through the kiosk.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

There were none.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mr. Logan thanked everyone for their attendance. Mr. Logan said he is looking forward to the new year and continued service with the other board members.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the L.E.A.D. Center, Building 101, at Marion Utilities, 1540 N. Washington Street.

There being no further business before the board, Mr. Dorsey moved, seconded by Mr. Barney, that the meeting be adjourned. All board members present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Robert Logan, Chairman
Marion Utilities Service Board

ATTEST



Misty Humphries
Its Secretary