**REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 13, 2019**

Commission President, Bob Stavran, called the meeting of the Rib Mountain Metropolitan Sewerage District (Metro) to order at 11:30 a.m. Commission Members Present: Jim Strehlow, Galen Olson and Craig Mortensen. Also Present: Kevin Hopkins, Strand Associates; James Pauls; Tom and Judy Wittkopf; Eric Donaldson, Director and Katherine Kunze, Administrative Clerk/Secretary.

**Metro Commissioner Vacancy –** Mr. Donaldson pointed out that the Metro only received one application for the open Commissioner position from Mr. James Pauls. Mr. Pauls addressed the board. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Olson to recommend Mr. Pauls to the Marathon County Administrator for appointment to the Metro Board to replace Mr. Wittkopf. Mr. Mortensen seconded the motion. Questioned and unanimously passed.

**MINUTES**

Mr. Strehlow made a motion to approve the July 9, 2019 minutes for the Regular Meeting. Mr. Olson seconded this motion. Questioned and unanimously passed.

**CHECK REGISTER APPROVAL**

Mr. Strehlow made a motion to approve the following July Prepaid 2019 Checks and the August 2019 Check Register with the necessary changes. Mr. Olson seconded the motion. Questioned and after discussion unanimously passed.

General Prepaid Checks $48,626.59

Equip Repl. Prepaid Checks $.00

Asset/Cap. Imp. Prepaid Checks $.00

General Checks #27935-#27961 $37,640.88

Equip. Repl. Checks #634-#635 $17,146.30

Asset/Cap Imp. Check $.00

**FACILITIES AND GROUNDS UPGRADE**

**Broken Pipe Issue** –Mr. Donaldson point out that he was advised, by our insurance carrier, the Horton Group, to find out if Strand Associates has Builders Risk Insurance coverage that might cover the costs incurred because of this unforeseen incident. Mr. Donaldson did reach out to Strand Associates to get this information. Strands informed him that they do have insurance, however the deductible that they would have to pay would be higher than the expenses incurred for the repair. During a lengthy discussion, it was noted that it is really hard to determine who was at fault, as all precautions were taken and this was an oversite by all parties. After further discussion a motion was made to remove this item from the agenda by Mr. Strehlow, with Mr. Olson seconding the motion. Questioned and unanimously passed.

**Pump #2** - Mr. Donaldson reported that just after the Metro’s last Regular Meeting, Pump #2 stopped working. It is still under warranty with L.W. Allen, however it will take 8 – 10 weeks to get repaired. Mr. Donaldson pointed out that the Metro needs all of the pumps working to begin the Wet Well/Manhole project, so he had to purchase a new pump ASAP. A discussion was held, during which it was noted that he will have Pump #2 repaired and keep it on hand for a backup. After further discussion, Mr. Olson made a motion to approve this transaction, due to the urgency of this matter. Mr. Strehlow seconded the motion. Questioned and unanimously passed.

**Manhole/Wet Well Project** - Mr. Donaldson reported that the only bid that the Metro receive was submitted by Visu-Sewer in the amount of $467,500. Mr. Donaldson and Mr. Hopkins reviewed the bid with the Commission. During discussion it was noted that all of the work at influent pumping station wet well and all the work at Drop Manhole #7 must get done as soon as possible. However, Manhole #1 and Manhole #4 could be put on hold. With further discussion, it was determined that it would not be cost effective to do only part of the project now and hold off on the other part. Wrapping up the discussion, Mr. Olson made a motion to accept the bid from Visu-Sewer in the amount of $467,500. This motion was seconded by Mr. Strehlow. Questioned and unanimously passed. The funds for this will come out of the Capital Improvement account.

**Miron - Liquidated Damages** – Mr. Donaldson indicated that he received an e-mail from John Smies, the Metro’s Attorney, proposing that the Metro get Attorney Dave Piehler to be the Metro’s arbitrator. A lengthy discussion was held. It was noted that Attorney Smies is waiting for Miron’s Attorney response to this.

**DIRECTOR/SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Budget Comparison Report – Reviewed and discussed.

Asset/Replacement – Mr. Donaldson informed the Commission that over the weekend the Metro lost power. A technician came in and had to spend the night, because with the power out the back up dialer was out of commission and couldn’t dial out. Mr. Donaldson explained why this happened. Because of this incident, he indicated that the Metro needs to look into setting up a cellular dialer. He explained why. During discussion he noted that it is imperative that if any alarms are set off at the Metro during non-working hours a technician needs to be notified immediately via the dialer. If it has no power, there will be no call out. Mr. Donaldson will continue looking into this and report his findings next month.

HVAC for the Administration Building – Mr. Donaldson indicated that he now has two quotes for the HVAC unit. One from August Winters and the other from Stainless Specialist. The quotes were exceptionally close. Mr. Donaldson stated that the Metro could possibly get a rebate of approximately $1,000 from Focus on Energy. After further discussion the Commission determined that they would like a more information on the units. This will be tabled and be brought back at the Metro’s September Regular Meeting for further discussion.

Kulps Digester Caps - Mr. Donaldson reported that he contacted Kulps and they hope to have this project done before the snow flies.

Plant Report – Running good. Mr. Donaldson noted that the Metro has started to use hydrirclear1217 to find out if it will help in reducing the Metro’s phosphorous levels. He reported on his findings so far.

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

The Commission reviewed the WI Public Service information that Mr. Heise gave them.

Mr. Stavran, on behalf of the Metro Commission and staff, thanked Mr. Wittkopf for serving on the Metro Commission for 23 years.

The next meeting of the Rib Mountain Metro will be held on September 10, 2019. It will begin a 9:00 a.m. with the 2020 Budget Workshop followed by the Regular Meeting at 11:30 a.m.

At 1:06 p.m., with no further business to discuss, there was a motion made to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Mortensen. It was seconded by Mr. Olson. Questioned and unanimously passed.

A tape of the proceedings of the Regular Meeting will be on file at Rib Mountain Metropolitan Sewerage District 2001 Aster Road – Wausau, WI.