**THE MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE POLK COUNTY WATER, SEWAGE, AND SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS HELD ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2023, IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE AUTHORITY.**

**THOSE PRESENT WERE:**

Grady McCrickard, Chairman

Chuck Thaxton

Mike Lester

Mary Miller

James Gladden

**ALSO, PRESENT WERE:**

Vickey Atkins, Attorney

**AND:**

Ryan Prince, General Manager

Ashley Guthrie, Secretary

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 5:00pm.

**INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Mike Lester led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Mr. Mike Lester to approve the agenda without executive session to be held. Seconded by Mr. Chuck Thaxton, the motion was approved unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Thaxton to approve the Minutes from September, seconded by Mr. Mike Lester; the motion was approved unanimously.

**PRESENTATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Mr. Ryan Prince gave a positive review of the financial statements.

**APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Thaxton to approve the financial statements, seconded by Mr. James Gladden; the motion was approved unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Ryan Prince explained that C&L Renovations has sent over a contract for the front office renovations. A copy of the contract was given to each board member to review. There were some corrections that needed to be made to the contract. Mr. Chuck Thaxton made a motion to sign the contract once the typos and corrections have been made by the contracting group and reviewed and approved by the Authority’s attorney, Vickey Atkins, seconded by Mr. Mike Lester; the motion was approved unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Ryan Prince asked that the board approve bids for the purchase of a new excavator for 2024. He explained that the one that is currently being used is 7 years old and beginning to break down and require expensive maintenance. Mr. Chuck Thaxton suggested that the approval for the excavator be combined with the approval of the 2024 budget. Mr. Ryan Prince presented the 2024 budget recommendation to the board. Mr. Mike Lester, representing the finance committee, explained that Mr. Prince invited him in to discuss the budget prior to the board meeting. Mr. Lester did question the increase on a few of the line items which were explained and understood. The only line item that he remained concerned about was the telephone and internet line item, he wanted to know why there is such a major increase from 2023. Mr. Prince explained that the increase was given to that line item because of any possible unexpected expenses that may occur regarding phone and internet. The board agreed that the increase should be brought down to $60,000 for the telephone and internet line item. After further discussion, it was decided for the budget to be tabled and adjusted for November’s meeting.

**MANAGER’S UPDATE**

Mr. Ryan Prince informed the board that the drawings for the Taylorsville area have been submitted to the EPD by the Authority’s Engineer, Ronnie Wood. The cost of the project is unknown at this time. Mr. Prince requested that Attorney, Vickey Atkins schedule a meeting with him to discuss GEFA for possible lower interest rates and more. Ms. Atkins agreed.

**PERSONELL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

**FACILITIES COMMITTEE**

None

**BOARD OF DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS**

Mr. Grady McCrickard requested prayer for Eddie Hooper.

Being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Chuck Thaxton to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Mike Lester. The motion was approved unanimously.

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Grady McCrickard, Chairman

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Ashley Guthrie, Secretary