

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

**THOSE PRESENT WERE:**

Todd Tillery, Chairman  
Dr. Neeve Owen, Vice Chair  
Chuck Thaxton  
Mike Lester  
Grady McCrickard  
Mary Miller

**ALSO, PRESENT WERE:**

Vickey Atkins, Attorney

**AND:**

Ryan Prince, General Manager  
Ashley Guthrie, Secretary  
Lee Jennings, RL Jennings & Associates  
Christina Newton, RL Jennings & Associates

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 5:05 p.m.

**INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Grady McCrickard led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion was made by Mr. Chuck Thaxton to approve the agenda; seconded by Mr. Grady McCrickard. Agenda was approved unanimously without executive session to be held.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by Mr. Chuck Thaxton to approve the minutes for November; seconded by Ms. Mary Miller. The motion was approved unanimously.

**PRESENTATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Mr. Lee Jennings presented a positive review of the Financial Statements for end of FY 2022.

**APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Motion was made by Mr. Chuck Thaxton to approve the Financial Statements; seconded by Dr. Neeve Owen. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **OLD BUSINESS/ POLICY REVISION AND DISCUSSION**

Ms. Christina Newton provided the board with a copy of the current policy and a copy of her proposed changes concerning the Insurance coverage. Currently, the policy reads that the Authority will cover 80% and the Employee is responsible for 20%. Ms. Newton proposed that the board cover 100% of the employee's medical insurance but any spouse or child(ren) would be 100% the employee's responsibility. After much discussion, the board counter offered a 90%/10% for employee, spouse, child(ren) This offer is for medical coverage only. The employee is 100% responsible for Dental, Vision, and any supplemental coverage for themselves and/or family (as it has always been). Ms. Newton also informed the board that the deductions have not been updated in the payroll system and she is working on putting a system in place that will assure that the deductions are being implemented on time.

Mr. Mike Lester made a motion that Polk County Water absorb 90% of the cost for employee medical coverage and the employee to be responsible for 10% of the cost; seconded by Mr. Grady McCrickard. Motion approved unanimously.

Ms. Newton presented an issue with the wording in the policy book concerning the retirement contributions. Currently, the policy states that the Authority will match 2% to the employee's retirement contribution. The policy's wording is unclear and has been interpreted to mean that the Authority will match 2% of the gross pay of the contributing employee. Ms. Newton suggested that the board vote to amend the wording of that particular statement in the policy to actually say that the Authority will match up to 2% of the contributing employee's gross pay.

Mr. Chuck Thaxton made a motion to amend the wording in the policy that the Authority will match up to 2% of the contributing employee's gross pay; seconded by Mr. Mike Lester. Motion approved unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Ryan Prince provided the board with a proposal from American Tank Maintenance (the full-service tank asset management program). This proposal includes full-service annual maintenance on all 17 tanks and visual inspection on three clear wells for the next 12 years. Mr. Prince explained that is very important that Polk County Water have a program such as this in place for necessary, preventative maintenance purposes and for the future of the Authority. Mr. Chuck Thaxton asked that Mr. Prince bid out the tank management service so that the Authority is legally compliant, Mr. Prince agreed to do so.

Mr. Prince informed the Board that Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, the back-up pump burnt up and stopped working. After Georgia Power was called out to the site, they stated that by the appearance of the pump, it was a possibility that it was hit by lightning. Mr. Prince provided the board with a picture of the pump and price of repair. To repair that pump, it will cost \$27,185.00 and to purchase a new pump, it will cost \$50,000.00. After discussion, Mr. Todd Tillery stated that he believes investing in a new pump is money well spent. The board agreed with Mr. Tillery. Mr. Tillery suggested that management check to see if the Authority's insurance would cover any of the cost.

Mr. Grady McCrickard made a motion to approve Mr. Ryan Prince to purchase a new pump for Deaton Springs, seconded by Mr. Chuck Thaxton. The motion was approved unanimously.

**MANAGER'S UPDATE**

No update given.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

No reports given.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

No reports given.

**FACILITIES COMMITTEE**

No reports given.

**BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS**

Mr. Mike Lester asked that Mr. Prince check on the life expectancy of a new pump vs. a rebuilt pump. Mr. Lester made a point that it may be worth it to rebuild the old pump and keep it as a back up in the case of an emergency.

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

  
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Todd Tillery, Chairman

  
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Ashley Guthrie, Secretary