

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF POTEAU VALLEY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY**

The monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of Poteau Valley Improvement Authority was held on Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., at the Poteau City Hall, 111 Peters Street, Poteau, Oklahoma 74953. Those present were:

<u>Executive Trustees</u>	<u>Trustees</u>	<u>Others Present</u>
Mick LaFevers	Kevin Adams	James Morrison
Joe Mode	David Kissinger	Dean Warren
Ron Pelanconi	Mike Parker	Anne Montoya
Mark Caldwell	Johnny Grizzle	David Wyatt
Nick Grant	Derrick Baker	Terry Hale
	Robert Jordan	Howard and Tina Walker
	Paul Mode	Dennis Yochum
	Ty Armstrong	Ashley Toris

The Agenda had been posted as required by law by the Manager.

Following opening prayer by Chairman, the meeting was called to order. The minutes of the regular meeting on January 2, 2024 were read and approved.

Mark Caldwell presented the Treasurer’s report advising he and Kevin Adams had reviewed the bills and purchase orders and recommended payment. Following discussion motion made by Mick LaFevers that the bills be paid as submitted, which motion was seconded by David Kissinger and passed unanimously.

David Wyatt presented the engineer’s report advising he had approved the order for a 350hp pump and variable drive motor as part of the new project. Delivery will be several weeks out.

James Morrison gave the managers' report stating personnel from PVIA have been walking waterlines to find leaks. Two leaks have been found on the system for repair. One by Hwy 112 and the other South of Heavener. He stated a check for payment has been received from PJ Brown for the sum of \$7,923.72. Personnel have also been involved in repairing a valve on a clarifier, it had to be drained, and personnel were in a pit approximately 20 feet deep, it was necessary to rig forced air pump for their safety. During the arctic weather, the plant suffered a 150hp pump going down, and a variable drive motor going out on the 350hp pump. This caused the plant to fall behind in pumping water to Poteau Tanks. The Manager was able to find a variable drive in Utah and the same came into the plant at 3am Sunday morning. The Manager called crews out and the variable drive was fixed to put the 350hp pump in service and from that point PVIA was in a catch up mode to fill the water tanks. He also stated the week of the 19<sup>th</sup> water users will be taken bi-product samples.

Engineer led a discussion on painting clarifiers. He stated there are 2 methods, one to bid the project, the other would be to negotiate with contractors and make the repairs on a force account basis. The engineer stated he has had better luck in dealing with painting contractors and recommended that PVIA allow him to negotiate a price for sandblasting and repair of the 3 clarifiers. He estimated the cost for all 3 would

be between \$250,000 and \$300,000. Following discussing motion made by Mick LaFevers to accept the engineers recommendation, seconded by Nick Grant and passed unanimously. The engineer did state he would contact at least 3 or 4 different contractors to get bids for the project. It is anticipated work would not begin until September as all 3 clarifiers will be needed for the summer.

James Morrison discussed providing incentive for PVIA personnel to obtain upgraded water license . He contacted plants similar to PVIA in Muskogee, Fort Gibson, and Okmulgee to see what they have made available for their personnel. His recommendation to the board for personnel going from a D to a C license receive 50 cents an hour increase, going from a C to a B license receive 75 cents an hour increase and going from a B to an A license receive \$1.00 an hour increase. Following discussing motion made by Mick LaFevers seconded by Ron Pelanconi that the plant employees receive an increase as set forth by the Manager which motion passed unanimously.

Engineer discussed issues involving upgrading the water system, storage tanks, line size, and booster stations. He stated a new 24 inch line from the plant to Poteau would costs approximately \$15 million dollars today. Eventually, that may be a necessary item to plan for, but in his opinion it is not needed yet. To improve water

flow to the North, he is recommending the Panama Tank be placed in service with an in and out line, and a booster station on the North side of the tank. This would allow water to circulate in the tank and also provide storage in the event of a line break. Providing service to the Pocola and Northern part of the County remains an issue for PVIA to continue to work with the waters users to ensure a sufficient supply of water for their customers.

The Manager stated with regard to the radio system tower he has discussed using cellular service and is in the process of obtaining a price for that equipment to be placed on PVIA water tanks and pump stations for relaying information to the plant. He also is checking on using the county tower on Cavanal and hopes to be able to provide the board with additional information including cost during the meeting in March.

There being no other new business coming before the board, motion made and seconded for meeting to be adjourned, which passed unanimously.

(Seal)

  
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NICK GRANT, SECRETARY

The above Minutes were approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of February, 2024.

(Seal)

  
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NICK GRANT, SECRETARY