

**Rural Water District #9**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Leavenworth County, Kansas**  
**September 19, 2023**

The monthly meeting of Rural Water District #9 was held on Tuesday September 19, 2023 at the District office located at 20551 Parallel Road, Tonganoxie, Kansas 66086.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Craig Lohman, Kim Buchanan, Ed Mullins, Jim Armstrong, Nicole Davis, Erick Lowe

Manager Karen Armstrong, Operator Wayne Wrosch

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Don Kirby

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** Bruce Downs 22953 Garrett Rd Tonganoxie, Ks 66086

A quorum was established.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Craig Lohman at 1831 hours.

**1. Minutes**

A motion was made by Jim Armstrong to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2023 regular monthly meeting. Motion was seconded by Kim Buchanan. Motion passed unanimously.

**2. Public Opportunity**

Bruce Downs- 22953 Garrett Road attended to discuss the hydrant located on 227<sup>th</sup> Street and his intermittent discolored water. District Operator Wayne Wrosch and Office Manager Karen Armstrong explained that the districts hydrant located on 227<sup>th</sup> is not a fire flow hydrant, that in fact it is only a clean out hydrant intended only for the water districts use. The district had discovered that the Tonganoxie Township Fire Department used it to re-fill its truck after a structure fire where they broke the valve on the hydrant left water flowing and failed to report the damage to the district. Since there has never been a written agreement with the Fire Department, it was the decision of the board to paint the hydrant black and notify the Fire Department it will no longer be used as a refill station.

Mr. Downs reported he has been experiencing discolored (muddy) water approximately every 6 weeks. He also said that it will self-clear after a minute or two. District Operator Wayne Wrosch explained that it may periodically happen if there is a line break in the area and iron deposit gets stirred up from the ground water. Wayne went out to Mr. Downs property and took a water sample which was clear and met testing standards. The board requested that the next time Mr. Downs experiences this issue to please catch a sample and contact the office so we may test the sample. He agreed.

Michelle Elston- did no show up to the meeting.

### **3. Board Members items to add to the agenda**

Ed Mullins suggested that maybe the district needs to look elsewhere for funding since we have had no response from the State Loan program. Manager Armstrong reported we had indeed been approved by the State and official notification had just happened in the past week.

Nicole Davis reported that she was personally approached by benefit unit owner Jason Koons regarding the hydrant issue on 227<sup>th</sup> Street. She will report back to him what was discussed during the meeting with Mr. Downs regarding this issue.

### **4. Treasurer's Report- Karen Armstrong**

Manager Armstrong provided a review of Aged Accounts Receivables.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report with accounts receivable and profit/loss statement as presented was made by Ed Mullins, seconded by Jim Armstrong. Motion passed unanimously.

### **5. Operator's Report- Wayne Wrosch**

- a. Wayne replaced a valve at 207<sup>th</sup> and Donahoo Rd
- b. Don Kirby repaired the leak at the Booster Station on 8-16-23
- c. Wayne presented estimates for line extension and connection on Tonganoxie Drive due to the widening project. After review and discussion, Erick Lowe made a motion to approve up to \$13,800 for this project, not to exceed \$15,000. Seconded by Nicole Davis. Motion passed unanimously.

- d. Wayne reported there was a break on the 5-inch line on 235<sup>th</sup> while line location was in process.
- e. Wayne presented a list of valve replacements/setter replacements in order of importance. The Board agreed with the prioritization.

## **6. Manager's Report- Karen Armstrong**

- a. Manager Armstrong provided her monthly mileage report for August/September 2023. A motion was made by Ed Mullins to approve mileage reimbursement. Erick Lowe seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. Karen reported she gave an estimate to extend the line on Wichita Road to Beverly Zachariah.
- c. Manager Armstrong reported that Attorney Todd Luckman sent a letter to Leavenworth County Counselor David Van Parys declining his offer of \$60,000 for the 235<sup>th</sup> Street project on September 2, 2023.
- d. Manager Armstrong reported we received a response letter from Mr. Van Parys with a counter offer of \$146,970. Another letter declining the offer was sent from Attorney Todd Luckman. The Board approved Mr. Luckman's revised request estimate of \$275,500 in the letter dated September 8, 2023 to Mr. Van Parys.
- e. Leavenworth County Planning and Zoning is requesting a response to a proposed property rezone from Jack Willis on 219<sup>th</sup> Street into four (4) 2.5-acre parcels. The board approved Manager Armstrong to respond and request easement from Willis on all four parcels for upcoming CIP project.
- f. Jeff Sako has requested reimbursement for water used to clear his own service line in the amount of \$4.92. Board denied request.
- g. Manager Armstrong reported she received a voice message from Tim Smith, Tonganoxie Township Fire Chief wanting something in writing that they are no longer allowed to use the 227<sup>th</sup> Street and Garrett Road hydrant for fire department use because he wants to have that area reassessed for insurance purposes. Attorney Todd Luckman sent the requested letter denying usage on September 1, 2023.
- h. Manager Armstrong shared with the board a letter from attorney Todd Luckman to Bill and Joy Murr regarding property at 251<sup>st</sup> and Dempsey Rd.
- i. Brad Loughry property revisited from August meeting.... Mr. Loughry contacted Manager Armstrong and said he would be re-activating the

water well on his property. His father will be coming from Iowa to do the work, but would need a little more time. Jim Armstrong motioned we approve a 30-day extension to Mr. Loughry. Erick Lowe seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

- j. Manager Armstrong reported receiving two new AT&T tablets for free for office and field use.
- k. Manager Armstrong reported our first CD will come due on 9-26-23. After some discussion the Board approved Karen to move the money into a new 1-year CD with 5% rate. Second CD will come due in November.

## **7. Application for transfer of service**

- Dylon Towne to Orison 20654 219<sup>th</sup> Street, Tonganoxie, Ks.
- Robert Fehrenbach to Roger Evans 25733 Dempsey Rd McLouth Ks
- Bernice Seddon to Nancy Felix 19723 Tonganoxie Rd, Tonganoxie, KS
- Matt O'Brien to Bradley Shade 21116 Donahoo Rd Tonganoxie, Ks

Nicole Davis motioned to approve this transfer of service, seconded by Ed Mullins. Motion passed unanimously.

## **8. Setting Meter for existing Benefit Unit Holder**

- Deric & Lauren Hulett 00000 George Road- R307063

## **9. New Application for service**

- Ackerland Lot 8 on 235<sup>th</sup> St, Mc Louth, Ks
- Chris & Ashli Smith 19889 Mitchell Rd, Tonganoxie, Ks
- Darold & RichaLee Bunce 24878 Garrett Rd, Mc Louth, Ks

A motion was made by Ed Mullins to approve the new applications. Seconded by Nicole Davis. Motion passed unanimously.

## **10. Authorization of payment of bills**

A motion was made by Kim Buchanan approving payment of current bills, seconded by Jim Armstrong. Motion passed unanimously.

## **11. Board member terms**

No change

## **12. Adjournment**

Motion was made to adjourn meeting by Jim Armstrong, seconded by Nicole Davis. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 2016 hours.

Respectfully submitted

Kim Buchanan, Secretary