

**GROVE MUNICIPAL SERVICES AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2018
4:30 PM
MINUTES**

The Grove Municipal Services Authority met in regular session on Tuesday, October 16, 2018 at 4:30 PM with Chairman, Robert Plunk presiding. Members present were Marty Follis, Berwin Kock, Andy Stewart and Don Nielsen. Also present was General Manager, Bill Keefer; Attorney, Darren Cook; Public Works Director, Jack Bower; City Treasurer, Lisa Allred; Assistant General Manager, Debbie Bottoroff and City Clerk, Bonnie Buzzard.

Plunk opened the floor for Election of Officers:

- a) Chairman – Plunk nominated Andy Stewart. Nielsen made motion to approve by acclamation. Seconded by Kock. AYE: Follis, Kock, Stewart, Nielsen and Plunk. NAY: None. Motion carried.
- b) Vice-Chairman – Plunk nominated Berwin Kock. Follis made the motion to approve by acclamation. Seconded by Stewart. AYE: Follis, Kock, Stewart, Nielsen and Plunk. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Stewart made the motion to approve the minutes from the 09-25-18 special meeting. Seconded by Nielsen. AYE: Follis, Kock, Stewart, Nielsen and Plunk. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Kock made the motion to approve the purchase order register. Seconded by Stewart. AYE: Follis, Kock, Stewart, Nielsen and Plunk. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Stewart made the motion to approve a Resolution amending the 2018-2019 GMSA General Fund budget. Seconded Follis. AYE: Follis, Kock, Stewart, Nielsen and Plunk. NAY: None. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS:

Keefer reported that the Fire Hydrant policy should be ready for consideration by the next GMSA Board meeting.

Keefer announced that the GMSA office recently began accepting payments electronically through our new Payment Online program. Keefer noted that this gives our customers another means to pay their utility bill.

Keefer then announced that the Oklahoma Water Resource Board (OWRB) authorized the RWD #9 merger and approved the dissolution of the district. The Staff is awaiting the official notification, and once it is received it will be acknowledged in the meeting packet.

Keefer added that the transfer of the RWD #9 residents over to GMSA creates another concern from the Staff relating to utility deposits. Keefer reported that previously those customers paid a flat fee to connect to the RDW, and that no deposits were actually collected. Keefer indicated that once those customers become GMSA customers they will not comply with the current policy that all customers must put up a utility deposit. Therefore, the Staff is looking for feedback from the Board on how to handle those customers. The Board and Staff entertained the three following options in detail for a possible solution to the \$50 deposit from those inside customers, and a \$75 deposit from outside customers:

- 1. Request each of the customers to pay the required deposit amount,
- 2. Allow each of the customers to pay it out as part of their monthly bill, or
- 3. Grandfather in all of those customers and not have them pay a deposit

After approximately 20 minutes of discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to grandfather all current RWD #9 customers with no required utility deposit, and

1. If customer gets disconnected for non-payment then the customer automatically forfeits their grandfather privileges and therefore will be required to put up the necessary deposits on account upon payment of accumulative bill, and
2. That all new owner(s) of property will be required to post deposits upon obtaining service in their name

Attorney, Darren Cook approved the consensus of the Board, and concurred that it fits within the agreement. Keefer added that once we receive the official notification from OWRB, the Staff can start switching these customers over to GMSA and applying the credits accordingly to each earned account.

Public Works Director, Jack Bower and Water/Wastewater Plant Superintendent, Aston York updated the Board on the damage to the plant(s) incurred from the recent storm:

1. Fence @ the Water Treatment Plant
2. 2 VFD pumps went down @ the Wastewater Treatment Plant
3. Transfer Station VFD went down
4. Belt Filter press went out, and the touch screens were damaged
5. Roof damage on the salt & salt barn

Keefer indicated that the City would be seeking possible reimbursement upon announcement of declaration of damage from the State of Oklahoma.

Bower added that the gas pipeline South of Grove is approximately 85-90% complete.

At 5:15 PM Stewart made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Nielsen. AYE: Follis, Kock, Stewart, Nielsen and Plunk. NAY: None. Motion carried.