

**GROVE MUNICIPAL SERVICES AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 2021  
4:30 PM  
MINUTES**

The Grove Municipal Service Authority met in regular session on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 4:30 PM with Chairman, Andy Stewart presiding. Members present were Marty Follis, Ivan Devitt and Don Nielsen. Member Berwin Kock was absent. Also present was General Manger, Bill Keefer; Attorney, Darren Cook; Public Works Director, Deric Douthit; City Treasurer, Lisa Allred; Assistant General Manager, Debbie Bottoroff and City Clerk, Bonnie Buzzard.

Nielsen made the motion to approve the minutes from the May 18, 2021 regular meeting. Seconded by Devitt. AYE: Follis, Devitt, Nielsen and Stewart. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Nielsen made the motion to approve the minutes from the May 26, 2021 special meeting. Seconded by Devitt. AYE: Follis, Devitt, Nielsen and Stewart. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Devitt made the motion to approve the purchase order register as amended by Allred. Seconded by Nielsen. AYE: Follis, Devitt, Nielsen and Stewart. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Stewart opened the floor for discussion with respect to the following Natural Gas Service Agreements:

- a. Simmons Food, Inc. (Transportation Only)
- b. Blue Energy Fuels, LLC (Transportation Only)
- c. Fairland Public Works Authority (Wholesale)
- d. Delaware County RWD # 10 (Wholesale)
- e. Afton Public Works Authority (Wholesale)
- f. Jay Utilities Authority (Wholesale)

Keefer reported that as of today the Staff has received all of the above-mentioned Service Agreement with the exception of Afton Public Works Authority, and that he hasn't heard any correspondence from the Town of Afton. Devitt made the motion to approve the above-mentioned Service Agreement with the exception of Afton Public Works Authority. Seconded by Nielsen. AYE: Follis, Devitt, Nielsen and Stewart. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Stewart opened the floor for discussion with respect to the selection of Rose & McCrary for Engineering Design Services for the relocation of gas and sewer utilities as part of ODOT Highway 59 improvements between Highway 125 and Sail Boat Bridge. Keefer reported that this project would include relocation of the gas transmission line beginning where the first phase gas line relocation terminates just south of the Highway 125 intersection and ending at Sail Boat Bridge. The project also includes the sewer force main between the Casino and Sail Boat Bridge that GMSA recently acquired from the Cherokee Nation. Keefer noted that GMSA will be reimbursed from ODOT for the incurred costs associated with any sections of the gas line that is currently located within a private easement, and added that GMSA should be reimbursed for all of the costs related to the sewer force main relocation. Keefer reported that as one of the requirements for reimbursement, ODOT requires GMSA to provide documentation that an engineer has been selected for this project along with the cost estimates. Therefore, it is Staff recommendation that the Board consider a contract selection with Rose & McCrary for this project. Engineer, Tim McCrary was present to entertain

questions, comments and concerns from the Board and Staff. Follis made the motion to approve the contract with Rose and McCrary for Engineering Design Services for the relocation of gas and sewer utilities as part of ODOT Highway 59 improvements between Highway 125 and Sail Boat Bridge. Seconded by Nielsen. AYE: Follis, Devitt, Nielsen and Stewart. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Stewart made the motion to approve a Resolution providing a water service credit for the F-4 Static Display for fiscal year 2021-2022. Seconded by Follis. AYE: Follis, Devitt, Nielsen and Stewart. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Nielsen made the motion to approve a Resolution amending the 2020-2021 GMSA General and Capital Funds. Seconded by Devitt. AYE: Follis, Devitt, Nielsen and Stewart. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Stewart opened the floor for discussion with respect to converting the sludge treatment/composting process to an auger/lime stabilization process. Keefer reported that the sludge is currently hauled to the composting pad and placed in wind rows and mixed with wood chips to begin the transition to compost. Once the process is completed, the wood chips are screened out of the material and is ready to be sold to the public. This process is very time consuming, labor intensive and is subject to and impacted by adverse weather conditions which effects the efficiency of the process. Keefer added that the end product using the alternative process would turn our sludge into a Class 'A' compost material which is done through a mechanical process using lime and sulfamic acid to create the heat necessary to convert the sludge into the compost. Keefer reported that the upfront investment for only the equipment for this system is \$560,500. The Staff will be recommending changing the process to dewater the sludge from a belt filter press to a screw press system for an estimated cost of \$293,300, which would be a more efficient means to dewater the sludge and produce a better solid material. Keefer mentioned that the cost estimate to install both the screw press and stabilization unit would be approximately \$88,800. Keefer indicated that last year the Board entertained discussions from the Staff about the likelihood of purchasing this project through a lease purchase or another option would be to expand a line of credit for the sewer line project revolving loan through the Oklahoma Water Resource Board as it has been preciously determined that the equipment would be eligible for financing through that program. Water / Wastewater Plant Superintendent, Aston York was present to entertain questions from the Board. Devitt made the motion to authorize the Staff to move forward with this project and review all options for financing for presentations back before the Board. Seconded by Nielsen. AYE: Follis, Devitt, Nielsen and Stewart. NAY: None. Motion carried.

### **STAFF REPORTS:**

Keefer reported that all of the supporting documentation has been sent to the Oklahoma Water Resource Board in regards to the application for the merger / acquisition of RWD #6 assets with GMSA. Cook reported that he would be available to attend the hearing if need be.

Douthit reported that the odor system to the old wastewater facility along O'Daniel is 100% complete and operating.

Douthit reported that he has received an email from the Oklahoma Rural Water Association indicting that they would like to address the GMSA Board in regards to making Grove a pilot program along with the Department of Environmental Quality and the Environmental Protection Agency. Douthit noted that they will be at the July GMSA meeting.

Douthit added that the Cherokee Nation would like to conduct a feasibility study on tying Grove into the South Zena and Jay district area for better water quality. Douthit extended participation from his department to the Cherokee Nation if needed.

**TRUSTEES REPORT:**

Stewart reported that he has been visiting with Office Manager, Jen Harmon in regards to the number of deposit requirement for landlords for each active account. Stewart questioned rather that deposit policy structure should be revised?

Stewart and Nielsen expressed their appreciation to Keefer for his 8 years of service to the City of Grove & GMSA and wished him the best of luck with his retirement.

At 5:28 PM Follis made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Nielsen. AYE: Follis, Devitt, Nielsen and Stewart. NAY: None. Motion carried.