

**GROVE MUNICIPAL SERVICES AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2022
4:30 PM
MINUTES**

The Grove Municipal Services Authority met in regular session on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 4:30 PM with Chairman, Andy Stewart presiding. Members present were Berwin Kock, Ivan Devitt and Don Nielsen. Member Marty Follis was absent. Also present was General Manager, Debbie Bottoroff; Attorney, Darren Cook; City Treasurer, Lisa Allred; Public Works Director, Deric Douthit and City Clerk, Bonnie Buzzard.

ADDITIONAL STAFF PRESENT:

Public Works Superintendent – Jeremy Brown
Utility Office Manager – Jen Harmon
Water / Wastewater Superintendent – Aston York was absent

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Sales Representative, Mackenzie Haff – Blue Market Energy addressed the Board with a report of insight on the MYMEX Natural Gas Futures and the EIA Storage Data. Haff entertained questions and comments from the Board, and extended her services to attend any meeting should the Board have any further questions. Haff presentations lasted for approximately 10 minutes.

Kock made the motion to approve the minutes from the January 18, 2022 regular meeting. Seconded by Nielsen. AYE: Kock, Devitt, Nielsen and Stewart. NAY: None. Motion carried.

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

Stewart opened the floor for discussion with respect to a Professional Service Agreement with Municipal Finance Services Inc. for a Three-Party Global Agreement. Bottoroff reported that Municipal Finance Services is transitioning to Global Agreements with all of their city and town clients due to compliance regulations which prohibit them from offering advice and recommendations on financing unless there is an agreement in place. Bottoroff noted that the fees and expenses did not increase; actually the minimum on OWRB loans decreased from \$25,000 to \$17,500 to reflect the possibility of doing some smaller OWRB loans. Kock questioned if the agreement applies to all City Trust entities more particularly the Grove Airport. Bottoroff and Cook were unsure but assured Kock that they would check with Rick Smith and would report back to him. Devitt made the motion to approve the Professional Service Agreement with Municipal Finance Services, Inc. as presented and discussed. Seconded by Nielsen. AYE: Kock, Devitt, Nielsen and Stewart. NAY: None. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS:

Bottoroff reported that with the recent transition of Rural Water District #6 to GMSA, it was discovered that AtLink Services has a Water Tower/Stand Pipe lease agreement with RWD #6 for installation, operation and maintenance facilities to provide internet services, and that GMSA has a lease agreement with Precision Communications, Inc. (now AtLink) to use the Blue Bluff water tower for the same services. Bottoroff noted that new agreements will be created and presented for approval at a future meeting.

Douthit reported that his crew has been installing approximately 200 ultra-sonic meters in hope to capture a very low flow and if the results indicate an increase in usage then he would be recommending that GMSA budget to change out the entire meter system.

Douthit reported no major utility incidence caused from the recent freezing weather.

Douthit reported that he has received notification of a price increase of \$130 per new meter purchase.

Douthit then reported that he and Jeremy Brown met with the District Manager of RWD #3 in regards to possibly supplying water to a portion of their district South of Grove. Douthit added that RWD #3 wants to release approximately 145 meters over to GMSA plus all new developments along Lake Road 8 which would include everything North back to GMSA's boundaries. Douthit noted that after careful consideration and discussion between York and Brown it was agreed upon that GMSA has an adequate source of water to supply the described area but the Staff also considered the potential of unknown problems with the existing lines and services, the inability of locating these lines and the qualified installation displayed of these lines with regards to the proper backfill plus the lack of valves for isolation. Douthit added that RWD #3 will be addressing this issue at their next meeting on February 15th. Douthit reported that this could become a hot topic for GMSA and suggested that the Board & Staff proceed cautiously.

Brown reported that as of the current EIA gas report statistics were down 4% over last year to 1.73%.

Brown reported that he has received notification from his vendor that PVC pricing will be increasing as well. Brown noted that he is unsure of the exact amount at this time.

Harmon reported that all of the membership credits has been applied to the Rural Water District #6 customers and that process is now complete just like that of Rural Water District #9.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 4:53 PM Kock made the motion for the Board to recess into an Executive Session for the purpose of conferring on matter pertaining to confidential communications between a public body and its attorney concerning a pending investigation, claim, or action if the public body, with the advice of its attorney, determines that disclosure will seriously impair the ability of the public body to process the claim or conduct a pending investigation, litigation, or proceeding in the public interest, pursuant to Title 25 O.S. Section 307.B.4. (Confidential Communication) to include participation from Debbie Bottoroff, Deric Douthit, Lisa Allred and Jeremy Brown. Seconded by Nielsen. AYE: Kock, Devitt, Nielsen and Stewart. NAY: None. Motion carried.

At 5:24 PM Kock made the motion for the Board to come out of Executive Session with no action taken. Seconded by Devitt. AYE: Kock, Devitt, Nielsen and Stewart. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Stewart opened the floor for discussion with respect to agenda item E.1 above-mentioned. Devitt made the motion to authorize Attorney Cook to enter into mediation as discussed to include Chairman, Andy Stewart and Board member, Ivan Devitt as GMSA Representatives with settlement authority. Seconded by Stewart. AYE: Kock, Devitt, Nielsen and Stewart. NAY: None. Motion carried.

At 5:25 PM Kock made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Nielsen. AYE: Kock, Devitt, Nielsen and Stewart. NAY: None. Motion carried.