

Trustees of the Belfast Water District met at 1:00 p.m. at the Little River Station office. Those in attendance were: Henry Chalmers, Archie Gaul, Alton Kenney, Stephen Hall and Superintendent Keith Pooler. Absent from the meeting was Eileen Dubinett.

The Chairman, Archie Gaul, called the meeting to order.

VOTED: On motion by Henry Chalmers, seconded by Stephen Hall and unanimously approved; to accept the Minutes of the August 26, 2014 board meeting.

VOTED: On motion by Stephen Hall, seconded by Henry Chalmers and unanimously approved; to commit to the Treasurer the water user rates for the period beginning 8/1/14 and ending 8/31/14.

The Board reviewed the Emergency Interconnection Agreement with Searsport Water District. Keith indicated that there is no change needed in the agreement at this time. There has not been any significant change in the electrical rates. The interconnection facility is inspected a couple times of year and everything looks good. Keith suggested the District inform Searsport Water District that the 2009 Emergency Interconnection Agreement shall remain in effect with no changes this time.

VOTED: On motion by Stephen Hall, seconded by Henry Chalmers and unanimously approved; to continue with the Emergency Interconnection Agreement with Searsport Water District as agreed upon in 2009.

Keith informed the Board of the request made by Cynthia Clements, Administrative Assistant of the Belfast Water District, to obtain approval to apply for her retirement benefit with the Maine Public Employees Retirement System (MPERS) and to continue working for the Belfast Water District with the same status and other benefits. The only difference is that further contributions to MPERS will cease for the employer and the employee. MPERS has established guidelines for returning to work with the same employer who has reached normal retirement age. Keith explained that Cindy would work at the very same job and the only thing that would change is the 7.8% the District currently contributes for her retirement. She is requesting to continue to work and stay on health insurance and receive the same benefits she now gets (excluding MPERS). Keith recommended that the Board allow this request.

VOTED: On motion by Henry Chalmers, seconded by Stephen Hall and unanimously approved; to allow Cindy to pursue her request to draw her Maine Public Employees Retirement System retirement benefits and to continue working for the Belfast Water District with the same status including health insurance and the same benefits she is currently receiving (excluding MPERS).

The Superintendent, Keith Pooler updated to Board on the following:

In preparation for the installation of the Pax Mixer at the Crocker Road standpipe, requires the tank to be drained and shut down and still provide water and pressures to the customers. In testing the system at the Lincolnville Avenue Booster Station, it was discovered that the pressure reducer valve was not operational. It is one of those things, it just sits with no use and it can't be tested when the tanks are on

line. In order to get the Pax Mixer installed it will be necessary to do something about this valve. To replace it a new valve is \$2,200. Keith indicated that he consulted with District's engineer, Tim Sawtelle, who suggested another option he would like to pursue by installing a Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) on the existing pump and motor. The VFD is a better answer to control the pressures without the Crocker Road standpipe in use and it will also take the place of the motor starter that is there now. The cost of the VFD and installation is estimated to be less than \$3,000.

VOTED: On motion by Stephen Hall, seconded by Alton Kenney and unanimously approved; to authorize Keith to get the Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) installed at the Lincolnville Avenue Booster Station at the estimated cost of \$3,000.00.

Keith informed the Board that he has been talking to the City of about engineering services for the Front Street project. Requests for Proposal (RFP) for engineering services will be sent out to firms the District has done business with in the past. A draft copy of the RFP has been submitted to the City and the EDA for their approval before sending them to engineering firms.

The driveway at the Little River Station office is in need of repairs. Keith indicated that he has requested cost proposals from two companies to seal the cracks in the asphalt. Only one estimate has been received. The proposed cost from Shawn's Asphalt of Jackson, ME is \$1,460.00. Keith said he plans to tell them to do the job.

The District has received a Water Fluoridation Quality Award for 2013 from the Water Fluoridation Reporting System. It is presented by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and commends the District for its consistent and professional adjustment of water fluoride content to the optimum level for oral health for 12 consistent months.

Spoke to Bill Shorey about the 3-4 acre lot that borders land at the Jackson Pit station that the county just recently purchased and they want to sell to the District to square up their lot and the District's lot. When Bill was told the District bought 50 acres for less than \$1,000 per acre in the same area, they would not be interested in selling it for that amount. Bill said he has people looking at the property. Keith informed him that when he gets an offer from them to let him know and he will go back to the Board for a decision on the property.

The District's application has been submitted to the Maine Drinking Water Program State Revolving Loan Fund (DWPSRF) for the 2015 Front Street water main project. At this stage of application, the DWPSRF will rank the applications to place them on a primary list of projects or a backup list. The interest rate is expected to be less than 1%.

Recently there was a failure at the Smart Road pump station. The VFD had kicked out and the error said 'ground fault'. Upon clearing the error and VFD started but kicked out again with the same error, 'ground fault'. This could mean a short in the motor and the wiring that feeds it. The District's electrician, David Small, was called in to investigate the problem and could not find any shorts in the

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wiring. Stultz Electric was consulted about the VFD to make sure it would not be damaged if the motor was started. Stultz said the motor would be okay. When it was started up it worked for 12 hours, but you could smell an odor while it was running. In reviewing the records, the motor has not been rewound in 17 years. Keith recommended having the motor rewound at a cost of \$3,885.00 as opposed to buying a new motor for \$7,200.00. There is no difference in efficiency between getting the rewound or the brand new motor. Rewinding it is as good as a new motor, so Keith recommended rewind the motor. Keith plans to have the motor rewound some time in December when there is less demand on the water system.

VOTED: On motion by Stephen Hall, seconded by Alton Kenney and unanimously approved; to get the motor at the Smart Road well rewound at the cost of \$3,885.00.

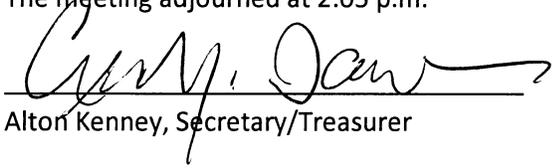
The crew has finished flushing the mains and hydrants. A new entrance door has been installed to the attic in the 2-bay garage. The configuration was changed from an overhead hatch to a regular entryway door. The crew installed a new service on Union Street and will be installing another new service on Lower Congress Street next week. The Wight Street project is fully completed. The crew will start draining hydrants to get them ready for winter weather. In the next week the crew will be busy with the Crocker Road Standpipe project. When the tank has been drained they will clean it before Utility Service Co., Inc. installs the Pax Mixer. Keith said he is able to view inside the Lincolnville Avenue standpipe because the Pax Mixer keeps the water very clean. Using a mirror you can see the whole bottom of the tank and he found the inside of the tank is good and there is no flaking of the paint. Keith informed the Board that the \$3,000.00 in retainage that was held for the Pax Mixer Utility Service Co. installed in the Lincolnville Avenue standpipe has been released to the company.

The Board was informed that the annual conference held by Maine Rural Water Association (MRWA) will take place December 9 – 11 at the Cross Center in Bangor. The conference schedule will be available soon and will be sent to the board members. Keith mentioned that each year MRWA hands out an award for outstanding operation of a water utility and it is rumored that Belfast Water District has been chosen for 2014 award.

Heard from Cindy Clements that the District submitted a request to the Maine Public Utilities Commission to revise its Terms and Conditions to allow the water rates to be pro-rated. The District received approval from MPUC to pro-rate initial and final water bills based on the District's approved tariffs and the number of days of service in the billing period. This revision will become effective 1/1/2015.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 20, 2014 at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.


for Alton Kenney, Secretary/Treasurer

