

BATTLE GROUND
CONSERVANCY DISTRICT MEETING

November 20, 2024

Attendance: Chairman David Bisher, Vice Chairman Ron Holladay, Philip Baer, Joe Kline, Rick Oliver, Carol Watson

Also present: Dan Gemmecke (Superintendent), Georgia Jones (Financial Clerk), Kevin Denny (Assistant Superintendent)

Guest: Edward Mroosian

David Bisher called to order at 6:00 p.m. There was one change to the agenda to add discussion of irrigation meter billing policy.

Minutes

Rick Oliver noted the meeting date printed on the minutes document is wrong, however **moved to approve** the content of October 16 meeting minutes with that correction. Second of Carol Watson, and motion carried with unanimous vote.

Customer Service

Joe Kline reported four usage/billing questions from the North CR 600N District, two shutoff (irrigation) requests from River Bluffs District, and one pressure related inquiry from North CR 600N District. As of November 18, 2024, four were marked closed

Water Superintendent Report

Dan Gemmecke advised the board the meter read system has to be upgraded before the end of the year. At that time the old system goes down and non-compliant meters will not be compatible with the new system. There are 20 outdated meters left to change. This takes a lot of time because these meters are inside houses. The outside shutoff valves must be located, cleaned, and raised to ground level. A vac truck will be needed for at least two more locations.

Services were flushed out as needed for water quality. The lawn repairs in October are complete and the grass is growing nicely.

A claim for the well motor and starter damage was denied by the insurance company. Their weather research found no storms in the area at that time and they believe the damage was caused by spikes or surges in the electric. The breaker had to be replaced last week as it kept tripping out. The 40-year-old fuse box will be scheduled for upgrade. It is obsolete and replacing the breakers is expensive.

Recently, letters were sent to customers in residences built before 1985, whose water service line material has not yet been identified as free of lead. The information in the letter is required by EPA and IDEM. Customers should call the superintendent to schedule an inspection. So far, three calls were received and one inspection has been completed.

Financial Clerk

Carol Watson **moved** to approve the register of claims October 17 to November 20 in the amount \$52,380.40 and the October escrow transfer \$82,989.83. Second of Ron Holladay, motion carried with unanimous vote. Financial reports were reviewed. In December, aged accounts will be written off and a few budget item transfers will be recommended. The financial clerk advised the board Kathy Easter will resign at the first of January.

Carol Watson distributed a revision to the 2025 budget ordinance, incorporating a change to PTO accrual. Joe Kline **moved** to approve ORD 2024-23 Revised Salaries 2025, with second of Phil Baer. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

Old Business

Conservancy District Plan – Dan Gemmecke reported the District Plan received approval from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. He thanked Carol Watson for her assistance in helping get the final items done. Another court date will be scheduled for final court approval.


Town Hall – No change in status.

Utility bill non-payment and shutoff policy statement – Georgia Jones distributed draft documents for discussion of office policy regarding irrigation meter billing and delinquent accounts. No action was taken, deferred to December. Dan Gemmecke will contact Muni Link for detailed information regarding meter reading and billing status options in their program.

New Business

Phil Baer suggested the Conservancy review insurance options with Brad Chesterman, who in the past was a reliable agent for the District's needs. He worked in another area for awhile but has now returned to Lafayette and is seeking clients. This will be on the December agenda.

Joe Kline **moved** to adjourn at 7: 12 p.m. with second of Rick Oliver. Motion carried.


Georgia Jones, Financial Clerk
David Bisher, Chairman of the Board

Memorandum of Open-Door Law Compliance

Date: November 20, 2024

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Members Present in Person: David Bisher, Ron Holladay, Philip Baer, Joe Kline, Rick Oliver,
Carol Watson

Member Present Virtually on screen: none

Member Present by Telephone: none

Also Present in Person: Dan Gemmecke, Georgia Jones, Kevin Denny

Guest Present in Person: Edward Mroosian

Guest Present virtually: none

Electronic Means of Communication Used For Members and Public: Zoom.us

Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Georgia Jones", is written over a horizontal line.

Georgia Jones, Financial Clerk