

TIMBER LANE UTILITY DISTRICT
Minutes of Special Meeting of Board of Directors
November 3, 2021

The Board of Directors (“Board”) of Timber Lane Utility District (“District”) met at 1904 NapleCHASE Crest Drive, Spring, Harris County, Texas in the District, on November 3, 2021, in accordance with the duly posted notice of said meeting, with a quorum of directors present, as follows:

Daniel M. Meacham, President
Robert B. Schenck, Vice President
James F. Messer, Secretary
A.F. “Bud” Gessel, Assistant Secretary
Eric Langstaff, Director

and the following director absent:

None.

Also present were Jeff Vogler, Mike Potter, J.Q. Baker, and Lori G. Aylett.

The President called the meeting to order and declared it open for such business as might properly come before it.

1. The Board and persons present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. There were no public comments for the Board’s consideration.
3. The Board discussed the status of Water Well No. 3 repairs. Jeff Vogler reported that Water Well No. 3 had been making brass for some months, so the operator put the well into backup lag until the District was finished with the paint coatings work at all the plants. Now that cooler weather is here, the well was taken out of service for inspection. A camera survey was performed to review the current condition of the well. The pump equipment is completely inoperable, and the well casing must also be repaired. Contractor C&C Water Services presented their Phase No. 1 bid for casing repairs. The upper casing has begun deforming, and the solution is to install 730 feet of 16-inch casing cemented in place. The Phase No. 1 repairs will cost \$153,291. The repairs will need to be done on an emergency negotiated bid basis, and the engineer will file a request with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality regarding the matter. Upon unanimous vote, the Board accepted the bid of C&C Water Services for the repair work.
4. The Board participated in a workshop related to the District’s ultraviolet disinfection system at its wastewater treatment plant. Jeff Vogler reported that NEOTech installed the system. Vision was the local representative, and when the installation was complete, the District, through its operator, contracted with Vision for quarterly maintenance. Vision subcontracted with MC5 for quarterly maintenance. Quarterly maintenance has been performed

since 2019. Maintenance reports should have also been prepared and submitted to the District on a quarterly basis. Vision submitted invoices on a quarterly basis, but the District operator could only locate two reports. Mike Potter stated that the operator did not get notice when MC5 was coming to the site to perform maintenance. The sewage treatment plant gate is open during the daytime to allow passage of parks and law enforcement personnel, so the operator is not always on site. Mr. Vogler noted that when the issues of electrolysis and corrosion first came to the operator's and engineer's attention, they asked Vision for copies of their reports. It took them quite a bit of time to provide the reports, leading one to conclude that perhaps the reports were generated after the fact. Jeff Vogler stated that he did believe that quarterly maintenance was performed, and photographic evidence has been received. The quarterly maintenance reports were not generated contemporaneously with the performance of the work. Jeff Vogler noted that pursuant to the terms of its contract, Vision was supposed to identify problems, order parts, and request authorization for any necessary repairs. The maintenance contractor stocked bulbs and ballasts, but modules had to be ordered. J.Q. Baker of H2O reported that H2O's employee believed that the parts had been ordered back in March. It was only when the next quarterly maintenance was performed that it came to the operator's attention that the parts had not been order. When the District first entered into a contract with Vision for maintenance, the District was paying \$2,500 a quarter. The current price is now \$3,500.

The Board asked the operator if they had any staff available who could maintain the ultraviolet system or who could be trained to do so. The operator will investigate.

Discussion then turned to the damage that was done to the modules. The engineer believes that electrolysis is the issue. The engineer has theorized that some of the bulbs were cracked during the cleaning process, resulting in stray electricity that contributed to electrolysis. The new cleaning process is to wipe down the bulbs with CLR wipes and to clean more often. The operator also noted that in the past, the operator had placed citric acid into the channels to prepare for biomonitoring. The manufacturer has advised if this is not a good practice for the ultraviolet system, so the ultraviolet system will be pulled from the channel when citric acid is being used.

The engineer recommended that the clarifiers be deep cleaned. J.Q. Baker of H2O stated that she thought that this might be overkill. Mr. Vogler noted that he might agree with Ms. Baker in a normal situation, but due to the ongoing e coli issues, the District needs to exhaust all avenues to obtain and maintain permit compliance.

The engineer also noted that he had periodically tested the transmissivity of the water, and that does not appear to be contributing to any violations. The transmissivity of the water in the UV channel is well within the design limits of the system.

Mike Potter noted that in his opinion, the District should have a full-time operator on staff at the sewage treatment plant due to the size of the plant. He requested that an item be placed on the upcoming agenda for revisions to the operations contract.

The Board discussed what to do with the ultraviolet system. J.Q. Baker stated that she did not have confidence in the current system. The engineer stated that he does not have confidence in this equipment, the manufacturer, or the maintenance contractor. When the District

expands its sewage treatment plant, the engineer would recommend utilizing a different ultraviolet disinfection system or returning to conventional chlorination/dechlorination.

The Board discussed whether it would be appropriate to abandon the use of ultraviolet disinfection and return to chlorination and dechlorination. Director Langstaff expressed the opinion that this should be the direction the Board takes. Director Gessel reminded those present that the reason the District began to utilize ultraviolet disinfection years ago is because the chlorine tanks needed to serve the District's plant were quite large, and the plant is in proximity to a neighborhood. The reason ultraviolet disinfection was chosen was to provide additional measure of safety to the community, as well as to cut down on the use of chemicals in the receiving stream.

Jeff Vogler stated that he would get more information on the costs and advantages of using ultraviolet disinfection versus chlorine and dechlorination.

Lori Aylett advised Mike Potter and J.Q. Baker of her opinion that there was a communication problem within H2O's organization. The operator in the field did not appear to be relaying information to the H2O consultants who attend the meeting on a regular basis. That communication issue needs to be resolved quickly so that both Mr. Potter and the Board can be informed of issues with the ultraviolet disinfection system. The Board asked the operator to include in the monthly report relevant information on the status of the ultraviolet disinfection system, including bulbs that were out and on order, ballasts that were on order, and modules that were not operational. The Board authorized a deep cleaning of the clarifier. The Board requested that any reports received by the ultraviolet maintenance contractor be provided to the Board immediately. The request for amendment to the operator's contract will be placed on a future agenda.

5. There was no pending business for the Board's consideration.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Secretary