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READING AREA WATER AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING
4:00 PM
Tuesday August 15, 2023

In attendance were Chairman Rev. Steven McCracken, Vice Chairman Richard L. Carpenter, Mr. Earl Lucas, Mrs. Tressa Jefferson, Mr. Daniel Luckey, RAWA Solicitor Attorney Edwin Stock, Executive Director Mr. Bill Murray, Director of Operations and Maintenance Gary Phillips, Distribution Superintendent Mr. Anthony Reynolds, Director of Asset Management Mr. Yuri Evans, Administrator Suzanne Ruotolo, Plant Superintendent Mr. Patrick Bauer, Meter Reader Manager Mrs. Amy Styer, H.R. Manager Mrs. Wendy Marrero, Lake Ontelaunee Manager Mr. Michael Reider, Customer Service Manager Tracey Karish, Mr. Brian Hassinger from SSM Engineering, Mark Zettlemoyer & Tim Kraft with RKL. Absent Mrs. Cecile Grimshaw, Mr. Jamal Abodalo

The meeting was brought to order at 4:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence was observed.

Mr. Zettlemoyer announced he will be retiring soon, and Tim Kraft will be stepping in place, Mr. Kraft presented to the Board of Directors the 2022 RAWA Financial Audit. There were no unfavorable finds. Chairman McCracken asked for a motion to approve the Audit. A motion was made by Mr. Luckey and seconded by Mr. Lucas.

Chairman McCracken asked for a motion to approve the July 18, 2023, meeting minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mrs. Jefferson. All in favor. Motion passed.

Chairman McCracken asked for a motion to approve payment of the August invoices, for General Fund in the amount of \$660,035.98 Capital Fund in the amount of \$113,761.79 and the Escrow Fund in the amount of \$17,668.29. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mrs. Jefferson. All in favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Murray provided an update on the Asterra Satellite Image Proposal stating a new image of the service area will cost \$50,000. Mr. Murray also stated he spoke with Muhlenberg, Maiden creek and Hamburg, all of whom stated interest in the image. There would be room for RAWA to recoup some cost of \$10k to \$15K in the cost share. Chairman McCracken asked for a motion to allow Mr. Murray and Solicitor Stock to enter the agreement for \$50,000. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mrs. Jefferson. All in Favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Murray provided an update on the Ontelaunee Dam, according to the governor's office the Governor signed the contract with Gannett Flemming, and RAWA should be hearing from Gannett Flemming to start the permits for the Dam.

Mr. Murray asked Pat Bauer to update the board on the Centrifuge Project, Mr. Bauer advised the all the upgrades to the software is complete.

Mr. Murray asked Mrs. Ruotolo for the LIHWAP update. Mrs. Ruotolo advised the second round of funds will help 45 families for a total of 770 families helped by the LIHWAP program. RAWA has received close to 1 million dollars from the LIHWAP program this year.

Mr. Hassinger stated Filter 7 is complete , the operations permit was given to DEP about 3 weeks ago and RAWA should be getting the permit soon. Demolition has started on Filter 3, should take about 3 months to complete. This was a 5 to 6 year project and once this filter is complete all the filters should be good for the next 40 to 50 years.

Mr. Luckey asked Mr. Hassinger about the engineer report, one of the projects is replacing obsolete valves and other items we cannot get parts. Mr. Luckey asked how many other items are 50 years old and cannot get parts, he asked if there was an analysis done, and understanding that sometimes you may not know it is obsolete or broken. Mr. Hassinger referred to the large valve replacement grant and stated that Tony Reynolds and his team reviewed the age of the valves and placed them on the grant application and hopefully we will have good news in September when the grant is reviewed.

Solicitor Ed Stock stated the proposed lease agreement between RAWA and RPA for the site at 613 Franklin Street, this will be the emergency operation center per DEP permit. Mr. Stock reviewed the terms of the agreement and asked for a motion to approve the lease. Chairmen McCracken asked for a motion to approve the lease with RPA. A motion was made by Mr. Carpenter and seconded by Mr. Lucas. All in Favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Stock advised that RAWA is dismissed from the Stack and Gipprich cases.

Mr. Stock advised the MOU with the Reading Redevelopment Authority has expired and would like to enter a new MOU with a cap of \$150,000 total in write offs, but this will only be for water. RAWA would like to get the City involved to sign the agreement for the sewer amounts as well. Solicitor Stock asked for motion to approve the execution of the MOU with finalization by himself. A motion was made by Mr. Luckey, however Mr. Luckey stated he did not receive a copy of the MOU, Chairmen McCracken advised it was in the board packet and Mr. Stock advised it was the last item after the lease agreement. Mr. Murray advised we will get a copy for him. Seconding the motion was Mr. Carpenter. All in Favor. Motion passed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Lucas at 4:38pm