

## **NORTH LITTLE ROCK WASTEWATER TREATMENT COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024**

A meeting of the North Little Rock Wastewater Treatment Committee was held on Tuesday, May 14, 2024, in the administrative offices located at the Faulkner Lake Treatment Plant.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Matthews at approximately 12:10 p.m. The roll was called and a quorum was present. Those in attendance at the meeting were Chairman Matthews, Mr. Gabe Stephens and Mr. Ed Nelson. Also in attendance were Mr. Michael Clayton, Director, Ms. Alice Fulk, Human Resources Director, Ms. Shelley Cline, Director of Finance, Mr. Sam Hilburn with Hilburn & Harper, Ltd. and Dawn Harmon.

First, the Committee reviewed the minutes of its April 16, 2024 meeting. There being no questions or comments, a motion was made by Mr. Stephens, seconded by Mr. Nelson, to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2024 meeting as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

The Committee then reviewed the cash disbursements for April 2024. While reviewing same, Mr. Nelson asked if the Utility had filed any insurance claims for the solar panels due to the severe weather in the State. Director Clayton stated no insurance claims have been made. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Mr. Stephens, to approve the cash disbursements for April 2024 reflecting total cash disbursements of \$1,804,945.75 and fund transfers between accounts of \$0. The motion carried unanimously.

The Committee then discussed the purchase of a new 5-yard dump truck. The Maintenance and Construction Department currently maintain one dump truck per crew designated to haul materials, equipment and pull trailers to and from job sites. This truck is used for the everyday crew needs. Currently, Repair Crew 3 uses a 2005 International 5-yard dump truck with more than 420,000 miles on it. It is struggling to pull the weight of the equipment the Utility uses on a daily basis. The Utility would like to replace this truck with a new 5-yard dump truck and auction off the old truck. The department's budget for 2024 is approved for \$160,000.00 to purchase a new 5-yard dump truck. Through Sourcewell Public Procurement, this truck is available from Rush Truck Center of Arkansas priced at \$133,314.90. A motion was made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Mr. Stephens, to

authorize the staff to purchase a 5-yard International dump truck from Rush Truck Center of Arkansas at a price of \$133,314.90. The motion carried unanimously.

At the April Committee meeting, each member was provided with a draft of the Five Year Strategic Plan 2024 - 2028. Since two Committee members were absent from today's meeting, Chairman Matthews tabled this matter until the June 2024 meeting.

Director Clayton then updated the Committee on the following:

1. A virtual meeting was convened on March 25, 2024 to discuss the extension of the disbursement cutoff date for the 2022 State Revolving Loan Fund. Approval was granted for the Lower Riverside CIPP Interceptor Renewal Project, representing a significant milestone in the Utility's ongoing infrastructure renewal efforts.
2. Director Clayton said he is in the process of re-evaluating the current tie- on fee schedule and hopes to have numbers and options available for discussion at the June meeting. He is hoping this will spur more growth for the Utility.
3. The Utility has earned Platinum status for the following plants, (a) Five Mile Creek Treatment Plant - Platinum 6 and (b) White Oak Bayou Treatment Plant - Platinum 6. Platinum 6 represents more than five years of 100% compliance. Additionally, Maumelle was given a Gold award and Faulkner Lake was given a Silver award. The Utility will be honored for its award winning facilities with a multi-media presentation.
4. Based on the 2022 overdose rates provided by the Arkansas Department of Health, the Utility recommends testing by Stercus Bioanalytics of ten wastewater treatment facilities to assess potential public health impacts and identify trends in substance misuse within the community. This analysis could enable targeted interventions and enhance the substance misuse education and prevention strategies.
5. The Utility has been invited to participate as a stakeholder in the proposed nutrient trading rule public meeting. This initiative holds significant promise for the organization, particularly in bridging the gap for the White Oak WRF upgrades. The Utility anticipates further discussions and public review before the rule is signed into effect by the Governor.

A motion was made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Mr. Stephens, to excuse the absence of Ms. Bryant and Ms. Hollowell from the May 14, 2024 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

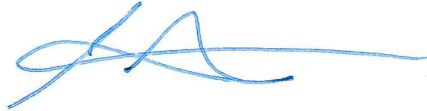
There being no further action to come before the Committee, a motion was made by Mr. Nelson to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:03 p.m.

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**



**K. W. MATTHEWS, CHAIRMAN**

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**



**GABE STEPHENS, VICE-CHAIRMAN/  
SECRETARY**