

Pursuant to the Open Records Act: The minutes of the LCRWS #17 are available to its members upon request. Copy rates are posted at the LCRWD #17 office and on file with the County Clerk. Minutes will also be available at our website lcrwd17@myruralwater.com

LCRWD#17 Board of Directors Special Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2024

4:00 PM

- Prayer led by Vicki Cearnal.
- Call To Order: Vicki Cearnal called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM.
- Roll Call: Vicki Cearnal Chairperson, present. Jean Conklin Vice-Chairman, present via phone. Deb Butler Treasurer, present. Kendle Ortiz Secretary, present. Matt Pollard Member at Large, present. Also present John Butler, water operator.

Review and approval of Rig expenditures: John Butler stated that when he obtained the quotes for the RIG from UTS he did not see that it did not include the pieces needed to install them. He stated he got quotes for the missing parts. The UTS quote was \$27,500. The Core & Main quote was \$37,781 and the Winwater quote was \$28,935. John stated he did not want to go with UTS as they did not inform us that the quote did not include the missing parts needed to complete the installation for the parts ordered. Deb asked if this would be a problem with other quotes for the installation of our other grants. John stated that would not be a problem as the quotes would be bids that would be all inclusive for the work to be done, which would include all the parts and the labor for the installation. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the quotes and missing parts for the installation. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the options for funding the purchase of the missing parts. Deb stated that we had the \$25,000 interim loan for our portion of the RIG grant that had already been

approved by Communities Unlimited. Vicki spoke with Gaylene Rylee from Communities Unlimited regarding the interim loan and if it would be possible to increase the amount of the loan to include an additional \$29,000 to cover the cost of the missing parts. Deb stated that she thought it would put us in a better position for our grant applications for the district to pay for the parts ourselves as that showed that we were investing into our water lines as we have the funds to do so at this time. Vicki stated she was hesitant to do that as we are at the coldest time of the year and potential emergency situations could occur and we might need those funds for that. Deb stated that we would order the parts and the invoices would be paid as the parts come in and that could be until March, which would put us past most of the bad weather. Kendle stated that she agreed with Deb regarding the district purchasing the missing parts. That we currently had the funds available and it would put us in a better position for our application review for the grants we had applied for. There was a lengthy discussion regarding Choctaw Nation and the funds they had stated they would help the district with. Deb stated that they would be voting on the funding in April and then the funds would not be available until the fall. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the Choctaw Nation funding. Vicki stated she would speak with Jim Grider from Choctaw Nation regarding the funding. Matt asked if we had funds in the budget for the purchase of the missing parts, especially since we had just hired the apprentice. There was a discussion regarding the 2024 budget and the finances available to the district. Vicki asked Deb to email Matt a copy of the 2024 budget for him to review. Deb stated that Water SMART would be reviewing our financials soon before deciding on our grant application. She stated that the DWSRF would also be reviewing our financials for our application for their grant as well and that our paying for these missing parts would only help are financials for that review. There was a lengthy discussion regarding our increased rates and our finances. Matt asked if the parts purchased would impact our water loss as we are currently at a 58% water loss. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the RIG grant and the impact of that project on our water loss. Deb stated that the ultimate goal was for our district to become self sustaining. Deb Butler made a motion to approve the purchase by the district of the missing parts for the installation from Winwater for \$29,000. Kendle Ortiz seconded the

motion. Vicki Cearnal voted yea. Deb Butler voted yea. Kendle Ortiz voted yea. Matt Pollard voted yea. Motion carried.

- Adjournment: Kendle Ortiz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Matt Pollard seconded the motion. Vicki Cearnal voted yea. Deb Butler voted yea. Kendle Ortiz voted yea. Matt Pollard voted yea. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:56 PM.

Signed: _____

Seal: