

NORTH HOUGHTON COUNTY WATER AND SEWAGE AUTHORITY

DATE: 4-24-23.

Meeting was called to order by Lehto at 12:01 PM

ROLL CALL: Lehto, Bonenfant, LaRochelle, Zubiena, Mukavetz, Primeau

Others Present: Holmes, Heikkila, Bjorn

Motion , Bonenfant 2nd Mukavetz to approve the March 2023 minutes as presented; Carried.

Phase 1:

Bjorn gave the board an update on the progress of the Phase 1 Project. Drafters are currently working on the lagoon portion of the design, as well as collection system improvements. Hyrkas is scheduled to work with UPEA this week to help dye test and investigate sites.

Bjorn presented an invoice in the amount of \$15496.28 for work completed on the Phase 1 project.

Motion , Mukavetz 2nd Primeau to approve the invoice in the amount of \$15,496.28, as presented; carried

LS Project:

Holmes and Heikkila informed the board that it was discovered that NHCWSA was provided 2.7HP pumps at the lift stations that were designed for 3.8HP pumps. The spare pumps that were provided in the project were 3.8HP. Holmes informed the board that an email was sent out notifying Xylem and B&B about this discovery and stated this was a notification prior to the expiration of the 5 year warranty. B&B has stated that they intend to provide the authority with the correct pumps, and initially Xylem had agreed to provide the correct pumps. Currently Xylem is pushing back saying that B&B had signed off on the pumps. Submittals and shops were all 3.8HP, as well as in the job specs.

MMP:

Holmes presented an invoice for the assistance provided with the annual MMP that was submitted with EGLE.

Motion , Primeau 2nd Zubiena to approve the invoice in the amount of \$1,510.50, as presented; carried

PFAS:

Heikkila and Holmes updated the board on the ongoing PFAS sampling coordination with MPART. A phone meeting was held with the EGLE, WUPHD, and DHHS. The intent of this meeting was to inform WUPHD and DHHS of MPARTS intent to designate NHCWSA as a PFAS site due to PFAS detection in preliminary samples. During the meeting a discussion was held about notifying nearby homeowners and sampling from nearby home owner's wells. The Authority reiterated that it is not their intention to sample and test the home owner wells unless mandated to do so. Gasperich of Calumet Twp is to be notified of MPARTS designation.

Heikkila presented a quote for the PFAS free sampling equipment, as it was significantly more than the estimate provided at last month's meeting.

Motion, Primeau 2nd Mukavetz to approve the quote from Field Environmental Instruments, inc., or the purchase of necessary equipment not to exceed the quoted price of \$5,856.30; carried

Hyrkas Unpaid Sick Time:

Per last month's meeting, Heikkila provided the board with Hyrkas' unpaid sick time balance. Ken carried the maximum 70 days of sick time. A discussion followed. Zubiena presented the minutes from Dec 28th, 2015 when the Board moved on a "non precedent setting" payment to Buckett. LaRochelle stated that the Authority's policy should be looked at and updated to include a resolution on how to handle unpaid sick time. He also stated that such a policy would help ensure that paid sick time is not

abused. LaRochelle suggested that the board should consider a payment to Hyrkas similar to the payment to Buckett.

Motion , Zubierna 2nd LaRochelle, to award Hurkas a onetime, non precedent setting payment of \$3100 in appreciation of his 31 years of service, unused sick time etc... and to update sick time policy during the next wages and benefits committee meeting ; carried, with one voting nay (Lehto)

2023 Summer Employment:

Heikkila made a recommendation to the board to hire William Kotajarvi for summer employment. William will be obtaining his CDL endorsement in May and will be available to start after his training. LaRochelle asked if a CDL would be beneficial to employment. Heikkila responded that the Vac Truck would get more use with the number of CDLs we could potentially have this summer. More mains would get jetted and cleaned.

Motion , Bonenfant 2nd Zubierna to approve hiring William Kotajarvi as a part time employee at the Rate of \$14/hour with a one dollar raise upon receiving his CDL endorsements; carried

EB3 Tree Removal:

Bjorn explained to the board the requirements of USRDA in regards to tree removal using federal monies. These requirements make it easier for the NHCWSA to remove the trees at the proposed EB3 site, prior to the Phase 1 project, with funds that will not be recuperated with Phase 1 funding.

Heikkila presented 2 quotes to Remove the trees from the proposed EB3 site. B&B quoted for removal of trees 4” and greater, and stated they would be running over anything smaller. Bear Lake Forest Products quote included removal of all brush and trees, and also the purchase of up to \$3000 worth of saw logs. Since the two quotes were not apples to apples, the board asked Emmet for a recommendation on what quote he was more comfortable with. Emmet felt that BLFP’s quote was the better option. LaRochelle asked if we had any past work relationship with BLFP. Heikkila stated that BLFP had cleared for the Florida EB and had done some Clearing at the Lagoons prior to Heikkila’s time with the Authority.

Motion , Mukavetz 2nd Primeau to accept Bear Lake Forest Product’s Quote of \$6,250.00 as presented; carried

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion Mukavetz , 2nd Zubierna to pay monthly bills totaling \$37,165.48 as presented; Carried.

Motion Primeau , 2nd Bonenfant to adjourn at 1:03 pm; Carried.

Recorded by,

Submitted by,

Cleve Heikkila

Daniel Zubierna
Secretary