

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEETING**

Monday, October 14, 2024, 5:00 p.m. <u>Memorandum</u>

Mr. Kimbell called the meeting to Order at 5:03 p.m.

## **ROLL CALL**

Vice President Jeff Kimbell, Treasurer Jane Merrill, Secretary Michael McDonald, members, Eric Hand, Amanda Foley, and Jeff Hill. Others in attendance were Utility Director Andrew Williams, Legal Counsel Scott Wyatt, District Engineer Ryan Hartman, Controller Cindy Sheeks, Collections Superintendent Aaron Strong, and Administrative Assistant Maggie Crediford. Mr. Mills and Mr. Ryerson were absent. Mr. Pittman arrived at 5:05 p.m. and Ms. Merrill arrived at 5:45 p.m.

Mr. Kimbell asked for a motion to amend the agenda and add the following items: Lift Station #10 Asphalt removal and replacement and Sewer Main Extension at Commerce Dr. Lift Station #22. Mr. McDonald made a motion to add the two items to the agenda under Capital and Construction. Ms. Foley seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no one present from the public.

## APPROVAL OF MEETING MEMORANDUM

Mr. Hill made a motion to approve the September 9, 2024 Board Meeting memorandum. Ms. Foley seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Hill made a motion to approve the September 9, 2024, Executive Session meeting memorandum. Ms. Foley seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

## APPROVAL OF CLAIMS DOCKET

Ms. Sheeks said payments were made to add some cameras around the plant and purchase some new equipment for the lab. Other than that, all expenses were normal monthly expenses. Mr. McDonald made a motion to approve the claims docket. Mr. Hill seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

## ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Wyatt said legal counsel has responded to the legal claim filed by Bowen Engineering and filed a cross complaint against TPI. He will keep the Board updated on any developments that may arise.

## UTILITY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Williams said TriCo, in compliance with the construction contract, has denied a payment request from TPI for the remainder of the work on the Spring Mill Road main extension project.

TriCo had its employee appreciation event at Birdies in Westfield. It was a gorgeous day and the staff enjoyed the event.

The Lift Station 10 project is wrapping up and with its completion, all of TriCo's lift stations now have redundant wet weather capacity.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Budget & Finance Committee

Mr. McDonald said the Budget and Finance Committee did not meet and had no action items.

### **Personnel & Benefits Committee**

Mr. Kimbell said the Personnel and Benefits Committee did not meet but has received preliminary health insurance premium quotes and right now staff is expecting a 16% increase in 2025 health insurance premiums. Once Anthem provides TriCo with a quote in writing Huntington will ask for relief and shop for other options from other carriers. Mr. Williams explained that there are options within the IPEP system that could be reviewed as well to reduce some of the costs, but until the written quote is received from Anthem there isn't any definitive information to present or discuss. Other carriers will not give a quote on health insurance without seeing the current provider's quote. Mr. Williams said, if necessary, the October Personnel and Benefits Committee meeting could be pushed back a week depending on when TriCo receives the quote.

# Capital & Construction Committee

## **Dedication-The Farm**

Ms. Foley made a motion to approve The Farm Infrastructure Sanitary Sewer Dedication. Mr. Hill seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Mr. Pittman recused himself from the vote.

### Lacoma Estates Low Pressure Main Extension

Ms. Foley made a motion to award the Lacoma Estates Low Pressure Main Extension project to TPI Utility Construction in the amount of \$48,690. The Board members discussed their concerns with using TPI due to the pending litigation. Mr. Hill seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

### Six Points Road Low Pressure Main Extension

Ms. Foley made a motion to award the Six Points Road Low Pressure Main Extension project to TPI Utility Construction in the amount of \$51,417. Jeff Hill seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

If the sewer extension contract awards encounter issues due to the pending litigation the bids will be cancelled and sent out to be rebid.

### Lift Station #10 Asphalt

Mr. Williams said as the Lift Station #10 project is nearly complete, he had hoped that the project would come in under budget. However, staff recognized that the previous plan to repair the asphalt will not be adequate. Staff is asking the Board to award the removal and replacement of

asphalt at Lift Station #10 to Pyramid Constrution for \$26,175, which falls within the original budgeted amount for this project.

Ms. Foley made a motion to award the asphalt removal and replacement contract to Pyramid construction for \$26,175. Mr. Hill seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

### Sewer Main Extension- Commerce Dr. Lift Station #22

Mr. Williams said there is a 60" storm sewer traversing the site preventing a conventional gravity sewer installation. Two alternatives were considered, and quotes requested. Staff is recommending the Board award the Commerce Dr./Lift Station #22 Sewer Main Extension construction contract to FOSO Construction LLC for \$48,040. Work is to be done by directional drilling across Commerce Dr. This award shall be contingent upon the submittal of completed contract documents and review of the contractor's schedule and sub-contractor qualifications. Mr. Hand asked if there is any concern about how much lower the bidder's quote is than all the others. Mr. Hartman said the staff has some questions about the price quoted for the directional drilling but that is why the award will be contingent on the submission of final contract documents for TriCo's staff to review. Mr. Hill asked how the addition of the project will impact the 2024 budget. Mr. Williams explained that staff includes line items in the budget each year for unknown expenses or projects such as this.

Ms. Foley made a motion to award the Commerce Dr./Lift Station #22 Sewer Main Extension construction contract to FOSO Construction LLC for \$48,040. The award shall be contingent upon the submittal of completed documents and review of the contractor's schedule and sub-contractor qualifications. Mr. Hill seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Ms. Merrill arrived at 5:45 p.m.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Williams gave the Board an update from the staff's latest meeting with HCURD on the direction of the project and if there will be any involvement from TriCo in the project. The Board will make the ultimate decision once a proposal is brought forth to them.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

### Transfer of User fees Paid to Interceptor Fees Due

Mr. Williams said a church located within TriCo's service area has paid monthly user fees since January 1, 2004, but never connected to the system. This was discovered when TriCo received a request for an emergency connection from a representative of the property. Staff requests Board approval to credit the full amount of user fees paid, totaling \$22,228.10, to the interceptor fees due for the new connection. The interceptor fee due is \$32,600. The property has a failing septic system and is in the process of finalizing connection plans. Anticipated completion is late October 2024.

Ms. Merrill made a motion to transfer the user fees paid by the property owner while not actually being connected to TriCo's system to the interceptor fees due to for connection to the sewer system in the amount of \$22,228.10. Mr. Hand seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

### ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Merrill made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

The next Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 11, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Andrew Williams Utility Director

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_ as Presented \_\_\_\_\_ as Amended

Michael McDonald, Secretary

Carl Mills, President