



BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEETING

Monday, February 10, 2025, 5:00 p.m.
Memorandum

Mr. Mills called the meeting to Order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: President Carl Mills, Vice President Jeff Kimbell, Treasurer Jane Merrill, Secretary Michael McDonald, members, Eric Hand, Loren Matthes, and Amanda Foley, Others in attendance were Utility Director Andrew Williams, Legal Counsel Anne Poindexter, Engineering Manager Wes Merkle, Controller Cindy Sheeks, Plant Superintendent Scot Watkins, Collections Superintendent Aaron Strong and Administrative Assistant Maggie Crediford, Mr. Hill arrived at 5:02 p.m. Mr. Pittman was absent.

Public Comment

There was no one present from the public.

Approval of Meeting Memorandum

Ms. Merrill made a motion to approve the memorandum of the January 13, 2025, Board Meeting. Ms. Foley seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Approval of Claims Docket

Mr. Hill arrived at the meeting. Ms. Merrill made a motion to approve the claims. Mr. Kimbell seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Attorney's Report

Mrs. Poindexter said there has been no change in the pending litigation between Bowen, TPI and TriCo. Mrs. Poindexter said she has received a message from Bowen's attorney that she would like to talk. However, they have not been able to do so yet. She will continue to update the Board as it progresses. Mrs. Poindexter said she has filed a complaint against Jordan KS regarding reimbursement for their portion of the Haver Way Lift Station project that remains unpaid.

Utility Director's Report

Mr. Williams said he had a meeting with Jeremy Kashman and John Duffy from Carmel regarding the densification of the Pennsylvania Street Corridor and TriCo's ability to serve the area after redevelopment. Mr. Williams sent the questions regarding the proposed Carmel Utilities Treatment Rate Increase. Crowe has the information and is reviewing the questions. An employee has been hired to fill the Locator position and started working on February 3, 2025. He is familiar with our service area as he had been a locator with USIC and his territory included the west side of Carmel.

Mr. Williams reminded the Board of the upcoming Board Appreciation Dinner on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at Cobblestone in Zionsville.

Mr. Williams said a new employee at Carmel Clay Parks noticed a significant spike in bills from West and Central Parks during the summer months. After researching the issue, it was discovered that the wrong meters were being billed for wastewater treatment, and the previous bills included usage from the splash pads, which discharge water into their lagoon system, not into TriCo's system. TriCo and Carmel worked together to figure out appropriate refunds due to each location. The refund request does fall within the Utility's three-year look back policy. Additional meters have been installed by Carmel Water ensure TriCo is only billing for flow that enters our system. Mr. Williams asked the Board to approve refunds to Carmel Clay parks in the amounts of \$30,000 and \$20,000 respectively.

Ms. Merrill made a motion to refund overpayments made to TriCo by Carmel Clay Parks in the amount of \$50,000 for payments made on readings from water meters servicing the splash pads at West and Central Parks that have been found not to be entering TriCo's collection system. Ms. Matthes seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Mills said that he would like to make a change back in procedure as it applies to the Board's committees. TriCo will no longer be noticing committee meetings as potential joint Board meetings. Mr. Mills would like members to focus on the committees to which they are assigned. He asked Board members to only attend the committee meetings they are assigned to unless there is a joint meeting called.

Committee Reports

Budget & Finance Committee

Ms. Merrill made a motion to void the 2022 Stale Dated Checks. Mr. Kimbell seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Ms. Merrill made a motion to approve the Trojan UV Equipment Purchase in the amount of \$34,289.30. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Ms. Merrill made a motion to approve Resolution 02.10.2025 authorizing the \$400,000 temporary loan from the Plant Expansion Fund to the Interceptor Fund. Mr. Kimbell seconded the motion. Mr. Kimbell and Mr. Hill asked how the temporary loan gets repaid. Ms. Sheeks explained as the District is built out and Interceptor fees are collected from developers, the money goes to repay the loans between funds. Mr. Williams said TriCo decided a few years back that it made more sense to borrow money internally if it is available rather than paying interest on money that would need to be borrowed from an outside source. The Indiana State Board of Accounts does not like to see funds with a negative balance at the end of the year.

Ms. Merrill made a motion to approve Resolution 02.10.2025-2 authorizing the transfer of \$1,500,000 from the Operating Fund to the Reserve for Replacement Fund. Mr. Hill seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Personnel & Benefits Committee

Mr. Kimbell said the Personnel and Benefits Committee did not meet and had no action items.

Capital & Construction Committee

Ms. Foley said the Capital and Construction Committee did not meet and had no action items.

Old Business

Union Woodlands Sewer Service Agreement

Mr. Merkle said Union Woodlands is a new residential development located near the northwest corner of TriCo's service area. Union Woodlands includes the extension of interceptor sewer that is larger and deeper than is otherwise required to serve the development. This sewer oversizing will allow TriCo to serve other locations in this drainage basin in accordance with TriCo's master plan. TriCo typically reimburses developers for sewer oversizing costs either directly or through an interceptor fee credit.

On December 9, staff presented to the Board a Sewer Service Agreement for Union Woodlands, and the Board approved the agreement subject to staff negotiating the oversizing reimbursement in an amount not to exceed \$216,700.

Staff and the developer were initially unable to negotiate an oversizing cost reimbursement and agreed to request additional quotes from reputable local contractors. The developer will use the lowest responsive and responsible contractor to install sanitary sewers. Staff and the developer used the data to negotiate an oversizing reimbursement of \$218,495.73; staff believes this amount represents a fair price for oversizing costs.

Ms. Merrill made a motion to approve an oversizing reimbursement of \$218,495.73 for Union Woodlands Section 1 under the previously approved Sewer Service Agreement. Ms. Foley seconded the motion. Mr. McDonald asked for clarification on what costs could be associated with future sections of this project and what the potential on payback would be. Mr. Merkle said Section 1 is the largest piece of development regarding oversized sewers. Phase 2 should have Interceptor Fees just over \$100,000 with oversizing costs around \$70,000. Phase 3 is going to be about even, like Phase 1 where TriCo will credit back almost all the Interceptor Fees to cover the costs of oversizing the sewers. Mr. Merkle said he believes TriCo will recoup all of the costs it is outlaying by oversizing the sewers along with this development project. Mr. Hand asked if there is a proportional number that can be stated regarding the cost share. Mr. Merkle said the share ratio is 84% developer and 16% for TriCo. Mr. Hill asked if TriCo were to do the project on its own in August as opposed to February along with the development would that mitigate any of the costs associated with the excess groundwater. Mr. Merkle said the ground borings are showing groundwater less than ten feet from the surface. Mr. Hand noted that area of the county has a high groundwater table. Other neighborhoods in that area have had issues dealing with it as well. Mr. Mills asked if TriCo's staff will have any oversight in the project to make sure we are getting what we need for the investment. Mr. Merkle said there will be a full-time inspector assigned to the project and will be onsite when the sewers are installed. TriCo is heavily involved with choosing the components of the lift station as well since it will become part of TriCo's system at the conclusion of the project. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Merkle gave general capital project updates.

New Business

Mr. Strong said Portable Pumps are an essential part of TriCo’s emergency preparedness. Tow-behind pumps can be taken to lift stations in the event of an equipment failure and used to bypass the permanent equipment during an outage preventing backups and overflows. The 2025 budget included \$56,000 to purchase a new portable pump. The Quotes came in a little higher than that, so the staff is asking the Board to approve the purchase of the portable bypass pump from BBA Pumps for \$56,280. Mr. Hill made a motion to approve the purchase of the portable bypass pump from BBA Pumps in the amount of \$56,280. Mr. Hand seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kimbell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Merrill seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

The next Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 10, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

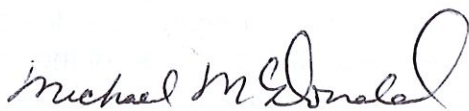
Respectfully submitted,



Andrew Williams
Utility Director

Approved:

as Presented
 as Amended



Michael McDonald, Secretary


Carl Mills, President