

**NORTH LITTLE ROCK
WASTEWATER TREATMENT COMMITTEE**

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2024

A meeting of the North Little Rock Wastewater Treatment Committee was held on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, in the administrative offices located at the Faulkner Lake Treatment Plant.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Matthews at approximately 12:14 p.m. The roll was called and all Committee members were present. Those in attendance at the meeting were Chairman Matthews, Mr. Gabe Stephens, Mr. Ed Nelson, Ms. Karen Bryant and Ms. Marie Hollowell. Also in attendance were Mr. Michael Clayton, Director, Ms. Alice Fulk, Human Resources Director, Mr. Scott Hilburn with Hilburn & Harper, Ltd. and Dawn Harmon.

First, the Committee reviewed the minutes of its March 12, 2024, meeting. There being no questions or comments, a motion was made by Mr. Stephens, seconded by Ms. Bryant, to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2024, meeting as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

The Committee then reviewed the cash disbursements for January 2024 (corrected), the cash disbursements for February 2024 and the cash disbursements for March 2024. After further discussion the following motions were made:

Motion made by Mr. Stephens, seconded by Mr. Nelson, to approve the corrected cash disbursements for January 2024 reflecting total cash disbursements of \$2,502,345.66;

Motion made by Mr. Stephens, seconded by Ms. Bryant, to approve the cash disbursements for February 2024 reflecting total cash disbursements of \$2,168,899.24; and

Motion made by Mr. Stephens, seconded by Ms. Bryant, to approve the cash disbursements for March 2024 reflecting total cash disbursements of \$2,583,062.36.

All these motions carried unanimously.

Director Clayton then informed the Committee that the White Oak plant currently utilizes thirty-two (32) 15-HP lagoon surface aerators for the biological

oxidation of the incoming wastewater. NLRW staff reached out to consultant engineer and existing White Oak plant designer Mike Marlar regarding how the additional flow and loading from the Maumelle diversion would affect the existing treatment lagoons. Through their local sales representative, Instrument & Supply, Mr. Marlar worked with an aeration equipment manufacturer named Aqua-Aerobic Systems. The manufacturer provided calculations that determined an additional 15-HP aerator per lagoon would be required under the new conditions. NLRW staff budgeted \$160,000 for these upgrades this year, with the installation to be completed using in-house resources. Three quotes for the four complete surface aerator assemblies have been received by the Utility. Aqua-Aerobics was the middle price, and staff recommend purchasing their equipment as they also provided consulting and engineering calculations at no additional cost. The quotes received were as follows:

Aqua-Aerobic Systems via Instrument & Supply	\$59,740.12
Aerator Solutions via Environmental Technical Sales	\$51,456.00
Epic International via Jack Tyler Engineering	\$78,900.00

After discussing the bids, a motion was made by Ms. Bryant, seconded by Mr. Stephens, to authorize the staff to purchase four aerators from Aqua-Aerobic Systems in the amount of \$59,740.12. The motion carried unanimously.

The Committee then discussed the Maumelle Pond Levee Repair Project. Bids for this project were received on April 2, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. The scope of this project is to restore the levee to a 3:1 slope, utilizing designated onsite fill material. Once restored, the contractor shall furnish and install geofabric and stone armor to mitigate future erosion. The bids received were as follows:

Environmental Process Systems	\$441,800.00
Redstone Construction Group	\$411,990.00
Rogers & Dillon Excavation, Inc.	\$687,280.00

After review of the bids, a motion was made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Mr. Stephens, to authorize the staff to award the contract for the Maumelle Pond Levee repair Project to Redstone Construction Group in the amount of \$411,990.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Director Clayton then presented to the Committee for review a closure letter received from The State of Arkansas, Division of Environmental Quality. Under the terms of Consent Administrative Order (CAO) LIS 23-066, the Division has determined that the requirements have been met and this case should be closed. A

motion was made by Ms. Hollowell, seconded by Mr. Nelson, to accept the closure letter from the Division of Environmental Quality dated April 9, 2024. The motion carried unanimously.

Director Clayton then introduced to the Committee members a Five-Year Strategic Plan. He asked the members to review the plan so it could be discussed at the May meeting. It was noted that the draft version is currently still under review by the staff.

Next, Director Clayton updated the Committee on a question posed by Mr. Nelson regarding Eureka Gardens. Eureka Gardens was financed for 25 years through a USDA loan and the loan is at approximately year 10. The debt fee is serviced by assessing each customer at the rate of \$28.00 per month.

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 12:44 p.m.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



K. W. MATTHEWS, CHAIRMAN

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



VICE-CHAIRMAN/SECRETARY