

**MINUTES OF CLINTON PUBLIC WORKS AUTHORITY SPECIAL MEETING
MARCH 26, 2024**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Chairman and Trustees of the Clinton Public Works Authority City of Clinton, Oklahoma, Custer County, held in the City Council Room, City Hall on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. A notice of this meeting was posted on the bulletin board in the lobby of Clinton City Hall on March 22, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

Chairman David Berrong called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. with the following present:

CHAIRMAN: David Berrong

TRUSTEES: Ernie Dowdell, Stormie Hill, Ernesto Villanueva, Arthur Lloyd

MANAGER: Robert Johnston

CITY TREASURER: Debra Blanchard

CITY ATTORNEY: Ryan Meacham

CITY CLERK: Amy Jones

NEWS MEDIA: Mike Smith, Angela Nichols

OTHERS: Gene McCullough, Shauna Hacker, Joshua McGuire, Jarrod Nunn, Doug Greer, Rod Kinney, Scott Crumley, Robert Stewart and others.

Jarrod Nunn, Pastor, Cornerstone Church opened the meeting with prayer and Doug Greer, Service Officer, American Legion Post 41 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of the March 5, 2024, Regular Meeting
- B. Acknowledge Receipt of Permit No. SL000020240022 for the construction of Sanitary Sewer Lines for Exit 65 Project, Facility No. S-10804

Motion was made by Trustee Dowdell and seconded by Trustee Villanueva that the Consent Agenda Items be approved.

Chairman put the motion to a roll call vote:

Aye: Dowdell, Hill, Lloyd, Villanueva, Berrong

Nay: None

Chairman declared the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

A. Update from Foss Master Conservancy District Representatives.

Mr. Shawn Dewees, Foss Master Conservancy District Manager (Foss MCD) and Mr. Duane Smith, Foss consultant were present to provide an update on the Foss MCD's Water Treatment Plant. Dewees gave an overview of the history of the plant from the beginning of the Foss Lake

Project in 1956 to date. He provided details regarding the toll that the plant suffered as a result of the profound drought conditions in western Oklahoma from 2010-2015. As a result of that drought, Foss MCD and its members cities began work on a Drought Contingency Plan which brings us to present day efforts to determine the best ways to provide water to the members, achieve regulatory compliance & improve water quality, in the most cost-effective manner by making the best possible decisions based on the recommendations from the consulting engineers. He noted that some of the existing infrastructure was built in the early 1970s and needs replacement. He presented a recommendation referred to as "DAF – Dissolved Air Flootation". This particular treatment is a pre-treatment of the water that works with a small amount of chemical and air bubbles to prepare the water for treatment.

Duane Smith presented the information regarding the actions of the Foss MCD engaging more than one engineer firm to find the best solution for processing the water from Foss Lake. He stated that the plant provides water directly to Clinton, Hobart, Cordell, and Bessie with other users depending on this water source. The Department of Environmental Quality is also very involved with the development process leading up to actual construction. The cost of the recommended process "DAF-Dissolved Air Flootation" is now estimated at \$30 mil. The City of Clinton's responsibility based on its contract is forty-eight percent (48%). He stated that the Conservancy is also working to find grants and any unused ARPA funds. He has also spoken with federal legislators regarding the current issue with the Foss WTP and anticipates their full support. The engineers are moving forward on the design phase, presently at approximately 60% complete; with 4-to-5-months for them to complete their work so that the project can go to bid next year. To receive certain grant funds when you ask you must be "shovel ready". The overall goal is to minimize the cost of the project and produce a better water product for the member cities.

Chairman Berrong reminded the Trustees and those present that the City of Clinton and the other member cities entered into what is sometimes described as a "forever contract" because of its 50-year term ago and then renewed in 2001-2002 for another 50-years. Because of the costs of providing this type of infrastructure, long term contracts are needed for financing. These are 'take or pay' agreements whereby the water is paid for whether it is taken or not.

Smith also commented that completion of the pretreatment project is mandatory before it could be sent to a reverse osmosis – RO plant, like Clinton has on W. Modelle. Under DEQ regulations a RO Plant cannot process the raw water from Foss Lake.

Trustee Dowdell commented that the Foss WTP and the Clinton RO Plant serve two different purposes at this time. Anytime you are talking about raising water rates it is a difficult topic.

Smith stated that this problem is not unique to our area or to Oklahoma. He stated that as the project moves forward, updates will be provided. Mr. Dewees encouraged anyone that would like to tour the facility to come out.

Chairman Berrong thanked Mr. Dewees and Mr. Smith for the informative presentation. He also recognized Clinton's two other representatives on the Foss MCD Board who are present Rod Kinney and Scott Crumley and for their diligence in the decision-making process.

No action was taken.

B. Intrafund Borrowing Agreement Between the Public Works Authority and the Hospital Authority

Manager Robert Johnston presented the “Intrafund Borrowing Agreement between the Clinton Public Works Authority and the Clinton Hospital Authority” in the amount of \$500,000. He explained that this agreement is necessary to loan money to the Hospital Authority to continue to cover expenses until hospital money that is invested becomes available. When the money is available in June 2024, the loan will be repaid.

Motion was made by Trustee Dowdell and seconded by Trustee Villanueva to approve the “Intrafund Borrowing Agreement Between the Public Works Authority and the Hospital Authority”.

Chairman put the motion to a roll call vote:

Aye: Hill, Lloyd, Berrong, Dowdell, Villanueva

Nay: None

Chairman declared motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 NEW BUSINESS (If any, pursuant to Section 311.9 of the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act)

None

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: TRUSTEE COMMENTS

None

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: MANAGER COMMENTS

Manager Johnston reported that the Bid Opening for the Chemical Feed Building project has been set for 5/7/24. This project is funded 50:50 with ARPA money.

we are anticipating receiving ARPA Funding for the **AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Dowdell and seconded by Trustee Villanueva to adjourn the meeting.

Chairman put the motion to a roll call vote:

Aye: Hill, Lloyd, Berrong, Dowdell, Villanueva

Nay: None

Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

Date Approved

David D. Berrong, Chairman