



Minutes

**YPSILANTI COMMUNITY UTILITIES AUTHORITY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
Wednesday, January 24, 2018 – 4:00 p.m.
YCUA Administration Building
2777 State Road
Ypsilanti, MI 48198-9112**

Members Present: Brenda L. Stumbo, Michael Bodary, Jon R. Ichesco, Larry J. Doe, and Keith P. Jason.

Members Absent: None.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. Stumbo called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
2. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** Motion by Jason to receive and file the minutes of the December 20, 2017 meeting as presented. Support by Doe. In favor: All. Opposed: None. (Motion carried.)
3. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - A. **Request to Approve – Authorization to Seek Proposal from OHM Advisors, Inc. (OHM) re: Metering for Wastewater Billing Data Collection and Analysis (O & M Expense Account No. 902-164) – Scott D. Westover**

Motion by Jason to provide Authorization to Seek Proposal from OHM Advisors, Inc. (OHM) re: Metering for Wastewater Billing Data Collection and Analysis (O & M Expense Account No. 902-164). Support by Bodary.

Mr. Westover advised the Board that this proposal will allow OHM to continue what they have been doing for the last four years as part of the very successful metering program.

Mr. Doe inquired as to how much is being billed to Pittsfield under this new program. Mr. Westover responded that it varies due to weather conditions, specifically rain events.

YCUA's Finance Director Dwayne Harrigan addressed the Board and advised that the increase from Pittsfield did not turn out to be as large as anticipated but that Sumpter, Superior, and Augusta had increases larger than expected. He indicated that, overall, this translates to additional \$500,000 to \$600,000 in revenue per year.

In favor: All. Opposed: None. (Motion carried.)

B. Request to Approve - Authorization to Seek Proposal from HESCO Group, Inc. (HESCO) re: Meter Operation and Maintenance (O & M Expense Account No. 902-164) – Scott D. Westover

Motion by Doe to provide Authorization to Seek Proposal from HESCO Group, Inc. (HESCO) re: Meter Operation and Maintenance (O & M Expense Account No. 902-164). Support by Ichesco.

Mr. Westover advised the Board that this item is related to items 3.A and 3.C. He indicated that HESCO purchased Martin Control Services within the last three or four months. Mr. Westover explained that YCUA originally purchased the meters from Martin Control Services and had two years of operation with them. He pointed out that the purchase by HESCO is essentially just a change in name and that the staff members that do the day-to-day data collection and the equipment will remain the same. Mr. Westover also explained that this proposal will continue the current operations for another two years.

He further advised that the costs incurred for this program are prorated and shared by the various communities. Mr. Westover stated that YCUA's portion of the costs is about 25%.

Mr. Doe inquired as to how much it would cost YCUA to read these meters itself. Mr. Westover responded that it is the opinion that, while the Authority is capable of the work, there are other types of activities that staff needs to focus on rather than this type of activity that a firm like Martin is able to perform much more efficiently.

In favor: All. Opposed: None. (Motion carried.)

C. Request to Approve - Authorization to Seek Proposal from Applied Science, Inc. (ASI) re: Dye Testing of Metering Equipment (O & M Expense Account No. 902-164) – Scott D. Westover

Motion by Doe to provide Authorization to Seek Proposal from Applied Science, Inc. (ASI) re: Dye Testing of Metering Equipment (O & M Expense Account No. 902-164). Support by Ichesco.

Mr. Westover advised the Board that dye testing is an independent way of verifying that the meters are calibrated and reading properly. He indicated

that ASI has done the dye testing piece since the inception of the program, therefore it is recommended that a proposal be requested for another two years.

In favor: All. Opposed: None. (Motion carried.)

D. Request to Approve – Authorization to Seek Bids re: 2018 Road Repairs Phase 1 (O & M Expense Account No. 902-161) – Scott D. Westover

Motion by Jason to provide Authorization to Seek Bids re: 2018 Road Repairs Phase 1 (O & M Expense Account No. 902-161). Support by Bodary.

Mr. Westover advised the Board that this bid request is to repair the roads that were excavated between June 1st and November 30th. He indicated that hopes to have bids ready in February or March.

In favor: All. Opposed: None. (Motion carried.)

E. Request to Approve – Change Order No. 1 re: 2015 Interceptor Sanitary Sewers Inspection in the Amount of \$87,773.25 (Restricted Funds Account No. 902-169) – Scott D. Westover

Motion by Doe to Approve Change Order No. 1 re: 2015 Interceptor Sanitary Sewers Inspection in the Amount of \$87,773.25 (Restricted Funds Account No. 902-169). Support by Bodary.

Mr. Westover advised the Board that this contract was part of a SAW Grant that ended in October of 2017. He indicated that the Board approved these additional costs in December of 2015 after the project costs came back much lower than anticipated. Mr. Westover explained that these costs are all eligible under the grant.

In favor: All. Opposed: None. (Motion carried.)

F. Fund Balance Report – Dwayne Harrigan

Informational only; no motion from the Board required.

G. Financial Report – Authority Net Assets – Dwayne Harrigan

Informational only; no motion from the Board required.

H. Usage Report – Consumption Report – Jeff Castro

Informational only; no motion from the Board required.

I. Attorney’s Report – Thomas E. Daniels

There was no Attorney’s Report for the month.

J. Director's Report - Jeff Castro

Mr. Castro reminded the Board that he has been participating in a work group with EPA and MDEQ on the new lead and copper rule that was precipitated by the events in the Flint water system. He indicated that and the EPA is being responsive to the municipalities' concerns and MDEQ has been a significant team leader. Mr. Castro explained that YCUA expects a draft of the new rule around the second week of March, which will be a significant change to just about every community. He then outlined the highlights the new rule, to which significant modifications have been made multiple times.

Ms. Stumbo inquired as to how many lead service lines are in the YCUA system. Mr. Castro responded that the Authority spearheaded a program some time ago to replace anything non-copper between the water main and the property line. He indicated that some homeowners did not respond and that about three dozen still exist. Mr. Castro explained that the number of lead services between the property line and the home is currently unknown but that, under the new rule, every utility will be required to complete a field survey identifying these services.

He pointed out that, 20 to 30 years ago, YCUA's prior administration worked very hard to replace all non-copper service leads, which really put the Authority ahead of the game and much appreciation is due to them.

Mr. Castro also explained that the contract reopener with Great Lakes Water Authority is taking place the next day and that he will have more information for the Board at the February meeting.

Mr. Bodary responded that the new lead and copper rule requirement to replace all lead services within 20 years is likely to create a huge financial burden on larger, older municipalities. Mr. Castro responded affirmatively and indicated that MDEQ is currently considering alternatives for financial assistance. He further advised that YCUA will have to set its budgets accordingly, including rate increases.

4. **OLD BUSINESS:** There was no Old Business for the month.

5. **OTHER BUSINESS:**

K. Request to Approve – Emergency Repair of the Odor Control Unit Fan in the Amount of \$25,469 – Stacey Reynolds

Mr. Reynolds updated the Board on an emergency repair on an odor control unit fan. He indicated that there are two fans that pull the foul air from the tanks. Mr. Reynolds explained that redundancy between the two fans is crucial and the cost to make the repair was \$25,469. He pointed

out that a new unit would cost over \$75,000. Mr. Reynolds also explained that the existing unit has been online since 2000 so if the recommendation is to replace the fan, the Board will be advised. Mr. Bodary interjected that he would like to see this put in writing in an email.

Motion by Doe to Approve the Emergency Repair of the Odor Control Fan in the Amount of \$25,469 or replace the same if determined necessary. Support by Bodary. In favor: All. Opposed: None. (Motion carried.)

6. **STATEMENTS AND CHECKS:** Motion by Ichesco to pay the current month's bills in the amount of \$3,131,662.55. Support by Doe. In favor: All. Opposed: None. (Motion carried.)
7. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no Public Comments for the month.
8. **CLOSED SESSION:** Ms. Stumbo recommended adjourning the open session and calling to order a closed session in order to discuss union negotiations. Motion by Doe to accept the recommendation for adjourning the open session and calling to order a closed session. Support by Jason. By roll call vote: Ayes: Brenda L. Stumbo, Keith P. Jason, and Larry J. Doe. Nays: None. (Motion carried.)
(Board then met in closed session.)
9. **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Bodary to adjourn the meeting at 5:08 p.m. Support by Doe. In favor: All. Opposed: None. (Motion carried.)



Respectfully submitted,



JON R. ICHESCO, Secretary - Treasurer