



# Minutes

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**YPSILANTI COMMUNITY UTILITIES AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
Wednesday, August 23, 2023 – 3:00 p.m.  
YCUA Administration Building  
2777 State Road  
Ypsilanti, MI 48198-9112**

**Members Present:** Michael Bodary, Larry J. Doe, Jon R. Ichesco, and Gloria C. Peterson.

**Members Absent:** David Ostrowski.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Bodary called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.
2. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** Motion by Doe to receive and file the minutes of the July 26, 2023 (Open & Closed Sessions) meeting as presented. Support by Peterson.

In favor: Bodary, Doe, Ichesco, and Peterson. Opposed: None. (Motion carried.)

3. **NEW BUSINESS:**
  - A. **Request to Approve - Award of Contract re: Textile Road Booster Pump Station Yard Piping Improvements in the amount of \$125,000 (GL# 592-560-815) – Scott D. Westover**

Motion by Ichesco to approve Request to Approve – Award of Contract re: Textile Road Booster Pump Station Yard Piping Improvements. Support by Doe.

Mr. Westover explained bids received in February were extremely high, significantly higher than anticipated. Mr. Westover explained at that time options were re-evaluated, and materials were ordered with one option of the Service Center self-performing the work. Mr. Westover explained given the depth of pipes and proximity of a telephone/power pole, it was determined to further engage with the initial bidders for the work. Diversified Excavating & Site Utilities, LLC (Diversified) of Ypsilanti has provided a lump sum bid of \$125,000 and Mr. Westover recommended the contract be awarded to them.

Mr. Ichesco inquired as to the risk/benefit of the project. Mr. Knapp explained to isolate this station currently requires shutting down a 16-inch

main affecting one mile of service from Hitchingham to Ellis. Mr. Westover further explained the addition of the valve to isolate the station allows continued service to customers when the station is offline for operational maintenance.

Mr. Bodary inquired about the status of the construction on Textile Road at the Pump Station. Mr. Knapp advised Textile Road had just been repaved. Mr. Westover then explained this work would be well off the roadway in between the fence line and the pump station.

Mr. Bodary requested further discussion from the Commissioners and there was none.

In favor: Ichesco, Doe, Peterson, and Bodary. Opposed: None. (Motion carried.)

**B. Request to Approve -- Quote for Repairs to #5 Pump at Snow Rd. Pump Station in the amount of \$64,950.00 (GL# 592-901-594.00) – Ryan Stetler**

Motion by Doe to approve Request to Approve – Quote for Repairs to #5 Pump at Snow Rd. Pump Station. Support by Ichesco.

Mr. Stetler explained this is the last pump to be repaired from the Snow Road collapse in February of 2022. Mr. Stetler stated a quote has been received from Kennedy Industries, Inc., (Kennedy) of Wixom to repair pump #5. Mr. Stetler advised both #4 and #5 pumps were online during the incident with massive amounts of debris damaging both pumps. Mr. Stetler displayed a picture of #5 pump and explained the volute and impeller were not damaged as they had been on the #4 pump.

Mr. Bodary inquired what the cost would have been if the pump had been completely lost. Mr. Stetler advised the cost for the completed rebuild of #4 Pump included the contract award of \$53,930, plus the cost of the preordered damage volute \$23,000 and the impellor \$13,000 (total of approximately \$90,000).

Mr. Bodary requested further discussion and there was none.

In favor: Bodary, Ichesco, Doe, and Peterson. Opposed: None. (Motion carried.)

**C. Request to Approve - Dayco Inc. Proposal 2064Y-RJ23 for purchase of a new Electric Process Air Heater (GAC Heater) in the amount of \$194,895.00 (GL# 592- 550-727.000) – Ryan Stetler**

Motion by Peterson to approve Request to Approve - Dayco Inc. Proposal 2064Y-RJ23 for purchase of a new Electric Process Air Heater (GAC Heater). Support by

Doe.

Mr. Stetler explained the proposal is from Dayco Inc., (Dayco) to supply the electric process air heater which will be skid mounted and wired ready for installation. Mr. Stetler explained the current heater's internal electrical and mechanical components are failing and obsolete. Mr. Stetler stated there was an extensive and unsuccessful search for a replacement, before reaching out to the OEM (Veolia formerly known as Suez) for a vendor recommendation. Veolia recommended Dayco. Mr. Stetler explained the heater is essential in the last step of the emissions process when the carbon bed must be kept warm when the incinerator is offline. Mr. Stetler recommended approval.

Mr. Doe inquired to confirm that YCUA just has one heater. Mr. Stetler confirmed there is only one heater.

Mr. Bodary inquired if there was a possibility of a competitive bid process. Mr. Stetler explained this is a sole source item and with the recommendation of the original OEM after the unsuccessful search and three vendors unable to assist, he recommends the Dayco proposal.

Ms. Peterson requested Mr. Stetler identify the heater in the photo. Mr. Stetler provided a detailed description of the GAC Heater including explanations of the areas failing.

Mr. Doe then inquired as to the lead time for the heater. Mr. Stetler advised he was uncertain and would find the answer. Mr. Doe then inquired if operation was possible in the current condition. Mr. Stetler confirmed the current GAC Heater is operational.

Mr. Bodary requested further discussion and there was none.

In favor: Bodary, Ichesco, Doe, and Peterson. Opposed: None. (Motion carried.)

**D. Fund Balance Report – Dwayne Harrigan**

Informational only; no motion from the Board required.

**E. Financial Report – Authority Net Assets – Dwayne Harrigan**

Informational only; no motion from the Board required.

**F. Usage Report – Consumption Report – Luther Blackburn**

Mr. Blackburn advised the Board that the month-to-month comparison shows water consumption is down 1.9% and sewer consumption is up 4.3%. Mr. Blackburn indicated the year-to-date comparison shows water consumption is up 0.3% and sewer consumption is down 9.2%. Mr.

Blackburn noted the colder weather this July and August is unusual and is driving down consumption.

Informational only; no motion from the Board required.

**G. Attorney's Report – Matthew Jane**

Mr. Jane stated he has been working with Mr. Mullapudi and Fisher Honda after discovery of an oily viscous material in a manhole on their property in January. Mr. Jane explained YCUA entered into a consent order with Fisher Honda while YCUA is following up with the investigation to determine the cause.

Mr. Mullapudi stated in the manhole on Fisher Honda's property an oily, greasy material build up was found. Mr. Mullapudi stated Fisher Honda had contacted a septic hauler to vacator, but they were unsuccessful. Mr. Mullapudi explained Fisher Honda was having back up issues on the property and they then contacted the YCUA Service Center. Mr. Mullapudi explained our Service Center vacated successfully and determined Fisher Honda was discharging this oily material, which is a prohibitive substance per ordinance, into the collection system. Mr. Mullapudi explained an Order to Show Cause was issued. Mr. Mullapudi stated at the hearing Fisher Honda was advised the manhole was located within their property boundary which was not YCUA's jurisdiction. Mr. Mullapudi explained there are multiple leads coming into this manhole and Fisher Honda is advising it is not coming from their facility. Mr. Mullapudi stated our investigation showed there are no other possible sources for the petroleum hydro carbon material.

Mr. Mullapudi stated there have been multiple meetings going back and forth. Mr. Jane advised he had just responded to the latest inquiry from Fisher Honda's attorney in which he stated it is not YCUA's manhole and there are no other sources for the prohibited discharge.

Mr. Bodary inquired to confirm the material is on the sanitary sewer side and there is no danger the substance will cross into the river. Mr. Mullapudi confirmed this is on the sanitary sewer not the storm drain, but there is potential to be involved in an overflow situation into the river. Mr. Mullapudi stated it has been made clear to Fisher Honda and their attorneys that if this substance ever ends up in the river it will point directly to Fisher Honda. Mr. Jane explained Fisher Honda has been cooperative although somewhat resistant to the investigation finding of no other potential source for this type of material in the sanitary sewer.

Mr. Bodary inquired if the treatment center should be expected to process this type of substance. Mr. Mullapudi advised this is a prohibited discharge

which can harm the collection system including possible sewer backup and overflows. Mr. Bodary inquired if this dealership has an oil separation system. Mr. Mullapudi explained Fisher Honda has an older system. Mr. Mullapudi stated there are multiple complications including the other lead lines and easement concerns.

Mr. Doe inquired about the manhole not belonging to YCUA, if Fisher Honda is dumping into the manhole, why is there a question. Mr. Mullapudi confirmed it is a jurisdiction question. Mr. Mullapudi explained YCUA did dye testing in 2015 to determine what was coming into the manhole. Mr. Ichesco inquired about the 2015 issue. Mr. Mullapudi explained in 2015 it was possible the storm sewer was connected to the sanitary sewer with dye testing performed to investigate a possible connection between the two systems. Mr. Mullapudi advised the dye testing demonstrated the storm sewer was not connected to the sanitary sewer at this location.

Mr. Bodary requested the Board of Commissioners be kept informed of the situation.

Informational only; no motion from the Board required.

**H. Executive Director's Report – Luther Blackburn**

Mr. Blackburn welcomed Ms. Karen Groulx, the new Executive Administrative Assistant.

Mr. Blackburn then commended the Service Center for the phenomenal job with the Bicentennial tours of Stone Tower. Mr. Knapp advised that over three hundred people toured Stone Tower and the participants have begun responding to the Get the Lead Out flyer handed out to visitors. Mr. Knapp stated it was a positive experience and is hopeful the Stone Tower can be opened more often to the public. Mr. Bodary commented that the Stone Tower tours were well received and were a highlight of the Bicentennial celebration.

Mr. Blackburn announced Mr. Mullapudi will be a panel speaker at the Michigan Water Environment Association Conference on August 24, 2023. Mr. Blackburn stated Mr. Mullapudi will be speaking on PFAS and its impact at WWTPs. Mr. Blackburn commended Mr. Mullapudi and the entire YCUA staff for the great job they are doing!

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

**5. OTHER BUSINESS:**

Mr. Stetler answered a previous question from Mr. Doe in reference to the lead time for the GAC Heater from item 3C. Mr. Stetler stated the warranty on the new GAC Heater will be 18 months. Mr. Stetler explained Dayco will submit drawings for approval in two weeks

and after YUCA has approved the drawings it will be 12-16 weeks for shipping of the GAC Heater.

Mr. Ostrowski extended his apologies to the board members for his late arrival, explaining he had an unforeseen emergency with his granddaughter. Mr. Bodary thanked Mr. Ostrowski.

**6. STATEMENTS AND CHECKS:**

Motion by Ichesco to pay the current month's bills in the amount of \$5,541,384.36. Support by Doe.

In favor: Bodary, Doe, Ichesco, Peterson, and Ostrowski. Opposed: None. (Motion carried.)

**7. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no Public Comments for the month.

**8. ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Doe to adjourn the meeting. Support by Ichesco.

In favor: Ichesco, Doe, Peterson, Ostrowski, and Bodary. Opposed: None. (Motion carried.)

Respectfully submitted,

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GLORIA PETERSON, Vice Chair