

Mitchellville Water Meeting 5/20/2025

Present: Art, Mickey, Jeremy Palmer (1st Meeting), Jim, Genny, Betsy

Absent: Julie Dunn

Customers:

Judy Williams: *Wanted to know if Battleford Road Customers are our customers, they are not. Saline Valley is our customer- they bill the 70 customers on Battleford Road.

*Judy suggests getting rid of leak adjustments

*Judy asked for us to lower our water rates. We raised them in March 2024 and said if we could lower them we would. We are not able to do so at this time.

Doug Pyle: Not present

Speakers:

Casey Johnson: CCR Report is done, copies on counter. EPA & Sample Site Report will be done shortly for inspection.

Meter Presentation:

Midwest Meters-Central Illinois- 120 yr old Company –“Badger Software”

M25 Meter is the one they suggest using.

The meters are cellular read, not radio. Badger is its own software, no 3rd party. They drove our district and only had 1 spot on Wamble Mountain that had issues. AT&T picked up but not Verizon. They will work on it. Meters read every 15 minutes & report data every 6 hours back to office. Can also be sent to cell phones, Ipads, etc. Great for Leak Detection. Will tell date & time of leaks. There is also equipment that goes on our master meter, & pipes that will tell you if you have a leak. Cellular allows Customers to also monitor their own usage. It will send the water office and the customer a message if you have had water running for 24 hours. Has Alarms for Backflow, tampering, etc. Will allow snowbirds to get notifications while on vacation.

Verizon & AT&T will get paid \$1.03 per meter per month. This will save on not having to drive the district to read meters on gas, use of truck, & employee time. No yearly software fee, technical support available.

20 year network warranty. Its 4 G Network

20 year battery warranty on modem, & electronics

Cellular meters wont lose water, it will measure water up to 1/8 of a gallon a minute. Meters wont go backwards. Positive displacement.

Ronda asked if Cambridge software, which is what we use, is compatible and it is.

We can buy 12 a month, 100 a year, whatever we can afford. If we want to do it all at once they will finance. They just did a loan that was 5% interest.

Will take approximately 3 months for initial setup of software. Will train all employees, and any new employees should one leave.

Art wants to know if somebody was to tamper or damage, there is a tamper alarm. There is also a locking meter that can be used.

Will tell you if a meter is about to freeze up.

This price is good until June 30, 2025:

Software will cost \$12,000.00 Badger Beacon Cellular Solution, 2 day training,

Yearly fee to cover software (\$1.01 per meter per month) \$9696.00

Meters \$286.00

Casey said that we are losing 30% of water according to the report he just done. He thinks the new meters will get us down to less that 15% water loss. That will save us \$6,000-\$10,000 a month.

Regular Meeting:

Minutes: April 15th, April 28th Motion by Jim Grimes, 2nd Art Hunt Approved

Review Financial Information: Genny stated that we cannot touch the Debt Service Account – Loan payments only; nor the Depreciation, Reserve or Construction Account.

Discuss Water Meeting Dates & Times: Our CCR report we do at the beginning of the fiscal year has our meetings at 4:15 (Fiscal Year is April 30 – May 1)

Betsy made a motion to move regular meetings to 5 pm every quarter, 3rd Tuesday every three months. Jeremy 2nd Motion Approved

Open Meeting Act Compliance: Jeremy will email or bring in his certificate. Jeremy stated that we can limit a time a person talks to 5 minutes, but we cannot have customers sign form to speak. Casey will send us a template for meeting and public comments.

Leak Adjustments: Tabled in case we get new meters that would detect leaks. The reason it was at 20,000 was due to people asking for adjustments that were filling up their pools.

Hiring Full Time/Part Time Outside person: Have 2 people that have turned in resumes:

Hunter Womack

Mitchell Lane

We discussed paying \$17.50 but will decide after interview. We will conduct a Special Call meeting for interviews on Tuesday, May 27th, 5 pm. Genny will call and set up interview times. 1st one at 5, 2nd at 5:30 pm.

Casey suggested having Farley Engineering do a Hydrological study to see where pressure measures are. Also may need to get our engineer involved also. Casey suggests doing at least half the meters asap to help eliminate our water loss. It will save us money in the long run.

Jeremy made a motion to purchase all meters with Midwest Meter Inc, half the meter with cash, the other half of remaining balance of approved quotes will be financed plus master meter. This will be the M25 water meters @ \$270,496.00. This includes Badger Beacon Cellular Solution Software \$12,000.00 5/8 x 3/4 M25 Water Meters, HRE-LCD Encoder, LTE-M Cellular Endpoint \$286.00, Yearly Fee to Cover Software & Hosting Data, Cellular Backhaul \$1.01 per meter per month \$9696.00, American Made Composite Meter Box Covers for improved Cellular Coverage \$25. This price good til June 30, 2025. Betsy 2nd motion. Approved

Discuss Water Rates: Tabled Art made a motion Betsy 2nd Approved

Discuss Accounting/Audit: Kemper has raised our rates up almost \$2000 for the year. This makes annual fee about \$20,000. We will have them do our audit this year, but will get bids for the following year. Betsy made a motion, Jim 2nd. Approved

Jeremy made a motion to have Ronda email us monthly financial statements. Jim 2nd Approved

Discuss Vandalism/Police Report/Behavior on Leak: We have filed a police report over vandalism on Casey Perkins property of his water meter. It was broke, & set on fire. See police report. Jonathan suggests we draft our own ordinance if meters are damaged on their property the customer has to pay for it. Genny will check with our attorney to see if this is legal to do.

Power Poles from Southeastern Illinois Coop- we had a power pole that was to close to our line and put pressure on our line til it busted by the mine road before Mitchellsville. There are two more power poles that are too close to our water lines. Robert Wilson is going to meet with Southeastern Illinois Coop to see if they

will be willing to move their poles or pay to have our water lines moved to eliminate problem. Tabled til we hear back from our attorney.

Motion to Adjourn by Mickey Woolard Betsy 2nd 7:18 pm