



**MINUTES  
JANUARY 6, 2021**

Present: Dan Vanden Berg, Chris Evers, Eugene Klister

Others Present: Terri Romitti, Sam VanHandel, FSD; Dean Zanon, Cedar Corporation

Meeting called to order at 6:35 a.m. at the Freedom Sanitary District Office

Verification of posting as indicated on the bottom of the agenda.

Motion by Eugene Klister to adopt the agenda. Second by Chris Evers. Motion Carried (3-0).

Open Floor Session – None.

Discussion with Ginny Hinz from CLA and Brad from Baird regarding future borrowing needs. Ginny and Brad joined us via virtual. Ginny Hinz went over in detail the updated cash flow and explained the application for a rate increase with the PSC. That was submitted in December and the District is looking at a potential 7% increase. The District has not raised water rates since 2016 as they never qualified for a simple rate increase through the PSC. Brad went over the future financing. This will allow our debt payments to reflect our assets life. These will be Revenue Bonds this time instead of General Obligation Debt. We have maxed out the repayment period of General Obligation Debt which is 20 years. We will issue \$1,000,000 of new debt for Hwy 55 and Bell Court / Elk Lane project and refinance the 2012 debt which is callable 9/1/21. The total issue will be for \$2,530,000. We will than issue debt in 2026 to extend the debt that was issued in 2017, again to match the life of assets that the debt was originally issued for.

Motion by Chris Evers to approve vouchers 18636 – 18685 void check 18654 and a correction that the new pump was for Finnigans Ridge not Western Acres as listed for a total of \$72,100.59 (Water \$36,587.79 and Sewer \$35,512.80) Second by Dan Vanden Berg. Motion Carried (3-0).

Motion by Chris Evers to approve the December 23, 2020 minutes as written. Second by Eugene Klister. Motion Carried (3-0).

Update on repainting of tower project was given. The plans and specs have been submitted to the DNR. The DNR has 90 days to review them. We can bid out the project before we receive the DNR approval but we will not award the project until we have DNR approval. Terri and Dean will be meeting with AT&T to discuss the timing of the work they are proposing to do prior to the repaint.

Update on Hwy 55 sewer replacement and DOT project was given. The area has been surveyed and is ready to be designed. We will review the scope of work to see the areas affected and if it would be a good time to stub out any piping.

Update on potential developments. Cedar has been working with MCC and ECWPC to see what ECWPC needs in order to find out more details on the area that MCC would like brought into the sewer service area. A developer has reached out to the Town regarding developing in the Town / Sanitary District. The small group will meet with the developer on Monday.

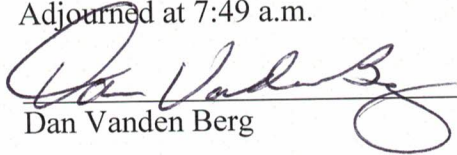
Reviewed the health insurance renewal through Network Health. It was decided to switch plans to increase deductible and annual out of pocket. District will work with employees.

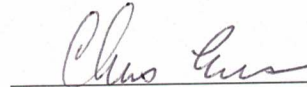
Engineers Report – Nothing Additional

Other Business Before the Board – None.

Motion by Chris Evers to adjourn. Second by Eugene Klister. Motion Carried (3-0).

Adjourned at 7:49 a.m.

  
Dan Vanden Berg      Date: 2-17-21

  
Chris Evers      Date: 2/17/2021