

Prudence Island Water District

Minutes of meeting: April 25, 2009

Meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. Present were David Buffum, moderator; Phillip Brooks and Robert Hanson. Absent were Richard Brooks and Patricia Richard, clerk;

Approval of minutes of meeting for April 11, 2009: Motion to approve minutes of the meeting by Mr. Brooks, seconded by Mr. Hanson, approved unanimously.

Purchasing/treasury \$1175 in expenses for the period 4/12/09 through 4/25/09. Current operating funds total \$48682.59.

Insurance policy regarding lightning strike at big blue. District is covered for "storm damage". \$1000 deductible. \$250 charge if filed claim doesn't rise over the deductible. Need estimate for repair.

Need to order checks for Citizens' account.

Customer accounts: Third notices have not yet gone out. Mr. Buffum to meet with Ms. Richard regarding accounts maintenance. Mr. Buffum expressed surprise at the number of accounts in arrears. Mr. Brooks said it was a normal part of doing business.

Received several letters confirming waiting list customers. With a week to go, only 2 have not responded out of 19 potential connections

Received reply for estimate on repair work at 01212 Narragansett, customer declined to sign hold harmless agreement.

Bylaws: Proposed bylaws up on web site. Newest version given to board for review, vote to be scheduled for next meeting.

Other: Mr. Buffum will turn over Bristol County operations manual to Mr. Capron for review. Mr. Brooks said he has many other specification manuals and publications.

No candidates for June election. All balloting must be write-in. Sharon Homan and Jessie Brooks will again serve as board of canvassers

Technical

Received results from DOH lab for bacteria Bristol Colony - no problem

Received results from DOH lab for April sampling pier road - no problem

Still have not received radiological results for samples taken at wells in March

Systems manager's report: Mr. Capron attended ASRWVA conference. Took classes on backflow protection, VFDs and leak detection.

Cross-connection - state requires water providers to come up with plan for cross-connections, especially guarding against backflow from industrial users. Mr. Brooks said that he believes faucet bibs will work on Prudence Island to retrofit older connections, new residence construction will need check valves installed by licensed plumber. Must complete a survey within 5 years.

Mr. Capron wants to do a survey to determine who needs curb stops.

VFD for Indian Springs #4 not working properly, learned that most problems are due to improper grounding.

Leak detection, difficult to find discrepancies between water produced and water consumed without metering. Plastic pipe makes it difficult to hear leaks. Mr. Buffum referred to H6097 regarding metering and billing.

Went through files looking for salinity numbers, will give to Ms. Richard. Mr. Rinker said that most of the information was given to Mark Kimball. Mr. Capron is concerned about recurring, but infrequent presence of coliform in files, believes it could be related to improper disinfection during sampling.

Troubleshooting Big Blue lightning strike estimate. Believes it's the transmitter, estimate to come.

Repaired moderate leak on Second St. Trees and brush grew over and around water line. Small chestnut trees planted perilously close to line, two had to come out, will try to persuade owner to move others. Spoke to town public works about bittersweet on Second St, they are disinclined to remove it, citing property line issues. Rocks tossed in road by adjacent homeowners.

Repaired brisk leak on Governor Paine Road.

Replaced curb stop at 036 Daniel Ave., bad valve assembly. Discussion of backflow prevention.

People are turning off district curb stops, have been asked not to do that. Policy not to allow customers to turn off district valves written into proposed bylaws.

Indian Springs #1 well was shut down during power outage. Didn't want to restart at that time because it will need to be flushed.

Labor costs are up to deal with leak repairs. Labor costs will be climbing as good weather sets in and ground maintenance work need to be done.

Wants evaluation of computer at world headquarters... it's in the way.

New Business:

Correspondence: No response to certified letters to customers in serious arrears on water bills.

Letter from customer declining estimate for repair; will not sign hold harmless.

Sent letter to Allan Bearse and Todd Chaplin regarding property at 01020 Narragansett Ave. Letter requests that documentation of DEM approval for revised plan be forwarded to the district.

PUC legal dept. letter with opinion that they have no jurisdiction over the district.

Northeast Solutions (water system engineers) sent info - soliciting business.

Other: No candidates for June election. All balloting must be write-in. Sharon Homan and Jessie Brooks will again serve as board of canvassers.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Buffum, seconded by Mr. Brooks, approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned 2:35 p.m.

Patricia Richard, Clerk