

St. Tammany Parish Sewerage District No.1
Board Meeting Minutes February 4, 2021
Teleconference (Covid-19 Emergency)

Board Attendance, on line:

Mike Franklin, Chairman..... PRESENT
David Talmage.....PRESENT
Jay Kahn, Treasurer.....PRESENT
Pete Lee PRESENT
Roger Kocken, SecretaryPRESENT

Others in Attendance, on line

Brian Buckel, G.E.C., Inc.
Jeff Bertoniere, Curtis Environmental
Kathleen Lacoste, CPA for the Board
Mike Hattaway, Engineer
Carter Wright, Homeowner
Sally Harasty, Homeowner

Item 1: Board Minutes

The teleconference was called to order by Chairman Mike Franklin.

The board suggested to separate the previous board minutes, from January, into two reports: 1-for the January Board meeting and 2) one containing Brian Buckel's Final Inspection Report.

Item 2: Monthly Report from Curtis Environmental About Routine Issues

Jeff Beratoniere and board reviewed operational and maintenance Issues.

- Sewer back up at 114 North Drive, Roto-Rooter called out to open line on 1/4/2021. Line repaired on 1/8/2021. Total cost for these two service calls was \$4,100.
- Lift station #2 is having problems keeping prime.

Item 2: Dept Service Coverage Ratio

- Kathy Lacoste, the CPA for the Sewer Board, discussed the Debt Service Ratio. The 2019 calculated value was 0.956 which is below the 1.25 required by the DEQ. The Board (Mike Franklin) will draft a letter asking the DEQ to allow the Board time to recalculate the ratio using current numbers. The preferred timing would be after the 2020 board finances have been reviewed and audited. This calculation will be used to determine if a rate increase is needed and what amount for the increase.
- Several items of concern were noted:
 - 1) the final loan amount has not been finalized; however, the amount will be less than the original requested \$1,500,000.00, likely closer to \$1,300,000.00,
 - 2) Cathy will research what items can be expensed and what can be capitalized,
 - 3) the board may wish to use funds currently in bank accounts to pay off the principle,
 - and 4) the 2020 finances would give more current view of the ratio.

Item 3: Brian Buckel with G. E. C., update on Rehabilitation Project.

- Final reports and updated drawings are being generated. Thumb drive with videos of inspections has been prepared and Brian has the data. Brian plans to hand over this data to the Board in February.
- Brian requested that the final acceptance Letter be sent by the Board to close out the loan and start final payments. The Board approved sending the final acceptance letter.

Item 4: Paper storage for old records.

- The board will investigate the possibility of using St. Tammany Parish documents department to help with scanning the documents.

Item 5: Monthly Financial Statements:

- The board did not review the financial statements, anticipate initial end of year statement in February.

Item 6: New Lift Station and I&I (inflow and infiltration) into sewer system:

- The new lift station is on line and running, the following issues were discussed:
 - During high rain events inflow into the plant exceeds the plant capacity. Mike Hattaway suggested reducing the flow from the new lift station by closing the input valve at the plant to 50%. Jeff will change the valve setting on 2/6/2021 to see the impact. The board will monitor to see if this causes sewer backups to costumers.

Item 7: Carter Wright, homeowner at 157 Bertel:

- Carter informed the board that his driveway was damaged by the boring machine during installation of the forced main in September/October. Brian Buckel has seen pictures and noted that the subcontractor doing the boring was responsible for the damage and Jon Simmons with Magnolia Construction Company will contact the subcontractor and have the subcontractor fix the driveway. There is money held in hold back to help guarantee this work gets completed.

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Item 8: Scada:

- The board will review options to have a scada system installed at all lift stations. Mike will forward information to the board.

Item 9: Drainage concern

- Sally Harasty is concerned about potential blockage of the drainage ditch(s) at the corner of Bertel and Golfers. She was informed that that issue needs to be taken up with St. Tammany Parish and not the Sewer Board.

Item_10: Next Board Meeting Date

- The next teleconference for St. Tammany Sewerage District No.1 is scheduled for Thursday March 4, 2021, at 6 p.m. Zoom login details will be the same as for this month.

The Sewer Board Website is <https://sewerdistrict1.com/> Meeting minutes and agendas are being posted on the web site.

Roger Kocken, Board Secretary

St. Tammany Parish, Sewerage District No.1

February 5, 2021