

Manager's Agenda

Board Meeting

September 19, 2005

➤ **DOCUMENTS ATTACHED**

- Agenda
- Meeting Minutes
 - *August 15, 2005* (Agenda Item)
- Claim Dockets
 - *Month of August claims and transfers* (Agenda Item)
- Letter; Erie Insurance's Attorney
 - [REDACTED] v. JNRU; insurance claim resulting from defendant allegedly falling into a meter pit.
- Letter; Indiana Supreme Court Decision
 - *City of North Vernon V. JNRU; Rehearing denied without opinion.*
- News Article; IRS Increases Mileage Rate
 - *Dave will be introducing a motion to increase mileage pay due to the recent increase in fuel costs.* (Agenda Item)
- Document; Proposed Waterworks Refunding Revenue Bonds of 2005
 - *The proposed refinancing of the 1997 Waterworks Bonds would provide a significant cost savings as proposed by H.J. Umbaugh & Associates.*

➤ **GENERAL INFORMATION**

- Common Water/Sewer Department Issues:
 - **Rate Study Group;** *The fifth meeting focused on review and discussion of a preliminary rate structure proposal, without rate or budget figures. The group members expressed their thoughts and concerns and were invited to attend upcoming board meetings to hear H.J. Umbaugh's presentation of the 2005 Water & Sewer Rate Study. The group members were also invited to prepare written and/or oral recommendations for the board. Another group meeting may be organized to prepare recommendations based on tonight's rate study presentation.*
 - **County Health Department Meeting**
 - *I met with Kevin Stark at the County Health Department on August 29, 2005 to evaluate the sewer needs of the Phase I Project area. According to Kevin, the homes in the area would have options for improving their septic systems as the old system fail as outlined on the*

attachment at the back of this agenda. A basic outline is provided below:

- *Basically, all properties could use and would benefit from a public sewer system;*
 - *the next best option for many homeowners is a mound system (estimated at \$12-\$15K/residential dwelling);*
 - *very few properties would have the property size required to build a new septic system since the old septic site cannot be reused;*
 - *the jet aeration systems are not permissible by the State Board of Health;*
 - *chlorine tablet dosing on sewer discharge pipes is not permissible by the State Board of Health either; and*
 - *Commonwealth is estimating approximately 750 homes while Kevin's count only reached 488 plus the Delmar subdivision south of US Hwy 50.*
- *I also spoke to Kevin on August 31, 2005 to ask what the Health Department's position is on county residents living in homes without running water and sewer service. He stated that the health department has no power on the drinking water side, but was unsure as to whether or not the county Department of Family and Social Services Administration (DFSSA) would have an interest in the matter. The DFSSA also has no power as long as the home is "clean". On the sewer side, the health department only responds to complaints of sewage running onto the ground. In that case, Kevin would follow up with a Notice of Violation letter and eventually the County attorney would get involved.*
- **Public Sale**
 - *The original Phase I sewer expansion project left a large stockpile of PVC pressure rated slip-joint pipe on site that has passed its expected above-ground lifespan. The pipe can still be useful for some gravity installations but most of it needs to be sold before it breaks down and becomes too brittle. I recommend listing the pipe specifications and quantities in a Public Sale and assigning a reasonable price/stick to anything not bid on. The "Public Sale Notice" can begin next week and bids could be opened at the next meeting and/or a reasonable price could be assigned at the same time to items not bid on.*
- **Budget Committee Meeting;**
 - *The Budget Committee should begin planning for a Budget Committee meeting in the latter half of October in order to prepare the 2006 Preliminary Budget for presentation at the November 2005 board meeting; I recommend Tuesday, October 25, 2005 or Thursday, October 27, 2005 at 1:30PM.*

- **SRF Grant Program; Shelly Love**
 - *A meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 28 or 29, 2005 at 1:00PM at the utility office. A WWTP tour is being coordinated with Commonwealth prior to the meeting.*
- Water Department
 - **1997 Waterworks Revenue Bonds; Refinancing:**
 - *Proposed savings estimates make the refinancing beneficial to the water utility.*
- Sewer Department
 - **Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP)**
 - No violations in August:

➤ **DOCUMENTS TO REMEMBER**

- Board Meeting minutes approval
 - **August 15, 2005:.....(Monthly meeting)**
- Claim Dockets
 - **August 2005**
- DMR/MRO signatures
 - **August 2005 reports**