

**GROVE MUNICIPAL SERVICES AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 6, 2024
3:00PM
MINUTES**

The Grove Municipal Services Authority met in regular session on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 3:00PM with Chairman Andy Stewart presiding. Other members present were Berwin Kock, Ed Trumbull, Justin Wadley, and Ivan Devitt. Also present was General Manager, Debbie Bottoroff; City Attorney, Darren Cook; Public Works Director, Deric Douthit, City Treasurer, Lisa Allred; and Municipal Clerk, Laura Davila.

ADDITIONAL STAFF PRESENT:

Public Works Superintendent – Jeremy Brown
Utility Office Manager – Jenn Harmon

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Douthit announced that Representatives of ARGO Development Partners could not be present to present information regarding the anaerobic digestion system. Douthit reported that ARGO is an investment company that would put in an anaerobic digestion system from poultry litter. They need a place to dispose their byproduct (chicken litter) which is a natural gas company. This requires no investment from GMSA and would provide gas at a reduced rate. This is only the preliminary phase to see if this is something GMSA would be interested in pursuing. Douthit and Brown entertained questions and comments from the Board. The board agreed on Staff continuing to pursue the anaerobic digestion system. The presentation lasted approximately 5 minutes.

Kock made the motion to approve the minutes from the January 2, 2024 Regular Meeting. Seconded by Trumbull. AYE: Kock, Trumbull, Wadley, Devitt, Stewart. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

Devitt made the motion to approve the Purchase Order Register. Seconded by Kock. AYE: Kock, Trumbull, Wadley, Devitt, Stewart. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

Stewart opened the floor with respect to the approval of a resolution authorizing a Budget Amendment for the GMSA Capital Fund. Allred reported the budget amendment is to account for a reimbursement received for a water project to appropriate the reimbursement revenues back into the Water Projects line item. Devitt made the motion to approve the Resolution. Seconded by Trumbull. AYE: Kock, Trumbull, Wadley, Devitt, Stewart. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

Stewart opened the floor with Respect to Bids received for the Sanitary Sewer Improvement Project. Dale Seaton from Holloway, Updike, & Bellen, Inc. was present and reported that two bids were received and opened on December 21, 2023. There was a large discrepancy between the two bids received, the bids were reviewed, and references were checked. Seaton also checked with cities (Stillwell and Independence) who worked with Tri-State Utilities, Inc. on similar projects. Both cities said they would work with Tri-State

again. Seaton entertained questions and comments from the Board. Devitt made the motion to award the bid for the Sanitary Sewer Improvement Project to Tri-State Utilities. Seconded by Wadley. AYE: Kock, Trumbull, Wadley, Devitt, Stewart. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

STAFF REPORTS:

Bottoroff reported an update on the Utility Relocation on Highway 59. Both Gas Line Projects, Phase I and Phase II have been submitted to ODOT, and we are currently waiting on work orders from ODOT to begin construction.

Douthit reported they have been working on gas issues. Douthit reported there is no way to simulate the amount of consumption and usage. They are going to check a few more things to make sure everything is tied in correctly. Douthit reported there had also been some water issues, and they are on the downside of those issues. Douthit entertained questions and comments from the Board.

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 3:36 PM Kock made the motion for the Board to recess into Executive Session for the Purpose of Conferring on Matters Pertaining to Confidential Communications between a public body and its attorney concerning a pending investigation, claim, or action if the public body, with the advice of its attorney, determines that disclosure will seriously impair the ability of the public body to process the claim or conduct a pending investigation. Litigation, or proceeding in the public interest, Pursuant to Title 25 O.S. Section 307.B.4. (Confidential Communication) with participation from Bottoroff. Seconded by Devitt. AYE: Kock, Trumbull, Wadley, Devitt, Stewart. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

At 3:49 PM Kock made the motion for the board to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Devitt. AYE: Kock, Trumbull, Wadley, Devitt, Stewart. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

Trumbull made the motion to appoint Darren Cook as authorized representative with settlement authority to attend mediation in pending Delaware County lawsuit Casey v. Grove. Seconded by Devitt. AYE: Kock, Trumbull, Wadley, Devitt, Stewart. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 3:50 PM Devitt made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Wadley. AYE: Kock, Trumbull, Wadley, Devitt, Stewart. NAY: None. Motion Carried.