

# **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SEWERAGE COMMISSION - OROVILLE REGION**

(Held at the Commission office on October 22, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.)

## **1. Call to Order ❖**

Chairman Pittman called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

## **2. Roll Call ❖**

Commissioners present were Commissioners Salvucci from the Lake Oroville Area Public Utility District, Pittman and Thomson from the City of Oroville, Koch and Clark from the Thermalito Water and Sewer District. Staff present was Manager Sturdevant, Plant Supervisor Salsi; and attorney Jones. Commissioner Mastelotto arrived late.

## **3. Salute to the Flag ❖**

Chairman Pittman led the commissioners and staff in the salute to the flag.

## **4. Acknowledgment of Visitors ❖**

Jerry Legg from CLASS.

## **5. Board Meeting Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 24, 2024 ❖**

Upon motion by Commission Koch to approve the minutes of the meeting, and seconded by Commissioner Salvucci, the minutes of the September 24, 2024 regular meeting were unanimously approved.

## **6. Authorization of Warrants ❖**

Commissioner Salvucci met with Manager Sturdevant and reviewed the warrants earlier, and having found everything to be in order made a motion for their approval. The motion was seconded by Commission Koch. Warrants 22290-29249 through Bank of America, and 30000-30037 through Golden Valley Bank in the total amount of \$3,442,775.14, including employee paychecks, commissioner fees and electronic fund transfers, were unanimously approved and ordered paid.

## **7. Fiscal Reports ❖**

Manager Sturdevant stated the September fiscal reports were included in the packets, along with the financial statement for review and consideration for adoption at the November meeting.

## **8. CLASS (California Cooperative Liquid Assets Security System) Investment 2024❖**

Jerry Legg, Senior Director of Investment Services for California CLASS, gave a presentation on this investment company, stating CLASS is a local government investment pool started by CSDA and the League of California Cities. He said the purpose of the fund is to provide liquid money for agencies. There are 205 different entities participating in CLASS; about 80% are special districts. CLASS pays interest monthly as opposed to LAIF, who pays quarterly. The boards' job is to manage SC-OR funds the best way they can with safety, liquidity and then yield. SC-OR would have access to same day funds. There are no minimum or maximum balances that are required.

Commissioner Mastelotto asked if it take two or three days for the recipient to receive an ACH? Jerry responded and ACH would be funded the next day. He said the agency's bank may have a delay, so they should check with them.

Chairman Pittman asked if CLASS has any restrictions on investments like PERS does? Jerry replied that they do not.

Direction was to bring a comparison between CLASS and LAIF to the next meeting. Once reviewed it will be a consideration to invest or not with CLASS.

## **9. On-Call and Certification Pay❖**

Manager Sturdevant reported that Commissioner Thomson had asked that we review and compare our on-call and certification pay policies with other like agencies. He and Mikah conducted a survey of local agencies, and have brought back the results. SC-OR pays \$15/day for on-call pay. The other agencies have different ways they pay, but their on-call pay is a lot higher than what SC-OR pays. His recommendation would be to change our policy to pay one hour of straight or one hour of overtime per on-call day.

We also have a stand-by policy for the supervisors. The difference in on-call versus stand-by is that the supervisors don't get called as often, but they must be prepared to take a phone call at minimum, and/or be the backup operator for the on-call operator if a second operator is needed to address the issue. They are compensated with one week of administrative leave for being on stand-by 26 weeks each a year where they can't be more than 30 minutes away and cannot drink while on-call. It is just Mitch Maxwell and Mikah Salsi that are the stand-by supervisors, and it is very restrictive. There are several ideas that he has to compensate them better, but he will bring those back to the November meeting.

Commissioner Thomson asked that they bring back some options and the estimated costs of those options. He is all for doing what we can to compensate our employees properly to keep them here at SC-OR.

Certification Pay: We have a policy where we pay any operator with a higher operator certification than is required at our plant (grade III) an additional \$.72/hour. That amount was implemented about 20 years ago, and it has never increased. Since that cert. pay was implemented, we've seen a 69% inflation. His thought is to increase that rate by the inflation rate, which would make it \$1.22/hr., and have it increase each year by the COLA. He would like to make it so that any additional certifications that benefits SC-OR would be eligible for the certification pay. For instance, operator Josh Sorenson has a class A license, which is a benefit to SC-OR, so he would be eligible for the additional pay.

Direction was given to bring back proposals and comparisons, along with how the proposals will affect the budget.

## **10. Attorney's Report ❖**

Attorney Jones stated that there is nothing new to report. The lawsuit is still moving forward with discovery, but no significant updates.

## **11. Manager's Report ❖**

Manager Sturdevant stated there are no operational issues to report. We've concluded sludge season. We pulled our quarterly samples on October 15<sup>th</sup>, and there was no problem with those.

There is a JPA meeting scheduled for October 29<sup>th</sup> to discuss ADU's.

Manager Sturdevant said that they JPA members will have another meeting with Steve Lucas of LAFCO on the week of November 4<sup>th</sup>. Steve said the information that he took from our first meeting to the Board of Supervisors went over very well. Manager Sturdevant thinks we can accomplish everything they had concerns about without doing anything crazy like consolidation.

Manager Sturdevant reminded the commissioners that our November meeting is on Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, to avoid conflict with the holidays and the City of Oroville's council meeting held on Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup>.

## **12. Visitor Comments ❖**

See item #8.

## **13. Commissioner and Staff Comments ❖**

Plant Supervisor Salsi stated that we are currently out to bid for construction management for the upgrade project. That bid closes November 1<sup>st</sup>, so we will be bringing a contract to the November meeting to hire a firm. We will be going out to bid for construction of the upgrade relatively soon.

Chairman Pittman passed around pictures of an apartment complex that will be built in Oroville. There will be 128 units of apartments and 100,000 sq. ft. of retail space at Lincoln and Mitchell. The parking will be below the complex, with cars taken down by elevator.

Commissioner Thomson asked about grants for purple pipe. Manager Sturdevant said that right now we are working on planning grants.

**17. Adjournment ❖**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:51 p.m. to the regular meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



GLEN E. STURDEVANT, CLERK

Approved