

MINUTES - Water Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: June 16, 1994 @ 6:30 pm **Location:** Town Hall
Attendance: Committee Members: Bill Fender, Butch Richardson,
Janet Riggs, Ervin Rickard, Jim Lemmons
Others: Bob & Janice Gibson

Bob Gibson gave the committee a brief history of the water company from its inception in 1963 to Today. It included information on the 2 rate increases that have incurred - 1 in 1980 and 1 in 1992. He also advised that the IURC won't allow the Utility to raise rates if there is a surplus, and the water utility used to operate on a surplus basis, which enabled them to do small projects to keep things running smoothly.

Bob also mentioned that the attorney suggested that all the Superintendents of the area water utilities get together. Sometimes other Town Board meetings are attended by Greenville people, but Edwardsville Town Board meets the same night as our Board, so it has not been possible to attend their meetings.

Bob gave us an overview of the Contents of the entire Construction Project, and showed us on the blueprints more precisely where the work would be taking place. A recap is:

Greenville Water Tank - Current tank is 100,000 gallons
Add 175,000 taller tank next to it. Piping between the two
will allow it to feed as required. The taller tank will
improve water pressure along Pekin road where the higher
elevations are experiencing low pressure now.

Galena/Mt. St. Francis Tank - Build a new 100,000 tank at Mt. St.

Francis - Their current tank is in extremely bad shape. New lines would tie in Floyds Knobs connection on Buck creek (6" line) up Buck Creek Road, across 150 and up the hill to tie into the new tank.

New Lines - additional new lines would be run through Galena. The bid called for it to be on the north side of 150, but due to all the businesses, etc. it makes more sense to run on the other side of the road and a line has already been put in to take it across the road when all the current construction was done in that area.

At this point, Bob and Janice went to the other room to read the Newsletter and the committee proceeded with getting set up.

Officers were elected and are as follows:

Bill Fender - Chairman

Eutch Richardson - Vice-Chairman

Janet Riggs - Secretary

It was decided that Wednesday Night was the best night for everyone and later was better, so we will meet at 7:00 pm. Starting out we anticipate meeting weekly, but it will be decided each week whether we feel it is necessary to meet the following week.

We discussed having a Mission Statement for our group, not only for us, to keep us focused, but so the people we represent, the water users, will understand what we are about and our mission.

One idea was - To serve customers of Greenville Water Utility in the most efficient manner in terms of quality, quantity and value of the water. To be a Sounding Board - Listen - Evaluate the Facts - Improve Quality of Life.

Jim Lemmons said he knows people on several water utilities and he would check with them to see if they had mission statements that we could review and possibly incorporate them into our own.

We discussed putting this mission statement on the newsletter. This is tabled until the next meeting when we have some more input from Jim's research.

The upcoming Field Hearing on June 27 was discussed, Butch thinks that everyone that wants to say something, will have to put something in writing at the beginning of the meeting, and that they will probably not allow the meeting to get out of order. Butch explained that actually 3 petitions had been signed.

- 1 - ??
- 2 - 10 names on petition to get them down here
- 3 - Minimum of 44 names of Registered voters to put "Opting Out" on the ballot in November.

We discussed trying to get the newsletter mailed prior to the Field Hearing, so there might be fewer people to object to the rate increase. It appears that once they understand, they are not objecting to it. Everyone will review the newsletter and changes will be made at our next meeting, and it will be mailed immediately. We also talked about keeping the newsletter up on a quarterly basis, or more as needed in the interim.

It was questioned if there were any State Statutes to govern our actions, and believe that from discussions at the Town Board Meeting that since we are not elected officials, we are not covered by "Sunshine Law" and therefore our records are not public documents.

However, we do have access to all the Town Board and Water Utility records to aid us in our mission. Jim Fender was given a key to the office and we can meet there, have access to the records and do any calling or faxing from there.

This brought up a discussion about having a small budget or something to spend in the cost of obtaining information (i.e. copies of courthouse records, etc) or the cost of distributing information (i.e. cost of mailing the newsletter. We understand that we are not authorized to spend the town's money, and don't really want to be, but we need some direction from the Town Board in matters as noted above.

We received word that the Town Board would like to receive copies of our minutes submitted to them in a timely manner, so they have time to review prior to the monthly board meeting. This should not be a problem, however, we need to discuss how distribution should be done.

The committee discussed concern over how long Bob Gibson will be on retainer in advisory capacity and what his contract was, as we felt he was very helpful and a wealth of knowledge, and a good liazon. Bob informed us that it was kinda an open ended contract where either party could cancel at any time, but he hoped to see the project through. We would like some information from the Town Board in regards to this.

Bob explained that Wind Dance Farm originally was looking to Borden Tri-County for their water needs, but it was discussed and felt best that the City of Greenville could annex them, we would all bennefit from the added tax base. Since there was no residents to object, this was accomplished rather easily. However, that is why they are now on the Greenville Water System. Due to the size of the homes, it is not felt that this development will have the quick growth that the "Clover Creek" subdivision or the new "Cedar Point" subdivision, both in Galena will impact the system.

Discussions over charging builder/developers more for water meters, water lines or a portion of the new construction costs was discussed and will be one of our hot topics for the future.

Another near future topic will be to talk to American Water Works about purchasing the Water Utility.

Our next meeting, we will try to brainstorm projects and prioritize.

Meeting was adjourned about 9:15 pm.