

Tongue River Valley Joint Powers Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2015

Present: Peter Clark, Norm Anderson, Joey Sheeley, Jeff Barron (WWC), Jack Fritz (WWC)

Next meeting: TBD

I. Announcements

II. Approval of Minutes from August 13, 2015 Meeting

III. Approval of Agenda

Additions: None

Deletions: None

IV. Discussion

Old business: None

New business:

- *Financial report:* Approved payment of \$160 to Wendtland and Wendtland. \$5K rec'd from SD #1. Current balance: \$38,159. FY 2105: \$33,565.63 rec'd, \$10,534.23 spent.
- *Feasibility study update (WWC)*
 - Alignment Options: WWC has updated the map to show add'l route options and stream crossings for USACOE permitting purposes. MDU has requested a meeting with WWC and TRV JPB board representatives; that meeting is set for October 6, 2015. For efficiency's sake, we will show only the preferred route at the end of 5th Street in Sheridan. In preparation for the MDU meeting, WWC is hosting a series of conference calls with Steve Shute and TRV JPB representatives to identify critical issues for the MDU meeting. WWC also has begun conversations with WBI Energy regarding the feasibility of repurposing CBM gathering system infrastructure north of Sheridan.
 - Easements: Soldier Creek and Keystone Roads have easements for a fiber optic line that may provide good examples of how easements fit with the county ROW in those areas. WWC has begun evaluating easements along these county roads to determine the status of existing easements and dimensions of the county ROW.
 - Design: WWC asked if Steve had any cost information on 6" pipe. WWC will rely heavily on Steve for additional technical information. The visit with MDU will include the option that MDU could lease and operate the line, in which case, WWC will want their input, also, on pipeline specs.
 - Permitting: WWC will start conversations with WyDOT and the BNSF railroad to discuss acquiring ROW (WyDOT) and boring under the rail track, if necessary. Peter suggested that WWC get in touch with Rosie Berger and Bruce Burns for assistance. WWC also evaluated sage-grouse leks in the vicinity of the various alignments and determined that there are two leks in the general vicinity of

Keystone Road but each is more than ½ mile from the road. WWC also obtained an example EIS for a natural gas pipeline project near Jackson (Lower Valley Energy) that has good information on general permitting requirements for a similar project.

- Financial analysis: WWC will proceed under the assumption that this will be a modest-capacity line, along the lines of an industrial user.
- Operations and Maintenance: This will be key focus of October 6 MDU meeting, evaluating various options for MDU to be involved in pipeline operation and maintenance. Key is to get MDU behind the hookup on 5th Street with an eye towards helping with construction options.
- Public Relations: The JPB and PB Communications will be instrumental in generating excitement/interest in the project, especially during cycles, like the current one, where propane prices are low and very manageable. WWC will work with PB Communications to prepare figures to generate public interest such as a long-term comparison between propane and natural gas prices.

V. Public Communique

None

The meeting was adjourned.