

Tongue River Valley Joint Powers Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

June 24, 2015

Present: Peter Clark, Norm Anderson, Randy Sundquist, Joey Sheeley, Karen Walters, Bob Wood, Chad Reed, Jack Fritz, Zachary White

Next meeting: July 2, 2015

I. Announcements

Open budget hearing at this time. Karen made one edit as requested by the Dept. of Audit (moved checking account balance down one line). Budget hearing closed at 7:02 with no other comments.

II. Approval of Minutes from May 27, 2015 Meeting, with corrections

III. Approval of Agenda

Additions: Change "budget hearing" to "vote on revised budget for 2015-2016 fiscal year."

Deletions: None

IV. Discussion

Old business:

- JPB financing, going forward: Peter looked more closely at the current agreement. We cannot require that all members participate equally as the agreement is currently written. We would have to add a "Method of Financing" section; we'll leave it as it stands as the changes could be cumbersome. Norm will attend a school board meeting and discuss the matter at that time. Bob Wood asked if funding had already been requested for the coming year. Peter advised that yes, he had asked each member for \$5K. Bob asked if that the school board would be required to catch-up with the other members. Peter advised that we could not require it, but we could ask.

New business:

- Approved payment of the following bills: \$9.80 to Karen Walters (reimburse for a book of stamps) and \$191.35 to the Sheridan Press.
- The budget for fiscal year 2015-2016 was approved with the change requested by the Dept. of Audit.
- Letters of Interest: the TRV JPB rec'd 6 letters: WWC Engineering, Dowl, Western Research & Development, Ltd., James Gores & Associates, Wenck Associates, and Entech, Inc./KLJ. Each JPB member was given copies of all 6 (not all copies were available at the meeting. Peter will make sure each member has all 6 by June 25). Peter asked that all members review and rank the letters using the WyDOT Evaluation and Ranking template. We will meet and discuss the rankings at the next meeting on July 2, 2015 and choose 3 to whom we will send a Request for Proposal.

V. Public Communique

- Joey asked if the board would still consider bringing the county into the TRV JPB. Peter advised that he has discussed it with two of the commissioners and they're amenable to the idea.
- Bob asked if the board will be approving an engineering firm to work on the project at this time and, if so, what would Steve Shute's roll be. Peter advised that the ads were just to obtain letters of interest. Jack Fritz added that Steve is "hard-wired" into the project and would be available to provide technical support as the project moves forward. Peter wasn't sure if we could pay his costs using grant funds; Jack interprets the grant as allowing that.
- Bob asked if the board had rec'd any negative feedback regarding the project now that propane prices are way down. Peter said that he had not; he thinks it will be a harder sell if prices stay low, but added that, typically, they rise and fall with the seasons and that we'll have to educate potential customers about the inconsistency of propane prices vs the stability of natural gas.

The meeting was adjourned.