

Minutes
Eastern Iowa Regional Utility Services System Commission

DATE: Monday, September 14, 2009
TIME: 8:30 a.m.
PLACE: ECIA Offices – Telephone Conference

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dennis Boedeker Cedar County Representative
 Jon Bell Cedar County Alternate
 Jill Davisson Clinton County Representative
 Robert Summers Clinton County Alternate
 Jerry Ries Delaware County Representative
 Shirley Helmrichs Delaware County Alternate
 Frank Frieberg Jackson County Representative
 Larry Koos Jackson County Alternate
 Joe Cruise Jones County Representative
 Keith Dirks Jones County Alternate

OTHERS PRESENT: Sheri Rice, USDA Rural Development, Tipton
 Shaun Holcomb, Limestone Bluffs RC&D

STAFF PRESENT: Nagle, Nesteby, Schneider

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Cruise at 8:30 a.m.

Action on September 14, 2009 Agenda

Motion by Frieberg, second by Ries to approve the September 14, 2009, Eastern Iowa Regional Utility Service Systems agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Review/Approve Minutes of the August 12, 2009 Meeting

Motion by Boedeker, second by Frieberg to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2009 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Andover project

A. Discussion/Action on request for payment for water filters and clothes

Schneider said some homeowners continue to have problems with rust in their water. One homeowner has requested \$500 reimbursement for ruined clothes; another homeowner requests reimbursement for filters for his personal water filtering system at approximately \$7/week. Staff have discussed the situation with Iowa Communities Assurances Pool (ICAP), our insurance company. ICAP said the claims should be submitted for review. Nagle said a polyphosphate machine has been installed and chlorine has been added to clean out the rust in the water.

At this time, Davisson joined the meeting.

Discussion followed by board members and staff concerning iron levels, suggested water treatment by the engineer, allowing time for the well to settle and the cost to drill a new well. Schneider said he will talk to the engineer to get a solution to the problem. Board consensus is to submit a claim to ICAP for the ruined clothes for \$500, but not to submit a claim for filters for a personal filtering system at this time.

B. Discussion/Action on USDA Amended Letter of Conditions and Letter of Intent to meet Amended LOC

Schneider requested that Rice inform board members on the USDA amended letter of conditions and letter of intent to meet the amended letter of conditions for Andover. Rice said the letters are not available at the time of the meeting, but suggested that board members approve and authorize the EIRUSS Chair to sign the amended letters upon receipt. The original letter of condition had to be amended since there was \$3,800 in cost overruns on the project. The National Office of USDA will review the amended letters later this week. Schneider said the cost overruns were for \$1,000 in additional interest on the loan, and \$2,800 for the polyphosphate machine and high service pump alternation equipment.

Motion by Frieberg, second by Boedeker to approve and authorize the EIRUSS Chair to sign, upon receipt, the USDA Amended Letter of Conditions and Letter of Intent to meet Amended LOC for the Andover project. The motion passed unanimously.

Rice suggested that EIRUSS or the individual counties create a fund to cover cost overruns on their projects. Usually the USDA does not cover such small amounts. Schneider suggested that the contingency could be larger in the budget for future projects.

C. Discussion/Action on purchase of high service pump alternation equipment

Schneider said that the State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) approved the pump equipment for the Andover project prior to installation. After installation, a local DNR Field Inspector said the manual pump needed to be replaced with an automatic pump. Cost will be approximately \$1,300; this cost is being paid with the monies noted previously.

At this time, Boedeker left the meeting.

Motion by Davisson, second by Frieberg to approve the purchase of high service pump alternation equipment for the Andover project. The motion passed unanimously.

Fairview project

A. Discussion/Action on terms of land acquisition

B. Update on project status

Schneider said the purchase offer has been given to the land owner; it has been returned with an additional clause to close on the land by December 31, 2009. A Letter of Conditions from the USDA office has not been received yet; so interim financing has not been set up yet in order to actually pay for the land. Nagle asked Cruise if Jones County could pay for the land; EIRUSS could reimburse the County. Cruise said the Jones County attorney and auditor are aware of the land purchase; he will discuss the situation at the next Supervisors' meeting and report back to ECIA staff.

Leisure Lake project

A. Update on grant applications and project status

Schneider said both the amended application and the new application have been submitted through Limestone Bluffs RC&D to the WIRB Board for the Leisure Lake project. Staff will attend the September 21st WIRB Board meeting for support and questions. Nagle said both Senator Roger Stewart and Senator Tom Schueller have sent letters of support to the WIRB Board.

Petersburg project

A. Update on grant applications and project status

Schneider said an application for Petersburg has been submitted through the Delaware County Supervisors to the WIRB Board, also to be reviewed on September 21st. If the WIRB application is not successful, Schneider said a CDBG application will be prepared and submitted for the project.

Other Business

Elvira

Schneider said the Washington, Iowa, DNR Field Office is requesting progress on the Elvira project. Pope of Garden & Associates, Carroll of USDA Rural Development and Summers, Clinton County Sanitarian, have been meeting to discuss the specifications for the project.

Andover

Schneider said an EIRUSS meeting will be scheduled soon to finalize documents for the Andover closing.

General

Board members thanked ECIA staff for their work on the projects; staff responded that they appreciate the board members' support.

Adjournment

Motion by Frieberg, second by Ries to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Schneider
Director of Community Development and Public Works