

WATER BOARD MEETING  
MAY 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
TIME: 5:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Frank Manus, Bob Cochran, Robin Meyer, Chuck Storie and Frank Massey.

Pledge to Allegiance was recited.

Minutes were approved.

Ersel Rodgers and Attorney Peg Polanski were present for the Rural Water Board. Rural Water is approaching the maximum of 35,000 gallons of water a day for zone 5 as stated on the contract with the City of Greensburg. The Economic Development Corporation is planning to apply to the State to designate the proposed economic development rail park off of 421 North as a shovel ready site. To obtain this designation the application must demonstrate that water is available and the amount of water available for industrial purposes.

Ersel stated that Rural Water has a 12" line in the area that currently serves Adams and is intended to take in St. Omer in the Phase IV of Rural Water. The contract agreement states that if the Rural Water needs more water daily than their maximum limit, then they have to come to the Water Board and request more. However Rural Water is not sure what amount of water would be needed and could not specify the amount of increase it would need. Ersel, Peg and Vicki Kellerman of the EDC are asking for something in writing from the Water Board saying the City of Greensburg would make water available to accommodate the industrial park.

According to Vicki Kellerman of the EDC, in order to have a shovel ready area, they have to have something in writing to show there is water available for the grant application. If they don't have a decision then they cannot turn in the application, which is due May 15. They are applying for 225 acres out of the 400 acres to be certified.

Rick Denney reported that the City water plant currently pumps 2,500,000 gallons a day with a maxi of 3,000,000. The water plant is old and the filter beds can only handle so much water. The City has water but the plant cannot handle it all.

City Attorney Steve Taylor said the City would need to amend the contract and advise that the City has concerns of the water capacity required. He did not recommend that the City or the Water Board amend the contract without knowing exactly how much water capacity Rural Water is talking about. Steve has reviewed the water supply contract and there is nothing that obligates the City to redo the contract. If a large industry would be developed the City may not be able to supply the water demand.

Glenn Tebbe questioned if it is appropriate for Rural Water to provide for industry when possibly the area would be annexed. Rural Water was originated for residents and farmers. They do not supply fire protection in the same sense as the City and are not equipped to handle a level of supply for industrial and large users.

Attorney Peg Polanski stated Federal Government has a statute that when they loan monies out to Rural Water Corporations then they have to have funds to pay the loans back.

City Attorney Steve Taylor stated that the City may need to be the water supplier to this shovel ready area instead of Rural Water. He did not recommend to the Water Board to give an open ended guarantee capacity of water without some idea from Rural Water of the capacity required. He recommended that Rural Water would need to give more specific figures of quantities required. Since no one has indicated what the shovel ready site requires and no information appears to be available to the City, he would not recommend that the City sign any type of open ended document for supplying additional water to Rural Water without renegotiating the contract.

Darren Burkhart of HNTB told the Water Board and group that 300,000 gallons a day is going to be the peak amount of water that the City could maybe provide to Rural Water. There is a bypass put around the Rural Water meters for fire protection out in the Rolling Meadows Subdivision and Vandalia Hills. Right now Rural Water did not want to pay for a regular size meter and now if there is a fire they want the Fire Dept. to contact them so they can open the bypass or the Fire Dept. has to close off other valves before they can open a fire hydrant in the Rolling Meadows Addition otherwise they would burn up the Rural Water meter.

Darren Burkhart and Rick Denney, both stated they would not recommend any more than 300,000 gallons of water to be used on the grant application that Vicki Kellerman is working on.

City Attorney Steve Taylor requested to review the grant application and Vicki will get it provide it for Steve to review.

Attorney Peg Polanski stated that Rural Water is willing to negotiate who will provide water for this industrial shovel ready park.

Chuck Storie feels that the City and Rural Water contract should be renegotiated and be fairer to both the City and Rural Water.

Darren Burkhart of HNTB told the Board that now is the time to either expand the existing plant or build a new water plant or an additional one.

**Motion by Robin Meyer and seconded by Chuck Storie to approve the offer by the Decatur County Rural Water, Inc. to negotiate in good faith amendments to the Water Purchase Contract with the City of Greensburg Water Board allowing the City to supply up to 300,000 gallons of water per day to a shovel ready site located on the West side of the City along U.S. 421, for industrial development in zone 5 (Adams) of the Water Purchase Contract. So passed.**

Mark Gearhart came representing the Fair Board. In the winter they have the water meter shut off at the fairgrounds and then turned back on in the spring. The water company shut off the meter and then Mark opens the valve to drain the lines. Several months later they get a big bill and what happened was the meter and valve are bad and they didn't shut off like they should

have. This was not caught till several months later. Mark is going to the Fair Board and gets permission to replace the meter and valve. He is requesting an adjustment on the water portion of the bill. The Board of Works has already adjusted the sewer portion of \$1310.91 off. The water portion is \$813.30.

Donna Lecher Water Office Manager told the Board that they have always had their meter shut off through the winter. It is not the City's meter or fault.

**Motion by Chuck Storie and seconded by Bob Cochran to approve a 50% adjustment off of the \$813.30. So passed.**

Rick Denney Water Superintendent updated the Board on hydrant flushing. They found eleven bad hydrants and are getting those fixed.

The D & K Meter Company checked meters for 11 different industries and companies and found 9 bad meters.

Joe Eddy King came before the Board about when the extended water line was put in on Park Road. Joe Eddy said they were told back in 1989 that they only had to maintain their line for the trailer park for one year and then the city would take it over. He has been to the Clerk-Treasurer's office and went through the minutes and cannot find anything on the agreement.

Wayne Masters was present and told the Board that it was a verbal agreement for the trailer park on Park Road, Reed Trailer Park and Vista Villa. He was superintendent at the time and that he drew up what the property owners of the trailer parks had to put in and pay for everything and maintain it for one year then the City would take it over, only nothing was put in the minutes. The City also had the right to go in and dig up if need be.

City Attorney Steve Taylor would like for the Water Board to table this for now and let him review the whole situation and get with Rick and if the Board wants to accept this then put something in writing to protect everyone. Easements or right to access would be needed. The City should not be compelled to have to take over those meters and lines that are not good and not been taken care of or any that have not been properly installed. This Board does not have to do anything but if they want to then they can put in proper language of what they will accept and what they will not accept.

**Motion by Bob Cochran and seconded by Frank Massey to take a look at this and have City Attorney Steve Taylor and Water Superintendent Rick Denney to get together and bring something back to the Board. So passed.**

Donna Lecher Water Office Manager brought to the Board a request from the Park and Recreation Department for a special discounted rate on filling the swimming pool at the park.

**Motion by Chuck Storie and seconded by Frank Massey to deny giving a special discounted rate. So passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 P.M.

**PRESIDING OFFICER** \_\_\_\_\_

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**ATTEST:**

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**Clerk-Treasurer**