

**Prudence Island Water District  
Minutes of meeting held September 18th, 2010**

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 1 p.m. Present were David Buffum, moderator, Philip Brooks and, Richard Brooks board members, Patricia Richard, treasurer and William Capron, system manager. Absent were Leo Perrotta, Clerk and, Robert Hanson board member.

**Approval of minutes**

R. Brooks made a motion to approve the minutes of August 28th 2010.  
D. Buffum seconded the motion. Vote approved unanimously.

**New Business**

Correspondence

None

Other

Update from Fire Chief Marshall on Water Storage issues.

PIVFD was granted monies (\$14,200.00) for the upgrade of the Greer tank for use by the fire department. In order to minimize paperwork the Town will have the Water District administer the upgrades using our purchasing and bidding requirements, and the PIWD will bill the town for work done. The Fire department will have their lawyer draw up a letter of agreement outlining each parties responsibilities for this arrangement. Chief Marshall would like to see this progress as fast as possible.

With respect to heat in the building Chief Marshall would like us to check to see if propane would be a less expensive alternative.

**Administrative**

Treasury / Purchasing/Customer accounts/billing

BOA and Citizens accounts total \$103,484.07. Accounts receivable about the same as last month, but are not finalized as of meeting due to an open deposit (for water service) that hadn't cleared, but has since cleared.

Final notices haven't gone out due to the current water situation.

Payroll audit information went out to RI Interlocal.

Due to our current situation with the positive bacteria, water testing, consulting engineers, and possible DOH fines are an unknown at this time, so we should suspend all discretionary spending (except for the materials needed for the installation of the new customer's waterline.) until this situation is cleared up. As of now we are current on our bills.

Discussion of Cross connection control plan.

P. Brooks made a motion to accept the changes, R. Brooks seconded, vote passed unanimously.

Discussion of Hardship hookup policy.

P. Brooks made a motion to accept the new bylaw, R. Brooks seconded, vote passed unanimously.

**Technical**

System Managers report.

Searched and found mainline at end of Madison ave. Unfortunately it is a substandard ¾" line. Somewhere along Madison ave. the line changes to this size from 1 ½" at the beginning. This substandard line will need to be replaced at some point.

Site plan for house on Madison ave to be rebuilt shows an easement for a waterline across the back of the property.

This coincides with the Districts wishes to run the water along the back of the property.

Repaired leak on Holbrook ave on Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>, repaired a leak on John Oldham rd. Sept 13<sup>th</sup>.

Grounds cut at all installations.

Extch sent a letter asking if we were still going to have the tank cleaned this fall. Due to the current problems with the water, W. Capron and the board felt it best to postpone the cleaning until next year.

During the flushing "Big Blue" was drained to about 1/3<sup>rd</sup>, and at this point pressure at the Broadway pump house dropped to zero. This level may be at the full level, or overflowing of the Greer tank so positive pressure at the Broadway pump house may not be possible without running a well pump if the Greer tank was to be used.

The repeat samples taken came back for total coliform, including the number one well. Did an inspect of the well and found the seal on the inspection tube was compromised. The sealant was replaced, well disinfected, and flushed, and a sample taken for testing. This test came back positive for total coliform. DOH recommends checking the Pitman adapter inside the well.

Since "Big Blue" tested positive for total coliform we were required to resample again, and the number 4 well as well as a house on Fairview tested negative, "Big Blue" tested positive for total coliform, and a house on Hillside tested positive for ecoli bacteria. Boil water notice was posted and delivered to all customers. The system was disinfected, flushed and sampled. First results on September 13<sup>th</sup> were negative, but subsequent samples, from "Big Blue" and a sample site came back positive again for total coliform. Sent more samples for testing including the number 4 well. Will get results back on Monday.

Broadway pumps were taxed again when someone left a hose on and the pumps had trouble keeping pressure.

Santos Brothers plumbing to give us an estimate for replacing one of the pumps with a new one we have in stock.

This excessive wear and tear on the pumps needs to be minimized, we need to find a way to install shutoff devises on the pumps so excessive heat and premature burnout doesn't occur.

R Brooks said that since the excessive heat has subsided, we may not need to drain the tank as much for disinfecting since the thermocline that was present earlier won't be an issue this time, so we will be able to maintain pressure at the Broadway pumphouse easier.

Since we are not sure what has caused the positive tests we will be contacting C&E Engineering again for further consultation on this problem.

This problem with our system not having an alternate water storage tank to maintain pressure has made the treatment process more difficult to deal with and has resulted in it taking longer to correct.

P. Richard mentioned that this event shows the need for another tank, and that this may help us get a Stag Grant for a tank.

After this problem is under control we will get in touch with ASRWVA about assisting us with getting a grant.

#### **Technical Other**

Stream flow and well levels to be checked on Sunday.

P. Brooks made a motion to adjourn, R. Brooks seconded, motion passed unanimously. Adjourned at 1:56 pm