

2019 Highway 41 Water Utility

Annual General Meeting

April 24, 2019

Graham White called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Opening comments by Graham White.

The Chair presented the agenda and asked if there were any requested changes. Bob Macpherson moved adoption of the agenda. Seconded by Wayne Mason. Carried.

Graham introduced all those sitting at the head table. Ken Kruger (H41WU), Dawn Bragg (Administrator – H41WU), Wayne Mason (H41WU), Rene Labrecque (H41WU), Bob Macpherson (H41WU), Kim Huffman (H41WU) Blaine Tomolak (Maintenance Operator – H41WU),  
Missing: Wilma Marissen – Administrator Assistant

Resolution Committee:  
Real Hamoline

Graham White read the minutes from the 2018 annual meeting. Ken Kruger moved adoption of the minutes. Seconded by Kim Huffman. Carried.

Questions arising from the minutes: No questions

Dawn Bragg read the Auditor's Report and Financial Statement as prepared by Michael Marchand of Cogent Chartered Accounts. Rene Labrecque moved adoption of the Auditor's report. Seconded by Graham White. Carried.

Question from Jeff Lynchuk about why the phone bill is so high, it is because we have A-Line phone line for the pumphouses with a total of 4 lines.

Overview by Graham White.

- We have some challenges facing us. Changing technology is creating an issue. Revamping meter reading systems and the truckfill equipment.
- Graham gave a report from 2018 at a glance, Truckfill totals for each location and for all stations. Total Water Subscriber Consumption. Total Subscribers using water, and total connections. Number of new infills for 2018. 2018 rates for Water Subscribers and Truckfill Subscribers, also Town of Aberdeen rates for comparison.
- No frozen lines this year, due to Blaine running water through the shallow line that needs to be replaced. The line is too shallow in many place, K-line.
- Challenge to grow the business. No new grants in 2018. The cost is too high for most properties to get connected now unless they are right on the line. Graham suggested that there might be new grants available. Blaine shared a little about that. He submitted an application this morning.
- We need to get our water from SaskWater. They have been increasing our rates the last 6 or 7 years. There's nothing we can do about it. Ken mentioned that SaskWater didn't increase the full amount that City of Saskatoon did. Asked Dawn to expound on that. City of Saskatoon increase is 13% for potable water. This is 75% of the charges from Saskwater, they are increase only on this 75% resulting in the 9.75% increase for us.

Question if we've compared our prices compared to Wakaw pipeline. We haven't, but that is a good idea. Dawn will look into that.

Question from Real Hamoline, why is the truckfill rate higher than the subscriber rate. Subscribers should be paying the same rate for both, or even less for the Truckfill stations. To start with, the higher rate was to cover the cost of starting up and maintaining the truckfill stations. We could consider having a rate for subscriber and truckfill the same, for those truckfill only, they would have a higher rate.

Graham White asked for nominations for the board member election for RM of Grant - 3 year term.

Real Hamoline nominated Rene Labrecque.

Graham White asked for further nominations.

Real Hamoline made a motion for nominations to cease. Seconded by Bob Macpherson

Graham White announced that since Rene Labrecque is the only nominee for the RM of Grant position that he is elected by acclimation

Graham asked for nominations for the board member election for Member at Large - 3 year term.

Real Hamoline nominated Jeff Lynchuk.

Graham White asked for further nominations.

Real Hamoline made a motion for nominations to cease. Seconded by Bob Macpherson

Graham White announced that since Jeff Lynchuk is the only nominee for the Member at Large position that he is elected by acclimation.

No Resolutions at this time.

A time was opened up for questions:

No further questions

Closing Remarks: Graham White, on behalf of the board, expressed appreciation to staff for all the hard work they do.

Graham shared about Aberdeen Southwest Water Utility, how we are going to be taking it over, we are in the final stages of this agreement. There are a few small utilities that are starting to look to merge with larger Utilities. Water Security Agency is being tougher on these little water utilities.

Real asked about the loan amount that was discussed in the Financial presentation, if that was part of the Pipeline with SaskWater. No, the Pipeline with SaskWater is in a 20 year agreement that is paid directly with our SaskWater bill.

Kim Huffman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 pm.