



Centerton Utilities

(Water/Wastewater Departments) (Franchised Utility Permitting)

March 18, 2025

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting of the Centerton Waterworks & Sewer Commission called to order by Commissioner Melvin Coffelt.

(1) ROLL CALL – Commissioners present: Melvin Coffelt, Robert Anderson, Donald Casteel, Michelle Haverkamp & TJ Wells. Centerton Utilities' present: Malcolm Attwood, Chad Klingler, John Daniels, and Mary Perkins, and Thresia Leimberg. Professional Services present: Tim Mayes and Jeff Dehnhardt of ESI. Centerton Utilities Attorney: Thomas Kineklac. City of Centerton present: Kayla Knight.

(2) Pledge of Allegiance

(3) Approval of Consent Agenda: Commissioner Coffelt introduced the minutes of Centerton Utilities from February 25, 2025, and asked if anyone had questions or concerns. Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented with a second from Commissioner Casteel. No members were opposed, and the motion was carried.

(4) Old Business:

a. **Attorney report - Harrington Miller Law Firm** – Nothing new to report.

b. **Project Updates - Engineering Services, Inc.**

i. **Hwy 102 Water Tower #4:** Jeff Dehnhardt with ESI stated the following:

The tower project is currently under construction. All of the off-site linework has been completed with the exception of some minor clean-up items. In the process of flushing and testing the lines. Construction continues on the PRV vaults. Approximately 90% complete. Construction of the steel holding tank is underway along with the yard-piping. The ground construction portion of the steel holding tank is expected to be completed the end of March. The tentative plan is to heist the bowl into place in early April. Expected substantial completion date is December 2025. Delays due to redesign of tank infrastructure in the early months of the project.

Contract Section 1 – Line Work - Change Orders

a. Cost Items

- #6 – PRV #1 - \$14,000
- #7 – PRV #2 - \$24,600

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve items 6 and 7 as presented. Commissioner Casteel 2nd the motion. All Commissioners were in favor and the motion passed.

- #8 – PRV #6 - \$31,750 – Bethlehem Road PRV additional cost:

The contractor needed an additional pipe, fittings & values. In addition, a small retaining wall for grading was needed between the vault and road. ESI feels this amount is excessive and would like to negotiate with the contractor for a reduction of price on fittings.



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- #9 - Master Meter Vault at Rebel Road - \$16,000

The contractor's additional cost consist of the following: foster adaptor, grounding collar and replacing flange inside the vault. ESI does not feel this change order is justified and needs more time to gather information.

- #10 – Cost of Delay - \$100,000

The contractor is requesting \$10,000 per day for delays. ESI does not support the change order in its current form. Stated there is no justification. They have requested additional information from the contractor.

b. Contract Time - #10

Per ESI date of completion for the Line Work per contract was March 4th, 2025. The actual completion date is expected to be March 31st, 2025.

- ii. **Hwy 102 Widening – Utilities Relocations:** Jeff Dehnhardt with ESI stated the plans were previously submitted to ADH for review and we received their comments. ESI is working through the Health Department comments and plan to review and submit a response as soon as possible.
- iii. **McKissic Swale Sewer Main Repair:** Jeff with ESI stated the project is substantially complete. They are expecting another shipment of sod today. Final inspection and close out most likely later this week.
- iv. **Sanitary Sewer – Connection Options:** Jeff with ESI stated they have been evaluating possible sewer connection to other systems to shed volume from Decatur and alleviate the moratorium of ADH. They have had limited success with discussion of a line connection to the Bentonville system due to capacity issues of their own. It would take approximately 14 months to connect to Bentonville if allowed plus any connection and line capacity fees. NACA is a connection possibility. They charge connection fees and capacity fees based on volume added to their system. Cost to connect would be upwards of 10,000,000 and would take about eighteen months to connect. We are still working to find available alternatives to send our sanitary sewer flow in case the time for Decatur's necessary improvements becomes significant.
- v. **Decatur WWTP Status:** James with Decatur stated they have received ADH approval and continue to move forward with the Headworks project. They anticipate substantial completion December 31st, 2025. They have developed the initial capacity analysis report of their WWTP in its current state. Their permit renewal is due in May and along with the renewal requirements, they will also submit a request for an increase in permit capacity at the same time. They feel that will alleviate the capacity issues in the short term. Also, they are working on a cost estimate to get their facility to 6 or 6.5 MGD on their next build out. Mayor Tharp suggested Centerton Utilities have discussions with them regarding financing the Decatur project versus paying high connection fees to Bentonville or NACA connection. Utility Director Attwood stated he would set up that meeting with the Centerton Utilities Commissioners and Decatur.



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c. **Director's Report:**

- i. **Project Planning Worksheet (attached):** Utility Director Attwood reviewed the "Project Planning Worksheet" with the commission.
- ii. **Field Operations & Customer Service Report:** Superintendent Klingler & Office Manager Perkins' reports are in the packet for the commission to review. Commissioner Anderson asked the status of SCADA package. Superintendent Klingler stated the vendor is installing the software and computer this week. Expect it to be up and running by mid April. They need to obtain bids from electricians to complete the setup. There was discussion on making replacement of clay pipes a priority. Utility Director Attwood stated it was on the list but may need to contract out the job. He stated that the project is on the Long-Range Plan.

(5) **New/Other Business:**

- a. **03/10/2025 Long Rang Planning Meeting:** Utility Director Attwood stated the list of priorities for sanitary sewer projects were identified in relation to the Decatur capacity issues.

Water Projects		
Priority Ranking	Est. Time Frame	Project
1	2025	Master Plan Update
2	2025-26	ARDOT Hwy 102 Water Main Relocations
3	2025-26	Greenhouse Rd. Widening Relocations
4	2026-27	Allen Rd. 12" Water Main Extension
5	2027-28	18" Water Main from 72 Tower to N. Tycoon Rd.
6	2028-29	Ginn Rd. 12" Water Main Extension
7	2030-31	18" Water Main from N. Tycoon Rd. to Ginn Rd.
8	2031	ARDOT Hwy 102 Water Main Relocations

Sewer Projects		
Priority Ranking	Est. Time Frame	Project
1	2025	Master Plan Update
2	2025-26	ARDOT Hwy 102 Sewer Main Relocations
3	2025-26	12" Sanitary Sewer Main Capacity Improvements
4	2025-26	Greenhouse Rd. Widening Relocations
5	2025-26	Proposed Lift Station to Pump to Ginn Rd. LS
6	2025-26	Greenhouse Rd. Lift Station & Force Main Improvements
7	2025-26	Temporary Sanitary Sewer Connection
8	2028-29	Interceptor "D" & NW Lift Station
9	2030-31	SW Force Main – Ginn Rd. LS to L.C. Hickman Rd.



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- b. **Commercial Deposits:** Commissioner Anderson handed out a Commercial/Business User Agreement with changes to paragraph twelve "Security Deposits" and paragraph thirteen "Notice required for transfer of ownership or management" for the commission to review. Commissioner Anderson asked our attorney to review the agreement prior to the commission adopting the new User Agreement.
- c. **Service Line Replacement Contract:** Accountant John Daniels stated the optional pre-construction meeting is scheduled for March 21st, 2025, at 1:00 for contractors to ask questions regarding the scope of the project. Bid opening is scheduled for March 28th, 2025.
- d. **Septic Systems:** Utility Director Attwood stated due to the Decatur capacity issues he has been asked if temporary community septic systems can be installed. He stated that once the Decatur capacity issues are resolved they would then connect to the Centerton wastewater system. The commissioners said they would need to have a meeting to discuss this question and would need the City of Centerton's planning department. Mayor Tharp with Decatur stated he was approached with same question. In his case, there were questions regarding the distance from the Decatur system. He stated approval from the Health Department is required. The public in attendance stated that other small cities in the area allow this. The Utility Director stated he would set this meeting up. The public stated they would like to attend the meeting.
- e. **Election of Officers:** Melvin Coffelt asked to step down as Commission chairman.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to nominate Don Casteel as Commission Chairman and Melvin Coffelt as Vice Chairman. In addition, Commissioner Anderson made a motion to authorize the commissioners to take turns reviewing the weekly expenditures and check signing process. Commissioner Wells 2nd the motions. All Commissioners were in favor and the motion passed.

Commissioner Anderson stated he would develop an expenditure review/check signing schedule and email it to the commissioners.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion that the commission become a member of the Chamber of Commerce and pay the fee from the General Revenue Account. Commissioner Coffelt requested that our legal council review the law and advise the commission at the next meeting. Action on this motion is pending legal review.

(6) Resolutions – None

(7) Public Comment – Skip Anderson asked that a letter be sent out to developers explaining where we stand with the Decatur capacity issue. Superintendent Attwood stated the letter would be mailed out later this week.

Skip Anderson asked about the ADEQ permit for the Decatur wastewater plant. Mayor Tharp stated they will submit the request for new permit by May 1st and will submit request for increased capacity to 5.25MGD.

Skip Anderson inquired about flow rate data requested by AHD. Superintendent Attwood said their report stated twelve months of continuous flow data up to twenty-four months. He stated Centerton



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Utilities will conduct a cost benefit analysis to determine cost to hire out the project to a vendor versus cost to do it in house. Mr. Anderson asked if Centerton could ask ADH to accept the four months we are missing? Commissioner Anderson stated the commission will discuss the options regarding this project.

(9) Announcements – None

(10) Adjournment - Commissioner Coffelt asked the attendees if there were any questions. With no further business, Commissioner Wells made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Haverkamp 2nd the motion. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned.