

MINUTES
LAWTON WATER AUTHORITY SPECIAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 27, 2022 - 2:00 P.M.
LAWTON CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS/AUDITORIUM

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairman Stan Booker. Notice of meeting and agenda were posted on the City Hall notice board as required by law.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mary Ann Hankins, Kelly Harris, Linda Chapman, Allan Hampton, , Onreka Johnson, Randy Warren.

ABSENT: Jay Burk, Sean Fortenbaugh

ALSO PRESENT: Michael Cleghorn, City Manager; John Ratliff, City Attorney; Traci Hushbeck, City Clerk, Dr. Julia Sibilla, Fort Sill

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Consider approval of the minutes of the Lawton Water Authority special meeting of August 23, 2022.

MOVED by Warren, SECOND by Hampton, to approve the minutes of the Lawton Water Authority special meeting of August 23, 2022. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Hampton, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

2. Consider and take action with respect to a resolution of the Lawton Water Authority (the "Borrower"), to include any floor amendments that may be made thereto, authorizing and approving to increase the currently authorized loan application with the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (the "Board") for financial assistance through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan program, with the loan proceeds being for the purpose of financing certain Stormwater, Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) improvements and Water Meter replacements; approving and authorizing a CWSRF loan from the Board in the total aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$73.5 million; approving the issuance of a promissory note or notes in one or more series in the total aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$73.5 million, secured by a pledge of revenues and authorizing its execution; approving and authorizing the execution of a loan agreement for CWSRF loan; designating a local trustee and approving and authorizing the execution of a trust agreement; approving and authorizing the execution of a security agreement; ratifying and confirming a lease agreement, as amended pertaining to certain water, sanitary sewer, and refuse systems; approving various covenants; approving and authorizing the establishment of a project costs disbursement account; and containing other provisions relating thereto.

Rusty Whisenhunt, Public Utilities Director, stated on December 4, 2020, the City of Lawton received Consent Order 20-214 from the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) as a result of OPDES Permit violations stemming from discharges at the Wastewater Treatment

Plant. Oklahoma Water Resources Board while working with staff offered the Lawton Water Authority on September 13, 2022 a pilot program to fund Stormwater projects at no addition cost to the Lawton Water Authority. The Sponsorship program is a method to obtain debt forgiveness for Stormwater Projects that are sponsored by a conventional wastewater project funded thru the CWSRF. The Current authorized loan application for funding of the wastewater treatment project could sponsor a stormwater project up to a value of \$3.5 million. The Interest of the sponsoring project would be forgiven up to the value of the Stormwater projects approved. The Stormwater projects would be of no addition cost to the Water Authority. The Lawton Water Authority approved application to the OWRB on August 23, 2022 for Loan amount not to exceed \$70 million. By increasing the authorization to \$73.5 million under the sponsorship program amount, the Lawton Water Authority could save the equal amount in interest repayment. This saving would offset the entire cost of the Stormwater projects. Proposed Stormwater project include updating of 2003 Master Plan, project design and construction of project that fit the funding availability identified in the Master Plan. The CWSRF program provides a subsidized interest rate which is below the prevailing market rates available to the Lawton Water Authority and the City.

Hampton questioned if this will affect the utility bill.

Whisenhunt stated no.

MOVED by Warren, SECOND by Hampton, to approve **Resolution 22-09**. AYE: Hankins, Chapman, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

There being no further business to consider, the meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m. upon motion, second and roll call vote.

STAN BOOKER, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

TRACI HUSHBECK, SECRETARY