

HRSD / BCRSD Joint Meeting
June 28, 2022
6:30 @ BC Community Church Pavilion

Attending: Clint Studabaker, Richard Hall, Matt Hanlon, Brian Webb, Jenny Austin, Kyle Myers, Vickie Perry

Call to order was by Clint at 6:44. Clint reported to the audience that our boards have meetings scheduled for the last Tuesday of the month thru November 2022. BCRSD board meets on the second Tuesday, and HRSD board meets on the first Wednesday of the month. Clint updated on the goals of the joint board meetings...HRSD needs more customers in order to fully use the size of the current WWT, and BCRSD wants to bring sewer service to Bean Blossom and Lake Lemon residents, which would add flow to the WWTP in Helmsburg. The two boards are in agreement that we can work together for the benefit of the community.

Vickie Perry stated for clarification, in order to get funding, there must be an agreement between the 2 boards. Vickie suggested we review Paragraph #2 on Page #1.

Jenny presented printed copies of the minutes from our last joint meeting in May, followed by a motion from Brian, and a 2nd from Matt, to approve the minutes as presented. Passed 5-0. Matt has been posting info to the BCRSD website and requested that Jenny email a copy of the minutes to him for posting.

Kyle asked that our board be given the opportunity to review the latest agreement form, prepared by Richard, at our July 6 HRSD board meeting, because our board has not yet had the opportunity to discuss the document. Following the review and signing, we can forward the document to Clint for the July BCRSD board meeting on July 12.

Update from Clint: BCRSD has been working on request for proposal (RFQ), and has sent paperwork to 12 firms, and will be ready to discuss the responses at the July joint board meeting. Vickie reported that HRSD is reviewing the 2nd draft of the statement of qualifications (SOQ). Richard noted that both boards don't have to choose the same firms, but there may be cases where the same firms being selected by both boards could be advantageous, however it is not mandatory in order to receive our funding.

Clint stated that BCRSD is finalizing request for proposals (RFP) for rate consultants... and that they have about 6 rate consultants on the list and expects to get that more finalized by mid-July. Clint anticipates that it will be another 30-60 days to select the rate consultant. Vickie added that HRSD is more concerned about first selecting the engineering firm. The numbers generated by the rate consultants will be helpful in making the selection of the engineering firm. The rate consultant will need to know what capacity will be, in order to determine the best plan for both boards moving forward. Richard asked if Vickie has seen joint collaboration between boards in other communities, and Vickie confirmed that it can work. She gave examples of how costs might be negotiated for treatment of WW, and the costs for customers.

Vickie feels it is likely that all BCRSD customers would pay the same rate, but that they wouldn't necessarily pay the same rate as the HRSD customers.

Clint asked that same question of the 3 consultants in the audience, and they agreed that 2 entities would/could have different rates, and they said they could check on how things have gone in the past. We might choose the same firms for engineering/rate consultants, but each board would have separate contracts.

Clint reported that he hopes to have SOQs back by August, and then BCRSD will likely make their decision; but HRSD is about a month or so behind the progress made by BCRSD, so there will probably be a staggered effect in reviewing and selecting of firms for engineering and rate consultants.

Richard moved to adjourn, Brian gave the 2nd. Passed 5-0.

Next meeting: July 26, at BC Community Church Pavilion @ 6:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Austin
HRSD