The Utilities Board of The Town of Cedar Bluff

September 21, 2023

STATE OF ALABAMA

CHEROKEE COUNTY

The Utilities Board of the Town of Cedar Bluff met for a special business meeting Thursday, September 21, 2023, at 12:01 p.m. at 4971 Alabama HWY 68, Cedar Bluff Alabama 35959. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mattie Williams.

Roll Call:

Allen Baker Present Jack Bond Present

Linda Pickelsimer Present Mattie Williams Present

William Warren Present

Meeting attendees: Larry Sutherland, Marcia Kastel, Darrell Sears

The Special Business meeting was called to discuss the scope of the ADEM Form 340: Clean Water State Revolving Fund Grant. The scope of the work allocated $107,400 toward the Manhole Rehab and $419,750 toward the sewer extension on County Road 44.

Board Member Bond reminded the Board this grant was originally voted down because the potential customers on County Road 44 would be sewer only. He reminded the Board of how they decided not to add anymore sewer only customers, due to how difficult it is to turn off a customer’s sewer service. He also stated when the Board first started discussing doing the sewer extension a representative of the Bluff had agreed to pay so much of the matching funds and then decided he could not pay the amount the Board was asking for.

Board Member Warren addressed the Board and stated during the last meeting on September 19, 2023, he made a motion to accept the grant contingent on Attorney Bob McWhorter’s review of the scope of the project.

Chairman Williams addressed the Board and stated Attorney McWhorter did review the scope of the project but was in court and could not attend the meeting. Attorney McWhorter stated he did not see anything wrong with accepting the grant. However, he did suggest the Board contact LADD, Cedar Bluff Utilities engineering firm, and ask if the Board would be penalized if the cost of the Manhole Rehab went beyond $107,400.

Darrell Sears, from LADD, addressed the Board and stated that if the grant is accepted, a bid would need to placed before the work can be started. Once the bid is accepted, the Board has 60 days to start the project or decline the grant money and cancel the project. He also stated ADEM looks at the projects as a whole and the money allocated toward both parts of the project are estimates. If there was not enough money allocated toward the project Cedar Bluff Utilities would be responsible for coming up with the remaining funds needed to complete it.

Board Member Warren stated the sewer Extension on County Road 44 would include 30 new customers and 2 campgrounds. Board Member Bond stated the campgrounds no longer want to be sewer only customers, due to the cost. He also stated if the sewer service is ended, because of nonpayment, and the sewer backs up into someone’s house, Cedar Bluff Utilities could be held liable. Board Member Pickelsimer stated the bylaws of Cedar Bluff Utilities state they provide water and sewer within the town limits. She also stated the facilities within the town limits should be fixed before expanding outside the town limits. The Board reviewed the scope of the project. After some discussion, Board Member Baker Made a motion to decline the ADEM Form 340: Clean Water State Revolving Fund Grant and use the matching funds of $200,000 to do the manhole restoration. Board Member Pickelsimer asked if an addendum should be made the motion stating, the reason for not accepting the grant is due to the fact Cedar Bluff Utilities responsibility is to service within the town limits and County Road 44 is not within the town limits.

Board Member Baker made a motion to decline the ADEM Form 340: Clean Water State Revolving Fund Grant due to the fact Cedar Bluff Utilities responsibility is to service within the town limits and County Road 44 is not within the town limits, Board Member Bond seconded the motion.

Motion Carried (5-0)

Aye: Baker, Bond, Pickelsimer, Warren, Williams

Nye: None

Abstained: None

The Board discussed using the $200,000 to do the manhole restoration and fixing the existing system. Board Member Warren asked Darrell Sears if Cedar Bluff Utilities could apply for another grant to rehabilitate the current system. Mr. Sears answered yes but he did not know what part of the money would be available. He stated the ARPA funding would need to be spent and the way RF funding works is Cedar Bluff Utilities would be eligible for potentially 50% grant of the total cost of the project. The Board decided to table the discussion.

Board Member Bond made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Board Member Warren seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:43.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mattie Williams, Chairman Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Joshua Bolton, Secretary Date