

City of Bel Aire Utility Advisory Committee Minutes
Wednesday, April 12, 2023

1. Called to order at 3:00 pm
2. In attendance: Dan Broyles, Terry Ercolani, Antonio Kit, Bill Moss, Art Tenbrink.
Also: Steve Hagan (Cox Communications representative; attended meeting to review and take part in discussions involving utilities)
3. Approval of agenda: Bill motion, Dan second. Approved.
4. Approval of March 8, 2023 meeting minutes: Dan motion, Bill second. Approved.
5. New business
 - a. Integra Technologies
 - i. Further discussion on details regarding Integra's plans for a Bel Aire site: it will take two years to build the plant, and the facility will have a 50 year useful life. It will require 100 acres and will include 20 acres for solar panels (electrical power generation).
 - ii. Discussed grey water and options Integra may have regarding how to use it. Grey water is processed wastewater that does not have extensive or serious contaminants. The water can be used for additional applications, such as irrigation. It is understood that Bel Aire sells grey water to Willowbend golf course.
 - b. Kechi tree limb and brush waste disposal? No new information. Will continue to include this item in future agendas until there is resolution/conclusion to the possibility of Bel Aire paying Kechi for disposal of Bel Aire limbs and brush.
 - c. Water Consumer Confidence Report
 - i. KDHE issued their Bel Aire 2023 report (for water quality in 2022)
 - ii. Bel Aire purchases water from Wichita and CCUA, noted in the report.
 - iii. The report notes that no violations occurred during 2022. The report also lists contaminants that were found in the water but were below maximum containment values.
 - d. May "Did You Know?"
 - i. Art wrote the column for May. The column gives information about the KDHE Consumer Confidence Report and provides a link to the report.

6. Roundtable discussion

a. Reviewed Bel Aire water sources

- i. Bel Aire currently has two sources of potable water: the city of Wichita and Chisholm Creek Utility Authority (CCUA). The city of El Dorado is a possible third source. Currently, water is only purchased from Wichita and CCUA.

b. From Art:

- i. Discussed the article in the Wichita Eagle newspaper regarding the Ogallala Aquifer (April 9, 2023). Local and state entities are considering limits to crop irrigation. Wallace County had a 7 ft drop in water level in one year...with 2 ft drops in many other parts of Kansas. 94% of water use in some Kansas counties goes towards irrigation.
- ii. Discussed climate change information. Some food production sources (meat, dairy, rice) yield high methane addition to the atmosphere, which has a strong correlation to warming trends. Letting food decay (and release methane) also adds methane to the atmosphere.
- iii. CCUA has a job opening for a water technician position. Signing bonus, health/dental/vision benefits, training reimbursement, and many other benefits.
- iv. Discussed utility line burial requirements, along with the Dig-Safe program to help residents and commercial property owners avoid damaging utility lines when digging on their property.

7. Next meeting: UAC meeting May 10, 2023. This will not be a standard meeting, but instead a field trip to the Waste Connections Hutchinson Recycling Plant. There is an eight visitor limit. Our time is reserved between 2:30 and 4:30 pm. Meet at Bel Aire City Hall at 2:00 pm for carpooling out to the site.

8. Old, continuing, future business. None to report.

9. Adjournment of meeting: Bill motion, Antonio second. All approved. Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:30 pm.