Oriental Water Advisory Board

Friday, September 12, 2025

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Ethan Gartin (phone), Nick Wilhelm (phone), Rich Guimond (phone), Daniel Early, Steve Drew, Jeff Sanders, Commissioner Bonnie Crosser, Manager Miller, Residents: Greg Bohmert and Chris Moffat.

1. Water Plant Rehabilitation Project.

Completed on site tour of facility on 9/9/25. Attendees: Ethan Gartin, Nick Wilhelm, Hemant Sura (Electrical Engineer), Daniel Early, Jeff Sanders, Commissioner Crosser, Manager Miller, Butch Rasmussen, and Resident Greg Bohmert.

Items of note:

• SCADA upgrade should provide remote monitoring but no need for remote operation. The following should be included in the system:

- Power conditions of the water treatment plant
- Pressure monitoring
- Sewer pump status and failure alarm
- High service pump status and failure alarm
- Other items to be coordinated with Town during assembly of performance
- specification

• Automatic Transfer Switch Panel needs to be coated, since it is not a NEMA 4X panel.
• De-humidification is greatly needed, so a de-humidifier should be incorporated.
• **Well pump inspections are to be included in the Water Plant Rehabilitation Project**.
• The tank mixer will also be pursued as a separate expense per above.
• Second power service to storage/maintenance building discovered and will be I incorporated into electrical design.
• Replace hydraulically controlled backwash process valves with electronic valves
• Jeff Sanders recommends test the wells at the beginning of the rehabilitation of the plant.

Project Manager for the Town's ongoing projects with TRC will transition to Nick Wilhelm, PE. SCADA requires further refinement from Daniel and TRC to finalize required components.

Brine Tank – open decision to relocate or replace.

2. Booster Station. 90% plan completed: specifications should be completed late September. Structural review is complete and electrical design has begun.
    - Incorporate the gate at both ends of the tank access road.
    - Triplex pump selection be swapped to a duplex pump unit.
    - Oriental would inquire regarding the sewer connection with Bay River MDS.
    - Request to add bifurcation wall to chlorine building to separate into two compartments.
    - PreFab Building decision made. Possible leverage of Counties EFI supplier.
    - TRC to provide update project timeline.
    - TRC to research options for generator – include in current vs evaluation later.

3. Valve Replacement. TRC to obtain status with DWI on design submittal. Design submitted to DWI, DEQ, and NCDOT.
    - Daniel noted the valve on Church/Freemason still missing in plans. TRC to decision to address via an addendum to the bid.

TRC to review with DEQ options remaining funds from the project at completion.

Documentation is complete regarding the combination of projects form for DWI. Manager Miller to contact Dustin Rhodes with DEQ regarding reporting and project funding totals.

Copper Issue

Slightly outside of test limits for August 2025. Believed we were shipped the last of the “old” LAS which cause the negative test results. County tests were within acceptable ranges. Mr. Baily is engaged with DEQ to finalize the permit and adjustment to incorporate the diffuser – which could yield 4 to 5 times more tolerance with the copper testing limits. Oriental received four NOVs and a request to rescinded was submitted by Mr. Baily on behalf of Oriental. Dialog between Mr. Baily and DEQ continue.

Prepared by: Commissioner Bonnie Crosser.