

**MINUTES**  
**SHERWOOD WASTEWATER TREATMENT COMMITTEE**

*February 1, 2022*

**ACTIONS TAKEN**

1. Heard a Presentation from Mike Clayton, director of NLRWU, about the 10-year plan for the utility and its effect on Sherwood customers.
2. Received a suggestion from Mike Clayton that the court order be revised or eliminated.
3. Heard a presentation from Mike Clayton about the future of the shared satellite line.

The Sherwood Wastewater Utility met on February 1, 2022. Chair Amy Sanders called the meeting to order. Present were Chair Amy Sanders and members Suzanne Stair and Sarah Breshears; Kevin Lilly and Eric Fleming were absent. Also present were engineer Jesse Morrison, Wastewater Manager Scott Greenwood and Dennis Webb from the Utility; City Engineer Richard Penn was unable to attend. Attorney Larry Carpenter was also present. Mike Clayton, Director of North Little Rock Wastewater Utility (NLRWU), was visiting to make a presentation.

Sarah Breshears moved, seconded by Suzanne Stair, to approve the Minutes of the last meeting. This passed unanimously.

Scott Greenwood distributed the Operations report. There were no SSO's to report and no point repairs were necessary during the most recent reporting period.

Scott also distributed the final accounting report for 2021. He noted some of the projections were a little off.

Under items of Old Business, there was no update on the South Plant closure process. There were no changes in 5MC plant cost allocations. There were only a few brief updates on Runyan Acres and Gravel Ridge. Mike Marlar, the consulting engineer for Gravel Ridge, is still working on the updates. Gravel Ridge has indicated it will turn down a merger proposal with Sherwood. Scott reported that Richard Penn is still negotiating about future operations with both Gravel Ridge and Runyan Acres.

Scott introduced Mike Clayton, the director of the NLRWU. Mike came to give information about a 10-year plan NLRWU has developed to upgrade its wastewater system. Some of the plan will affect Sherwood customers, especially those who are served by the 5MC treatment plant. Mike Clayton had met some months ago with Mayor Young and Richard Penn to inform them of the developing plan.

First he gave an overview of the wastewater collection system. The plan involves inspection and repair or replacement of 24" interceptors, which he described as the main arteries of the system. The interceptors process from the secondary collection lines which are various sizes in the 6"- 8"- 10" and 12" ranges. The interceptors and collector lines need to be inspected and tested to

see what is needed from various approaches, including cured in-place-pipe (CIPP), pipe-bursting, and other approaches. His goal is 68,000 feet/year. NLR handles 4 plants and 4 major basins. These rehabilitation projects can extend the useful life of the lines for up to 50 years. Most of these pipes are made of concrete and break down; some have to be replaced rather than repaired. The 10-year plan for 24"- 48"- and 60" pipe will cost up to \$40 million.

Turning to the 5MC Basin which is part of both North Little Rock and Sherwood, Mike discussed the investigation of what work is necessary, including basin inspection by satellite. He showed a slide breaking down the lines in Sherwood and North Little Rock in the Basin. He stated that an MSI inspection revealed heavy, extensive cleaning will be needed in many of the larger pipes. Mike showed slides that he said indicated the Sherwood system with respect to the court order.

He said that the next phase of the work will be expensive. NLRWU has arranged a \$45 million loan from the Natural Resources fund at 1.75% interest rate. About 50% of this amount will go for interceptor rehabilitation. To help pay for the loan North Little Rock recently enacted a rate increase. Rates first go from about \$1.50 basic monthly and will increase .10 to .20/month for the next 4 years.

The 5MC Plant rehabilitation will need a joint collaboration between NLR and Sherwood. To best implement this work, Mike Clayton proposes an Interlocal Agreement between the cities. He had previously sent a copy of the proposed Agreement to Richard Penn and Mayor Young.

In the meantime, NLRWU has discussed a more immediate problem with an interceptor on a line passing under Hwy 67/167. He has started the process for an emergency relocation of this 24" line. Mike showed a map of the area including the location. The emergency problem involves two sinkholes on Warden Road, apparently caused by contractor damage. The damage is too severe to rehab and he plans to upsize from a 24" to a 30" pipe. There are lines that lead in to the NLR system. There is a 15" line that goes to the Golden Corral restaurant. He also is working on plans to eliminate an acute angle in the line. There is some question whether NLR or Sherwood owns this line, affecting which city is responsible for payment. He is asking that Sherwood share the cost, its construction share being \$581,822.00 with a \$100,000.00 set aside; there will also be related expenses for utility relocation and easement acquisition. There will be a service line near TSC at a cost of about \$50,000.00. He believes there are about 5000 Sherwood customers served by this line.

In the long term Mike Clayton expressed a desire to eliminate operating under the court order. He believes about 50% of the area in Sherwood under the court order will require replacement. This may be an expensive process, depending on how much cleaning and CIPP work can cure problems.

Mike Clayton next discussed trying to eliminate the Satellite System permit. The collection system in this area, he believes, is similar in size, age, and materials to the Lakewood part of this basin in North Little Rock. He also expects more attention from the EPA and ADEQ to aging systems like this. He expressed an interest in moving all the Sherwood customers served by line "C" under North Little Rock's management.

Suzanne Stair thanked Mike for the presentation and giving the Committee an idea what the plan involved. After Mike Clayton left, the members expressed wanting to meet with Richard Penn to discuss the proposal, including a special meeting if necessary. Larry Carpenter was asked to contact Richard about this.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at noon.

701 Amy Sanders  
Chair by Charles J. Carpenter

1 March 2022  
Date