

ROCKWOOD WATER P.U.D.
MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD
May 25th, 2005
Rockwood Water Boardroom

Board members present: Sandra Ramaker, Herb Brown, Stephen McElroy, Larry Dixon, Don McCarthy.

Staff present: Harvey Barnes, District Manager (DM); Mike Baker, District Superintendent (DS); Sabrina Walyer, Administrative Secretary (AS); Cheryl Colley, Senior Accountant (SA)

Guests present: Pat Brown, Fran Hyson, Jeanne Orcutt, Randy McElroy, Tom Pokorny.

President **Sandra Ramaker** called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

DM Barnes added two items to the agenda: Board member travel request for AWWA Security Conference and Reynold's High School Program Sponsorship request.

Herb Brown moved to approve the agenda as amended. **Stephen McElroy** seconded the motion. The motion was approved; none opposed.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Herb Brown moved to approve the consent agenda. **Don McCarthy** seconded the motion. The motion was approved; none opposed.

DM Barnes introduced new Administrative Secretary, Sabrina Walyer, and asked that board members state their names when making motions.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Herb Brown moved to approve the April 27 minutes. **Don McCarthy** seconded the motion. The motion was approved; none opposed.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Jeanne Orcutt referred to IUG charges on pages 3 and 8 and asked how much the District has paid them so far. **DM Barnes** replied that over the course of several years we have paid them several thousand dollars, but that we are in the last few months of Portland wholesale contract negotiations. There are still a few things they are helping us with, but very little. **Jeanne Orcutt** commented that it has cost us plenty. **DM Barnes** explained that when you negotiate a twenty-year contract that could cost \$2-3 million per year, spending a few thousand up front to help you understand the magnitude of the changes in the contract is fairly inexpensive. **Jeanne Orcutt** said that we are getting a one year contract out of it. **DM Barnes** replied that it is an interim contract and that they will eventually decide on a long-term contract.

Orcutt referred to several Clean Water Festival charges and asked if they are reimbursable. **DM Barnes** replied that all of it is reimbursable except for the contributions we make. He asked SA Colley if we did in fact collect approximately \$13,000 and she replied yes. **Orcutt** asked if the Glenfair Elementary program was part of the festival. **DM Barnes** replied yes. **Herb Brown** asked more about the festival and **SA Colley** replied that it is a big success and over 1000 kids attend. **Fran Hyson** asked if we have a contract with the planner. **DM Barnes** explained yes we do, but that she is contracted through the Clean Water Festival and it does not cost us anything extra.

Larry Dixon referred to two varying pumping charges and asked if they are for two different locations. **DM Barnes** replied yes.

Larry Dixon moved to approve the bills. Herb Brown seconded the motion. The motion was approved; none opposed.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Fran Hyson inquired about the Clackamas River Water (CRW) contract and asked if there was a response regarding selling it back to them. She commented on the Civic Center and Grant Butte sites, expressing her dismay that all the revenue will go to Gresham. She said that she was devastated that Rockwood gave that property away despite her and Jeanne Orcutt's objections.

Ms. Hyson on commented on their repeated requests to drill wells, and the time and expense to get CRW water, adding that now we are going to sell it back. She said she doesn't think it will happen, and asked for an update on the situation. She said she wants the board to know that she is very upset about the Civic Center site, and that after she got signatures, there was no vote on it. **DM Barnes** responded by saying that the revenue for Gresham will not be as substantial as it looks and we would not have collected SDC's from fire flow. He said that at the time the Board sold the property, it thought it was a good idea. Regarding the CRW investment, **DM Barnes** stated that Rockwood has provided invoices requested by CRW and CRW is considering the price we are asking. He went on to say that he has had two other calls from districts interested in buying if CRW does not. **DM Barnes** says while we don't have a deal yet, there is no reason to be concerned.

Tom Pokorny, manager from the Powell Valley Road Water District (PVRWD) brought the trophy from the Tapping Team's win last year to display at Rockwood. He said they will let us know the times when they will be tapping in San Francisco, and invited conference attendees to a dinner on that Tuesday evening at 6:00 p.m. **Pokorny** mentioned that he hopes to discuss the future of the Tapping Team. He said that they have renamed the PVRWD building the Bob Luce Memorial Service Center. **DM Barnes** asked what it would cost to sponsor the tapping team. **Pokorny** replied that the budget is approximately \$10,000, but if the team wins the subsection, there is a possible \$4100 that can come back to the sponsor. He passed around a history book about the PVRWD.

RENOLD'S HIGH SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP

Randy McElroy, a Reynold's High School football player, asked that the board sponsor him for a football camp at Linfield College. He said that the cost is \$75. **Herb Brown** asked where the \$75 is allocated. **Mr. McElroy** replied that the \$75 pays for him to attend the camp himself. **DM Barnes** looked at the flyer and mentioned that it is a school program and supports the community.

Herb Brown moved to pay for the sponsorship. Don McCarthy seconded the motion. Stephen McElroy abstained. The motion was approved; none opposed.

DM Barnes asked SA Colley to take the flyer and submit payment to the school.

AWWA PUBLIC OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR OWUC

DM Barnes said that AWWA is looking for a public official to be a representative on the Oregon Water Utilities Council and they have asked if Herb Brown would do it. **Herb Brown** said he would, as long as the meetings do not conflict with RWPUD board meetings. **DM Barnes** said that the meetings are usually in the morning. **Herb Brown** said yes, he would like to attend.

Stephen McElroy moved to allow Herb to act as representative to the OWUC. Don McCarthy seconded the motion. The motion was approved; none opposed.

TRAVEL REQUEST FOR FALL AWWA SECURITY CONFERENCE

DM Barnes talked about the importance that Sandra Ramaker attend this conference and asked for Board permission to pay for her travel expenses.

Herb Brown moved to approve the request. Don McCarthy seconded the motion. The motion was approved; none opposed.

PORTLAND WHOLESALE CONTRACT

DM Barnes said that he has been negotiating with the City of Portland on the short-term contract for one year or until the long-term contract is completed. He said that this contract saves us around \$300,000 for water the next fiscal year, beginning in July. **Herb Brown** asked what our average daily usage is. **DM Barnes** replied that our average day is 7.8 million gallons; peak season we use about 10.5 million gallons. He added that the short-term contract will provide the opportunity to see what our wells can do and cut down on peaking charges.

Fran Hyson commented on blending the well water and Bull Run water and asked how we could do this if we can't sell water. **DM Barnes** replied that we have a minimum of 7.5 million gallons of water produced in our wells to sell. He went on to say that the water we buy from Portland, we are not allowed to sell to another district. Portland cannot stop us from selling our groundwater; we just need to show the City of Portland our well production records. **Ms. Hyson** asked why we have come up with the one-year contract. **DM Barnes** said that due to the fact that the mayor is new and didn't want to undertake any major changes, they didn't want to consider a long-term contract now. He added that within the next 6 months the City of Portland and RWPUD will settle on the long-term contract. We needed the short-term contract to carry us until the long-term contract.

Jeanne Orcutt said that she is not interested in selling our well water, and that we should keep it for our customers to help reduce our bills.

Herb Brown moved to approve the short-term Portland Wholesale Contract. Larry Dixon seconded the motion. The motion was approved; none opposed.

PROJECT UPDATE

DM Barnes mentioned that the Cascade Water Treatment Facility is completed; we are doing some final labeling and signage for the fire department. HDR Engineering is doing design work on our shop building; it will begin once the contract review is done. He said that the pipeline project from here to Bella Vista should be started soon and finished to Division street by next summer.

DM Barnes said that the old pump station is being renovated and will be bid on in the next week or two. Construction will begin in September. **Herb Brown** asked what the length of the line is to Bella Vista. **DM Barnes** replied about 20,000 feet. **Don McCarthy** asked if we will have it bid out. **DS Baker** replied that it will. He added that the first phase is scheduled to be about three or four months. **DS Baker** outlined upcoming pipe replacement projects.

Larry Dixon asked how we were doing on fixing leaks. **DS Baker** replied that all the leaks detected have been fixed except for one area of small leaks. **DM Barnes** said that the water saved is approximately 400,000,000 gallons per year (19%). **Herb Brown** asked if we detect leaks on private property. **DS Baker** said that we usually don't; we recommend a leak detection company.

Don McCarthy asked whether or not our guys have photo ID, specifically referring to the recent problem of the door-to-door scam he read about in the paper. He also asked if we have had any problems. **DS Baker** said that a few do. CRPC Shaw is working on getting ID cards and software set up. **DM Barnes** said water district reps rarely come to your door asking to see your water system; if anyone asks to do this you should call your water company. He noted a water filter scam that has been occurring in the metro area.

Sandra Ramaker mentioned she and DM Barnes discussed putting out flyers in the bills or posting a notice on our website alerting patrons about the scam. **DM Barnes** replied that the website notice will be simple; billing inserts have to be scheduled. It can also be included in the newsletter.

Jeanne Orcutt asked what percentage of the district was covered in the leak survey. **DS Baker** replied that almost the entire district - up to 150 miles of main.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

DM Barnes mentioned that Eugene Durshpek, the engineering tech, is leaving to work in Washington. He and DS Baker are thinking about either hiring an engineer or another engineer tech. He noted that he is glad to have a new Administrative Secretary. **DS Baker** commented on a 36" main break that occurred in Washington D.C.

Stephen McElroy said that due to the revenue we have produced this past year, as a government entity, we should give a \$30 refund to all of our patrons. He asked that this be included on next month's agenda. **DM Barnes** said that it is pricy, but indicated it will be on the agenda. **Herb Brown** said that it could be a good idea.

Sandra Ramaker thanked the Board for her opportunity to attend the PNWS Conference. Based on sessions she attended, she asked that the Board consider having a designated media spokesperson and have the accountant attend meetings to address financial questions directly. Additionally, she suggested that we always enter things with good intentions - be proactive not reactive. **Ramaker** also asked about the plaque that will have the names of the deceased Board members, and when we will have it made. **DM Barnes** said that we will call various members to get names and dates and begin on ordering the plaque; AS Walyer will be in charge of following up on this. Following discussion, it was agreed that only board members serving since the PUD formed would be included.

Sandra Ramaker stated that the next budget meeting will be Tuesday, May 31st at 7:00 p.m. She reminded everyone that the next regular Board meeting will be June 22nd.

ADJOURNMENT

Herb Brown moved to adjourn the meeting. Larry Dixon seconded the motion. The motion was approved; none opposed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Secretary