

**CORBETT WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

March 16, 2021

6:30 p.m.

Meeting Held Electronically through ZOOM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Sara Grigsby, Fred Sanchez, Dan Graff , Bob Gaughan and Jeff Hargens.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: none

STAFF PRESENT: District Manager Tom Edwards, Assistant District Clerk Lynda Ronell and District Clerk Gail Griffith

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Malcolm Freund, Chris Augustine of SCS Engineers, David Jacob of Hydra Engineering, Cloudy Sears, Brian Lee of PACE Engineering and Michael Arion.

President Jeff Hargens called the Zoom meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Fred Sanchez made a motion to accept March 16, 2021 Agenda. Sara Grigsby seconded, all were in favor, motion carried. (5 yes votes: S Grigsby,B.Gaughan, J.Hargens, F.Sanchez & D.Graff 0 no votes)

APPROVAL OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting February 16, 2021

Jeff Hargens made a motion to approve the February 16, 2021 Regular Board Meeting minutes as presented. Sara Grigsby seconded, all were in favor, motion carried. (5yes votes: S Grigsby,B.Gaughan, J.Hargens, D.Graff, F.Sanchez 0 no votes)

Special Board Meeting March 2, 2021

Jeff Hargens made a motion to approve the March 2, 2021 Special Board Meeting minutes as presented. Fred Sanchez seconded, all were in favor, motion carried. (5yes votes: S Grigsby,B.Gaughan, J.Hargens, D.Graff, F.Sanchez 0 no votes)

TREASURERS REPORT – February 2021

Treasurer Sara Grigsby went over the information in the Summary of Accounts and the Revenue and Expenses for February 2021 that was included in the Board Packets.

Dan Graff made a motion to approve the February 2021 Treasurers report as presented. Fred Sanchez seconded, all were in favor, motion carried. (5 yes votes: S Grigsby, J.Hargens,B.Gaughan, D.Graff, F.Sanchez 0 no votes)

WELL PROJECT UPDATE

A. Summary of progress on project- cost spread sheets-

Chris Augustine gave a summary of the progress on the well. There were difficulties and when the pump was installed to start well testing we found out the bore hole had collapsed to the level of the production zone. The water was being sealed off because of the collapse. Schneider Water Service has provided an alternative approach to install a liner and stabilize the bore hole which will allow the testing to proceed.

Tom Edwards reviewed the cost sheets provided in the Board packets. Original proposal was \$463,522. Optional items were \$84,000. Grand total of the project would have been \$547,522. As of March 3 the project is at \$548,326. That is without the optional tasks. In order for Schneider to finish the work and just cap the well and walk away that puts the project at \$596,376. The proposed change order of \$76,890 to complete the project with pump test included would bring total costs to \$741,566. This is \$194,044 over original proposed project costs.

B. Recommendation on how to proceed – District Manager Tom Edwards

Tom Edwards addressed the Board. He stated the discussions of how to deal with a secondary water source have been going on since the 1970's. It seems critical that we pursue another option for a secondary water source. Tom stated his recommendation is to proceed. He continued that he does not see that we have any other options for a backup water supply. Either we could gamble and hope that Gordon Creek can supply enough water or we just explore this option to the end and see if we can get water from this well.

C. Board Member individual statements on how to proceed

Jeff Hargens – Jeff stated he is not happy with contract and where we are at financially. He said he agreed with Tom and we need to move forward.

Bob Gaughan – If we pursue this what will our balance be in the bank. It would be ok if we have \$300,000 to \$400,000 left. Discussion of budgeted amount for the well.

Sara Grigsby - There is some possibility of grants to buy land and protect our watershed, but, those options are a long way out. We should pursue all of the help we can get to protect our watershed and all of that is parallel to the well.

Fred Sanchez – It would be a big waste of valuable resources not to proceed and hopefully we get the amount of water we need for the future. We need to proceed.

Dan Graff- The setbacks have been unfortunate. We need to see what is down there. We should move forward.

D. ACTION- Motion on next step – how to proceed

Jeff Hargens made a motion to approve the change order in the amount of \$76,000 to drill down to 1,400 feet with a six inch casing and extend the contract with Schneider Water Service 45 days. Dan Graff seconded, four were in favor, one against, motion carried. (*4 yes votes: S Grigsby, F.Sanchez, J.Hargens, D.Graff*) (*1 no vote: B.Gaughan*)

Fred Sanchez left at 7:25 p.m.

RATE PLAN STUDY PROPOSAL

Proposal from Pace Engineering to complete a rate study was included in Board packets. Tom Edwards addressed the Board. We are due for a master plan update by 2023. We have to include a rate study with the Master Plan however the plan is 1 ½ year out. We cannot afford to wait a year and a half for the rate study to be completed. If we do the study now we can use it now and include it in the Master Plan. Tom continued that we are pursuing grants to help with the costs. Last water rate increase in Corbett was in 2012.

Brian Lee of PACE Engineering addressed the Board. This study will look at your current operating cost and the current projects to date and your current income. That will get rolled into the Capital Improvement plans in the Master plan.

Sara Grigsby made a motion to approve the rate study proposal with PACE Engineering in the fixed fee amount of \$15,000.00. Dan Graff seconded, all were in favor, motion carried. (*4yes votes: S Grigsby, J.Hargens, B.Gaughan D.Graff 0 no votes*)

MANAGERS REPORT

The Board received the Managers Report in their Board packets. District Manager Tom Edwards went over the report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

David Jacob noted that the test well is teaching the District what it will take to drill a production well.

Cloudy Sears stated PH probes need to be calibrated and cleaned regularly. She continued that on Loudon Road the County Survey Crew was out where there had been a main break. She asked if the BLM was asked if they would be willing to do a land swap rather than a sale of land. District Clerk replied that the BLM will not swap the land since it is O&C land.

Malcolm Freund asked why extra dollars are added for what was agreed to with the original well drilling costs. It seems like there was a contract and it wasn't fulfilled.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Jeff Hargens made a motion the adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. Dan Graff seconded, all were in favor, motion carried. (*4yes votes: S Grigsby, J.Hargens, B.Gaughan D.Graff 0 no votes*)