

MINUTES

CORBETT WATER DISTRICT  
REGULAR MONTHLY WATER BOARD MEETING

MARCH 11, 1997

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Joe Riehl. Board members present were Henry Schwartz, Jeff Grover, Bob Colclessor and Jim Mastne. Also present were Chris Spanjer and Jenny Redfern plus budget committee members Sue Fry, Mike Grover, Delbert Riehl, and Jim Leckron, and staff personnel, Randy Stark, Mary Caldwell, Torey Redfern, Jan Leckron, Supt. Vance Hubbard and Dist. Clerk Carol Quinn.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved as printed.

Chris Spanjer asked the Board if they would consider further adjusting her water bill. She had a large bill run up by her neighbor who left without compensating her for it and then last fall had a large leak develop in her line. The original bills from the neighbor amounted to about \$700.00 and then the leaks resulted in another \$600.00 so they have been overwhelmed in water bills. They have a very long line and it was difficult to locate the leak due to the wet weather. Mr. Grover moved that the District cut the remaining balance in half after the late charges have been reversed. Mr. Colclessor seconded. Passed unanimously. Mrs. Spanjer thanked the Board.

At 8:00 p.m. The Budget Committee was called to order. The first order of business was to elect a chairman. Mr. Colclessor notified the committee that he had asked Chuck Herndon to serve on the committee and he had agreed to do so. However, Mr. Herndon called him this afternoon to say that he was sorry but he would not be able to serve. This didn't leave enough time to ask someone else to accept the position. Nominations were opened for Chairman. Mr. Mastne nominated Sue Fry. Ms. Fry declined the nomination. Joe Riehl nominated Delbert Riehl. Delbert Riehl declined the nomination. Sue Fry nominated Mike Grover. Joe Riehl seconded. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Grover opened the meeting for discussion of the Budget as proposed by the Budget Officer, Vance Hubbard. Mr. Hubbard explained that he had summerized the proposal in the budget message and had nothing further to add except to answer questions that the committee might have concerning these proposed expenditures and resources. Mike Grover asked how Measure 47 was going to effect the 1997-1998 budget. It was explained that last year our tax levy was \$97,342. The District is allowed to increase this amount by 6 per cent. However, measure 47 limits the amount that we can collect. Therefore, we are allowed to collect the lesser of either the 1994-95 levy or the 1995-96 levy less 10 per cent. In our case the lesser is the 1995-96 levy of \$91,833 less 10 per cent or \$82,650. There may be changes in Measure 47 put up for a vote and interpretation of Measure 47 has not been completed, but based on current information this amount of money should be available regardless of changes that may occur. Mr. Colclessor asked about raising rates to offset the loss from Measure 47. It was explained that since the District had raised rates last year, no rate increase was planned for this year. Mr. Colclessor told the committee that it was his understanding that the District could raise the rates to offset the loss until Measure 47 goes into effect and then the rates could only be raised a portion of what the costs are along with a lot of other factors which included that rates could only be raised with a vote. He suggested that before the budget is done, the District should

talk with the TSCC to consider other options like getting rid of the tax base, proposing a special levy for capital projects, and voting for a rate increase. He also mentioned how much money people pay on their taxes for interest on the school bonds. There was some discussion of the time schedule for approval and adoption of the budget as well as questions and answers on various line items. Delbert Riehl moved that the Budget Committee table the budget meeting until April 8. Mr. Mastne seconded. Mr. Riehl felt that it was necessary to get accurate information from the TSCC regarding the District's ability to raise rates in light of Mr. Colclessner's comments.

Mr. Colclessner wanted to discuss salary proposals. The Chairman reminded the committee that discussion now is in regards to the motion on the floor. Mr. Mastne remarked that the District would not lose anything if we waited until next month to approve the proposed budget. Mike Grover commented that if we aren't losing anything or gaining anything what is the point of postponing a decision. Rates could still be raised if necessary, but the revenue could not be spent if it was not budgeted. It would become cash carryover for next year. Mr. Leckron mentioned that he would be opposed to raising rates to cover the revenue loss from Measure 47. Mr. Colclessner said it was written into 47 to raise rates according to his understanding of what Mr. Wilton from the TSCC said. Delbert Riehl informed the District that he was not saying rates should be raised, but that if the only time rates can be raised to cover the lost revenue is in the next year as Mr. Colclessner said, it would be best to check. He said he did not have a problem with the budget as proposed. All those in favor of the motion to table the budget committee meeting discussion to next month were Delbert Riehl, Jim Mastne, Henry Schwartz, Bob Colclessner, and Joe Riehl. Those opposed to the motion were Jeff Grover, Jim Leckron, Sue Fry and Mike Grover. The motion passed. The Budget Committee meeting was tabled at 9:15 p.m.

Mr. Hubbard presented his monthly report covering leak repairs, projects completed and overtime.

Mr. Colclessner moved that the bills be paid. Mr. Schwartz seconded. Passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.