

**CORBETT WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD
Written Summary
March 20, 2012**

Board members present: Jeff Hargens, Robert Gaughan, Sonny Boyd, Robert Churnside, Kevin Wilhelm.

Staff present: James Jans, Shanti Kraai.

Audience members present: Dave Mysinger, Robert Colclessor, David Jacob, Craig Higbee, Gail Griffith, Michael Griffith, Michael Taylor, Debbie Taylor, Jean Driver, John Ekberg, Doug Boleyn.

Chairman **Jeff Hargens** called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Sonny Boyd made a motion to approve the agenda as written, **Robert Gaughan** seconded, passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Sonny Boyd made a motion to approve the minutes of February 21, 2012 as written, **Robert Churnside** seconded, passed unanimously.

LEAK ADJUSTMENTS

1660-00: This customer installed a pex pipe water line on top of their yard as a temporary repair. They plan to dig a trench and install a new underground water line this summer. The customer has installed a pressure reducing valve at the meter. **Sonny Boyd** made a motion to adjust the January/February 2012 billing cycle to the six month average prior to the leak, 13 units, **Robert Gaughan** seconded, passed unanimously.

4710-00: This customer installed a new water line immediately after discovering the leak. This case was viewed as a hardship due to the large amount of water used during the time the leak was present. **Sonny Boyd** made a motion to adjust the November/December 2011 and January/February 2012 billing cycles each to the six month average prior to the leak, 32 units, **Robert Gaughan** seconded, passed unanimously.

5130-00: This customer had a slow leak that occurred over multiple years. They were not aware of the leak until they discussed their water bill with a neighbor, at which time they realized that their water bill was much higher than it should be for someone living alone. The District staff went to the customers home and discovered the meter slowly moving. The customer immediately called a plumber and had a new water line installed. **Jeff Hargens** would like this case to be reviewed after 2 billing cycles have passed so the board can review the average units used after the repair of the leak.

6770-00: This customer had a leak occur on their water line while on vacation. The office attempted to contact the customer numerous times with no avail. Since no contact could be made, the staff turned off the water to their home until they returned from vacation. This case

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LEAK ADJUSTMENTS – 6670-00 (Cont.)

was viewed as a hardship due to the large amount of water used during the time the leak was present. **Sonny Boyd** made a motion to adjust the November/December 2011 and January/February 2012 billing cycles each to the six month average prior to the leak, 20 units, **Kevin Wilhelm** seconded, passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE 2012.02.01: LEAK ADJUSTMENT POLICY ADDITION

Jeff Hargens read aloud the title of ordinance 2012.02.01, as well as the ordinance number. Copies of the ordinance were distributed to all audience members that requested them. This ordinance will modify the existing leak adjustment policy. This will be the second and final reading of the ordinance, and it shall take effect on April 19, 2012. The ordinance will be filed with the Multnomah County records division. The ordinance was signed by all members of the board.

ENERGY TRUST OF OREGON: SOLAR DISCUSSION PROS & CONS

Doug Boleyn from the Energy Trust of Oregon stated that the installation of solar panels is rapidly growing. He said that he bought his first set of solar panels to install on his home 30 years ago and they are still operational. He states that the new panels being made are of much better quality than the ones he first purchased and the average life span of a panel is between 30-50 years. **Robert Gaughan** questioned what the efficiency of solar panels are on cloudy days. **Doug Boleyn** said it depends on the amount of solar radiation, which is produced whenever it is light outside. He said that there were only two days last year that the solar panels installed at his home had no solar reading. **Kevin Wilhelm** questioned if the solar panels would work if covered with snow. **Doug Boleyn** replied that when his solar panels were covered in snow they still produced some output, however it was minimal. **James Jans** inquired about how the feed in tariff program works. **Doug Boleyn** states that PGE administers the feed in tariff program. He states that the pilot program was required by the State Legislature in 2009, and was required to last for 5 years. The application dates each year are on April 1st and October 1st. **Jeff Hargens** questioned the Energy Trust of Oregon incentives the District would receive since government agencies do not pay taxes. **Doug Boleyn** states that the District would have to find an investor. The investor would charge us for electricity, however it would be less than the PGE rates. The investor would get the tax write off and the Energy Trust of Oregon incentives for the first 15 years. He then said that the feed in tariff program would be a very good option for the District to choose. He said that if the feed in tariff program receives too many applications, they will stop accepting them after 24 hours and begin using a lottery system. If they do not receive their limit of applications, they will keep accepting them until they meet their limit and will not use the lottery system, they will simply accept them on a first come first serve basis. **James Jans** questioned how big a 6.6kw solar panel would be. **Doug Boleyn** said that a solar panel is normally 100 square feet per kw, so a 6.6kw panel should be under 700 square feet. **James Jans** informed him that the District currently has solar panels installed at two of our Reservoirs for telemetry. **Doug Boleyn** said that in Portland, solar panels are usually at a 30% slope for maximum output. He said that if the District wants to proceed with the application for the feed in tariff program, they would have to work with a solar contractor that has experience with the

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ENERGY TRUST OF OREGON: SOLAR DISCUSSION PROS & CONS – (Cont.)

programs application process. **Robert Churnside** questioned the stability of the solar panels during wind storms. **James Jans** said that the solar panels are very durable and have complicated bolts to securing them. He states that they have been successfully installed in other windy cities. He said that the Scenic Gorge Commission will allow solar panels to be installed as long as they have brown anodized trim.

UPDATED POLICY MANUAL: CONSUMPTION OF CHARGES

In the policy manual, under section 7 payments for services, consumption of charges subsection, it currently only lists charges based on gallons. The modifications to this section will include charges based on cubic feet as well as gallons. **Sonny Boyd** made a motion to include the new wording into the policy manual, **Robert Gaughan** seconded, passed unanimously. Copies of the changes to the policy manual were distributed to all audience members that requested them.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Secretary/Treasurer Financial Reports: **Sonny Boyd** made a motion to approve the financial reports as presented, **Kevin Wilhelm** seconded, passed unanimously.

Managers Report: District Manager **James Jans** states that they have rebuilt and overhauled the Cla-val at the treatment plant, Reservoir 2 and the Larch/Loudon pressure reducing station. The hydro building has been installed, as well as the inverters, plumbing and electrical. The turbine will be sent to us by plane, and should arrive in about 5 days. Everything is ready for the turbine to be hooked up when it arrives, at which time it can be inspected and we can obtain all the necessary permits. The contractors will begin work on North Fork the first week in April. To date, the credit card terminal has generated over \$21,000 in income. **James Jans** states that the late customers have been drastically reduced since the District began using the credit card machine.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

No comments were made.

UNFINISHED ITEMS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION

Jeff Hargens would like account 5130-00 to be included on the agenda for the meeting to be held on July 17, 2012. He would like this customer to be contacted prior to the meeting to allow them the option of attending if they wish to.

Robert Churnside made a motion to adjourn the meeting, **Sonny Boyd** seconded, passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.