

REGULAR MONTHLY WATER BOARD MEETING

Chairman Jeff Grover called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Board members present were James Mastne, Sandra Redfern and Henry Schwartz along with Board member elect, Ed Kalberg. Also present were staff members Torey Redfern, Superintendent Randy Stark and District Clerk Carol Quinn. There were two visitors.

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

The Board was advised of the election results from the March 9, 1999, election for positions 1, 3, and 5 on the Corbett Water Board for terms of four years beginning July 1, 1999. Mr. Kalberg was elected by write-in vote for Position No. 1 with 28 total votes out of a total of 128 write-ins. The next person had 13 with the remaining number mostly 1 and 2 votes each. Henry Schwartz was elected to Position No. 3 with 425 votes and Jeff Grover was elected to Position No. 5 with 397 votes. Mr. Kalberg will be sworn in at a later date. Both he and Ms. Redfern will receive copies of the minutes for the last year, District Rules and Regulations, Board Member Handbooks, and Employee Handbooks.

Mr. Stark presented information concerning a proposed line extension on the Historic Columbia River Highway just east of Nielson Road. The house is for sale and has been using a spring. However, for loan purposes it must have a well or city water. The potential buyer would like to have Corbett Water. It would require a line extension of 920 feet to the driveway. District Rules require that the line be extended across the face of the property. However, in this case there is no need. Therefore, Mr. Stark requested the Board grant a variance allowing the owner to install the water line to the driveway at 31005 E HCRH instead of across the face of the property. There would be benefit to the District to having this line installed. It would allow the District to move a meter that is now located on private property to the road right-of-way in a safer location rather than relocating the meter on Nielson Road which is the current line serving the home. MSA prepared a bid estimate for the job at \$26,518. However, if the District did the work an informal bid might range from \$18,623 including digging at \$5.00 a foot to \$15,923 with digging at \$2.00 a foot. The buyer may however choose to install a well. Mr. Stark suggest that the district share in the cost of this line extension if it does in fact happen at a rate of 25% not to exceed a dollar amount of \$4,500 so the meter serving 30701 E HCRH can be moved. After discussion Mr. Mastne moved the Board grant a variance on the proposed line extension to allow the line to be extended as far as the driveway rather than across the face of the parcel. Ms.

Redfern seconded. Passed unanimously. Mr. Schwartz moved the District pay 1/4 of the cost to a maximum of \$4,500 towards the extension. Ms. Redfern seconded. The motion passed with Mr. Schwartz and Ms. Redfern voting in favor and Mr. Mastne voting in disfavor. Jeff Grover, as Chairman, did not vote.

At 8:10 p.m. the Budget Committee Meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Grover. Budget Committee members present were Susan Fry, Jim Leckron, Delbert Riehl along with Board members Jeff Grover, James Mastne, Sandra Redfern and Henry Schwartz. There were three visitors present and three staff members present including Superintendent and Budget Officer Randy Stark. Budget Committee member Keith Evans left a message that he had planned to attend the meeting but was called out of town on an emergency. In the message he indicated that he had studied the proposal and although would not be in attendance, he was in favor of the budget as presented.

The meeting began with Supt. Stark offering a summary of how and why the budget proposal was presented as it was. He indicated the revenues and the expenditures are our best estimates of income and costs. He explained the District staff and Board have worked together to establish policies and procedures to be more effective. Regarding the wage proposal, the Board adopted a wage policy with step and grade scale in February. This scale was based on a survey of some surrounding utility districts and reflected the results of the survey. While the proposed salaries may show a sizable percentage raise, they reflect the adjustment in pay scale resulting from the survey of pay for equitable jobs in the water industry in this area. He mentioned the District Clerk probably should have been placed at the top of the scale since she has been on that job for 17 years, but he placed her at step four while the other employees have been placed in the step two range.

Audience comments were taken. There was some discussion of what other possibilities had been considered regarding purchasing a service vehicle from a UPS type van to a regular van. Superintendent Stark explained that the vehicle proposed was what the District felt would best suit its needs. The reason he is proposing the little pickup is because it is more practical and cost effective for reading meters and running errands. The wear and tear from reading meters is considerable and using the service vehicle for this type of work would not be a wise use of district resources. There was some discussion also regarding the construction of the new reservoir and the 20-year plan the district has in place.

Superintendent Stark advised the committee the engineering has begun on the reservoir project. Although the Board previously voted to move ahead on the tank, it is premature at this time. The district does not have enough funds nor have staff and the engineering firm concluded the best size or type of tank to meet the water needs of the district. However, \$50,000 has been transferred to this fund for the reservoir construction. Money for engineering and site preparation for this construction also has been budgeted. Although the building of the reservoir has not happened as quickly as some may have wanted, the south fork water line replacement was completed which was a major expenditure from this CIP Fund. Unless the District chooses to borrow funds, it will take time. Policy has been to save the money ahead for these types of projects.

Part of the 20-year plan includes line replacement. The current-year budget reflects a major replacement on a part of Hurlburt Road. The budget proposal reflects an extension on this Hurlburt Road replacement. This should be more cost effective in saving bid advertisement, permit and engineering fees.

Chairman Grover asked the Board members if they were comfortable with the proposal since they are more aware of the functions of the District. Mr. Schwartz explained he believes the District has accomplished quite a bit in less than ten years including the treatment plant and the south fork line considering its physical size, number of customers, and available funds. These major capital projects were accomplished without going into debt.

Mr. Leckron moved the 1999-2000 budget proposal be approved as presented using the permanent tax rate to calculate the taxes necessary to balance. Ms. Redfern seconded. Mr. Mastne moved to transfer \$10,000 from the vehicle purchase to the CIP reservoir fund. Mr. Grover advised Mr. Mastne there was a motion on the floor. Mr. Leckron and Mr. Riehl both commented the service truck should be a good investment and that an additional \$10,000 for the reservoir fund would not facilitate the reservoir getting built at this time. The motion to pass the budget was approved by a vote of six in favor including Jeff Grover, Jim Leckron, Sandra Redfern, Delbert Riehl, Henry Schwartz and Mike Grover, and two opposed by Sue Fry and Jim Mastne.

The Budget Committee Meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m. The approved Budget will be sent to Multnomah County Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission for review and certification.

Following the Budget Committee Meeting, the regular monthly Board meeting resumed. Mr. Stark explained that after waiting two years for plan review approval and building permit approval from the various agencies involved, he had invited three contractors to bid on the storage shed extension project. Two bids were received. Dave Moir bid \$9,200 and John Lammert bid \$8,855. Mr. Schwartz moved that the Board accept the low bid of \$8,855. Mr. Mastne seconded. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Stark told the board he had received bid documents to review from Murray Smith Assoc. for the Hurlburt Road line replacement. Bids for the project will be opened at the May Board Meeting. Cascade Utilities and PGE may be interested in participating with us. We hope to use our sand from cleaning the ponds as bedding at an approximate cost of \$60.00 for hauling a 10-yard load.

There was a customer complaint concerning water quality. After investigation, the problem was traced to a kitchen faucet with a flexible tube that allowed water to sit for long periods of time causing a foul odor and iron bacteria to form. The customer was advised to flush the faucet to correct the problem.

As printed in the work report, Mr. Stark informed the Board there were several leaks repaired and meters replaced. When a meter is replaced, the new meters installed are equipped with a double check valve. To date there are estimated fifty double check valves installed. Planking on the District's trailer was replaced and the tongue jack was fixed. The new main on Ogden/Mershon/Springhill Roads is now in service and the meters are switched over. The old main on Woodard Road that heads west is hooked on to new Ogden/Woodard main as well as the Springhill main east of Woodard. The old 1 1/2 inch line on Springhill will be abandoned in the very near future.

Mr. Stark advised the Board that the line extension and cross-country line that runs from Evans Road to Mac Innes Road is delayed until the proper legal easements are obtained and recorded.

The Oregon Health Division performed their sanitary survey. They found the District to be in good operating condition. They did make some recommendations that the District will apply.

The SDAO is looking for a qualified person to serve on its SDIS Board of Trustees.

Mr. Stark notified the Board the Gresham Outlook called and requested the names and phone numbers of the Board members so they could do a follow-up story on the Budget meeting. Ms. Redfern commented she did not want her phone number given out. It was decided if newspapers or other media contacted the Water District, Board member names but not phone numbers could be given out. If there is a story, the media can come to the regular monthly Board meetings.

Mr. Mastne moved the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Redfern seconded. Passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 p.m.