

**CORBETT WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR WATER BOARD MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Bob Colclessner. Board members present were Jeff Grover, Joe Riehl and Henry Schwartz. Also present were Alan Smart of the USFS, Nicole Caldwell, Sandra Redfern, Steve Getty, Jim Leckron and all staff members, Jan Leckron, Torey Redfern, Randy Stark, Supt. Marc Caldwell and Dist. Clerk Carol Quinn. Chuck Herndon and Sue Fry arrived later for the Budget Committee Meeting.

The minutes of the last regular monthly meeting held March 10, were read and approved as printed.

Alan Smart informed the Board that there is some reorganizing happening within the Forest Service group. There are no timber sales within the Zig Zag District for the next five years. This district includes the Gordon Creek area. The BLM is not yet ready to begin the watershed analysis. The Forest Service has funds to begin the restoration on the Borrow Pit area. They are proposing to cover the area - replant and re-vegetate and put down some limestone. They hope to begin this project towards the end of summer. BPA wants to put one of their locks on the Camp A Loop gate and District personnel would get a key. The Bull Run Watershed is off limits. The Road closure to Bridal Veil has helped to curtail vandalism and damage in some ways but has caused some additional problems with the Gordon Creek area to where some of the activity has moved.

The Board signed the Resolutions for establishing a Corbett Water District Hiring Policy and for establishing Procedures and Criteria to be followed for filling the open Superintendent position as approved at the Special Board Meeting held March 24, 1998.

Mr. Grover moved and Mr. Riehl seconded that the Board approve the Resolution prepared by the TSCC to Amend the 1997-98 Budget. Passed unanimously.

It was reported to the Board that no additional applications had been received for the Superintendent position after extending the period to April 3. Mr. Grover moved that the Board hold a Special Board Meeting Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing the job applications for the Superintendent position on Tuesday, April 21, at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Riehl seconded. Passed.

Mr. Redfern informed the Board that he did not appreciate the personal comment of Mr. Mastne at the Special Board Meeting indicating that he would be fired. He said that not knowing whether his position would be funded or not has been stressful enough without snide comments. He stated that if the Board wants better communication, understanding and cooperation between staff and themselves, this type of behavior does not encourage that trust.

Under audience comments, Mr. Leckron stated that he felt that a personal apology by Mr. Mastne to Torey Redfern was warranted.

Mr. Grover questioned whether there was funding in the budget for Mr. Redfern's position in the 1998-99 Budget.

Mr. Schwartz mentioned that the process must begin if the Board intends to raise the rates for the new budget year. Customers of the district must be notified of the need for such a raise and a public hearing must be held. There was some discussion of how much the rates should be increased to accommodate the 20-year plan for the District. It was mentioned that a wage study should be done every other year or every third year at the most to keep current. It was also mentioned that the District's 20-year plan is about a 16-year plan.

The Budget Committee meeting was called to order at 8:20 p.m. by Chairman Jeff Grover.

There was a motion on the floor to approve the Budget proposal with the changes that had been made at the last meeting. Discussion on this motion was held. Budget Officer Randy Stark commented that as it now stands there are some issues in the proposal that are unrealistic. He advised that to transfer funds from contingency to cover an additional person would take the nearly the whole amount and leave nothing for any other emergency situation. Mr. Colclesser questioned the amount proposed for fire hydrants that it probably didn't need to be that much. Carol Quinn advised that TSCC had called to correct the permanent tax rate figure they had originally given us from .5768 to .5790 which amounts to an additional \$307.00 in tax revenue. A vote on the motion was taken. The motion failed unanimously.

Mr. Riehl advised the committee that he felt it was necessary to at least fund for an additional position whether it was used or not. If it isn't filled, the money would be carried over to next year. The rest of the Budget Committee agreed. Discussion was held on how to finance Torey Redfern's job with a 7% increase, which is what other staff were given. This would require the amount of \$28,075. At this time there is \$5,483 available for that position. To increase this amount to the necessary figure, adjustments were made in the funds that were allotted in the last Budget Committee meeting. In Personal Services the overtime & temporary help was lowered from \$12,580 to \$8,500. In Materials and Services, education was adjusted from \$7,423 to \$2,500. In Capital Outlay, the fire hydrant fund was lowered from \$2,783 to \$1,500. The Contingency was lowered \$7,113 to \$30,000 and the transfer to the Capital Improvement Fund was lowered by \$5,000. This brought the total to \$27,882. The \$309.00 additional tax revenue was divided between the Utility Worker I and Health Insurance with \$193.00 added to the \$27,882 to make \$28,075 and the remaining \$114.00 to Health which was raised to \$17,114 from \$17,000. It was decided that funds for the benefits and taxes that might be necessary if four full-time employees are hired would come out of the contingency fund. The \$309.00 additional tax revenue raised the total revenue in the General Fund to \$531,275 and is reflected in a total expenditure of \$531,275 also.

Since the Capital Improvement Fund transfer was lowered by \$5,000, this leaves \$5,000 less to be spent in that fund. Therefore, the Site Preparation and Reservoir expenditure was lowered by this amount to \$217,000. In this CIP Fund the total resources and total expenditure was lowered from \$272,815 to \$267,815 to reflect the lower transfer from the General Fund.

There are still many unknowns regarding the Superintendent position and how much to raise the water rates. The proposed budget includes an increase in rates but before they can go into effect, a process needs to be followed with public information and a public hearing involved. Mr. Riehl moved the Budget be approved by the Budget Committee with the revisions made and using the permanent tax rate of .5790 as basis for the tax revenue. Sue Fry seconded. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Riehl moved that the Budget Committee meeting be adjourned. Mr. Leckron seconded. Passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:55.

The regular Water Board Meeting was reconvened. A letter was read from Mr. and Mrs. Don Horn advising the Board they had a broken pipe from a truck driving over their line. Since it was not their fault, they feel they should not pay the bill. The bill was adjusted to 1/2 use for a leak adjustment as allowed by the Rules and Regulations. The truck driver is supposed to pay the additional bill, but if he doesn't, they don't intend to pay it either. At this time this is just informational and no problem is anticipated.

Mr. Caldwell submitted his monthly work report for the Board's review.

Mr. Riehl moved that the bills be paid. Mr. Grover seconded. Passed unanimously.

It was decided to discuss the rate increase at the May meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.