

**CORBETT WATER DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD  
April 21, 2009**

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**Board members present:** Jeff Hargens, Victor Schmidt, Robert Gaughan,  
Sonny Boyd (arrived at 7:42 p.m.).

**Staff present:** James Jans.

**Audience members present:** Malcolm Freund, Jim Redden, Carolyn Elliott.

Chairman **Jeff Hargens** called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**March 17, 2009:** **Victor Schmidt** made a motion to approve the minutes as written, **Robert Gaughan** seconded, passed unanimously.

**March 24, 2009 Budget:** **Jeff Hargens** made a motion to approve the minutes as written, **Robert Gaughan** seconded, passed unanimously.

**March 24, 2009 Special:** **Jeff Hargens** made a motion to approve the minutes as written, **Robert Gaughan** seconded, passed unanimously.

**LEAK ADJUSTMENTS**

**1-4095-00:** Due to the amount of the water bill caused by the leak, the board viewed this case as a hardship. It was noted that the leak was fixed promptly. **Jeff Hargens** made a motion to adjust the units of the January/February bill to equal the average three billing cycles prior to the leak, **Robert Gaughan** seconded, passed unanimously.

**2-7400-00:** This customer requested an adjustment to his water bill due to a leak. Since this customer has had numerous leaks, the average water usage is high, therefore the adjustment issued to his account would be very low. At the previous meeting held on March 17, 2009, the board passed a motion to issue the standard leak adjustment to his account, however, since this is the second adjustment given, no further adjustment shall be made. **Jeff Hargens** made a motion to not make any further adjustments to this account, **Victor Schmidt** seconded, passed unanimously.

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**LEAK ADJUSTMENTS – (Cont.)**

**4-1900-00:** This customer has repaired numerous leaks to their water line. The house has had consistent leaks for the previous year, therefore the standard leak adjustment does not assist much with reducing the bill. **Jeff Hargens** made a motion to reduce the last three billing cycles to 33 units, the lowest units used in the previous year, however, this will be the last adjustment made to the account, **Robert Gaughan** seconded, passed unanimously. The board advised the customer to replace the water pipes to avoid future leaks.

**4-7010-00:** This customer's pipe froze and broke during cold weather. Due to the high amount of water usage, this case is viewed as a hardship. **Jeff Hargens** made a motion to adjust the water usage to the six month average prior to the leak, 2 units, **Robert Gaughan** seconded, passed unanimously.

**4-2250-00:** This customer is asking for an adjustment to their bill because they feel they will never be able to catch up since they are living on a fixed income due to a disability. They would like a reduction to the bill so they may stay current. **Jeff Hargens** made a motion to reduce the January/February bill to the average six month water usage for a one time adjustment, 4 units, **Victor Schmidt** seconded, passed unanimously.

**BLM MEMORANDUM: NORTH FORK THINNING**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has contacted the manager, James Jans, to inform us that they will be thinning the trees at North Fork. They state that if we mark where our pipe is located, they will contact us if they hit our water line in order to fix it. **Jeff Hargens** states that if we notice any changes to our water quality during this process, we will need to notify them in writing to inform them of any effect they are causing. BLM is expanding Gordon Creek from 60 feet to 100 feet on each side of the stream. **Victor Schmidt** made a motion to authorize James Jans and Jeff Hargens to sign the memorandum of understanding between Corbett Water District and Bureau of Land Management concerning the thinning project of North Fork and Gordon Creek, **Robert Gaughan** seconded, passed unanimously. **Brian Lee** states that we should advise BLM to limit the driving around the water shed since they caused minor damages the last time they were working around it.

**PACE ENGINEERING: USDA FUNDING**

**Brian Lee** states that back on March 24, 2009, the board voted to have Pace Engineers prepare chapter 5 of the USDA funding packet. They were reviewed going in order, starting from the intake structures, making repairs to North Fork intake structure and the screens. The first intake option would be an inverted rear screen, which is a design that is a placing instead of a small mesh screen in the stream flow at a certain angle, which will be self flushing as well as letting the fish pass. The second option would be a traveling belt stream, which would be more expensive in part because it would require some sort of electricity system. The South Fork alternatives would be removing a dam and placing an in stream inverted rear structure like North

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**PACE ENGINEERING: USDA FUNDING – (Cont.)**

Fork. Another option for South Fork would be a pre-fabricated fish ladder, which is a metal or wood structure built with pools and rifts so the fish can work their way up the dam. Another option is a side channel step pool, which we could use a natural channel that is already there and put in a by-pass piping for the dam which we would modify so that the fish could use that route around the dam in the summer time, which would require a yearly diversion of the stream but is also the cheapest cost because we could use a lot of the infrastructure that is already there and modify it ahead and below. The next project they looked at was the raw water and pipe line improvements. They reviewed two different installation methods, the open cut traditional way for installing a water line and pipe bursting. Pipe bursting may alleviate some concerns with endangered species and Native American artifacts. With pipe bursting, there would only be two trenches open and would only lay 500 feet at a time. They also reviewed two different types of pipe, PVC and ductile iron. **Brian Lee** states that the cost comparisons are in the packet which was distributed to the members of the board. **Jeff Hargens** would like a core sample taken in three different locations on the transmission water line to see what condition it is in and what the life span is. Upon reviewing these results, we can determine if it is necessary to replace it. Pace Engineers reviewed the options of filter basins at the water treatment plant. One option is two new concrete filter basins, one of which would have an internal wall, therefore two would be the same size as the current ones, however one would be split in half. Another option would be to install just one filter basin with an internal wall and the other option would be to install one new filter basin without the wall. The cost estimate is included in the packet distributed to the members of the board. The total cost for the projects range from 1.7 – 2.7 million dollars. Brian Lee and James Jans meet with Sam Goldstein from USDA a week prior to the board meeting, at which time they were told that if the district took out a \$3 million loan, it would be about a \$15 - \$17 per month increase per customer. **Brian Lee** states that if we took out a \$2.5 million loan, it would be about a \$10 per month increase per customer, which is just above the cost for the PERS surcharge that will be ending this year.

**CERTIFIED OPERATOR POSITION**

**James Jans** states that he hired two operators, one of which never showed up due to accepting a position with another company. The other operator worked a day and a half before he decided that he cannot perform the job functions. He also hired a temporary summer operator, Nick, who has been working great. We received about 40 job applications, 30 of which had no experience. There is one applicant (applicant 1) who is certified, has an AA degree in water environmental technology, and has three months experience. After six months total experience, they can take the Oregon certification test. Another applicant (applicant 2) has the same schooling but will not have the backflow test until June, as well as the water treatment test. Applicant 2 has more experience in water treatment as opposed to applicant 1 which has backhoe and computer experience. We are also currently pursuing an internship grant from Special Districts Association of Oregon.

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**MONTHLY REPORTS**

**Secretary/Treasurer Financial Reports:** Copies of the check, money market, CDARS, LGIP and PERS summaries were distributed to the members of the board. **Sonny Boyd** made a motion to accept the financial reports as presented, **Robert Gaughan** seconded, passed unanimously.

**Managers Report:** See attached.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

No public comments made.

**UNFINISHED ITEMS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION**

No comments made.

**Robert Gaughan** made a motion to adjourn the meeting, **Sonny Boyd** seconded, passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.