

MINUTES

AUGUST 23, 2000

**CORBETT WATER DISTRICT
MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING ON BOND PROPOSAL**

The Public Hearing was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Carol Sanders from TSCC. Corbett Water District Board members Jeff Grover, Henry Schwartz and Ed Kalberg were present. Superintendent Randy Stark and District Clerk Kathie Cicerich were also present.

Introductions were made. Carol Sanders, Linda Burtlehaus and Kay Johnston were present from TSCC.

Mr. Stark gave a presentation on needed system improvements and the costs involved. Approximately 12 million dollars worth of improvements need to be done in the District. A new reservoir is the top priority. The District has been talking about a new reservoir since 1991. A new reservoir would be an important part of the Districts entire system, including the water treatment process and providing storage during emergency situations. The inside of the reservoir would be baffled so water contact time would be increased with chlorine. A general survey was sent out to all Corbett Water customers. The results showed a majority of customers supported improvements. Some customers indicated they wanted to pay for improvements from water rates and others from taxes.

Carol Sanders asked Mr. Stark if there was any thought on splitting the cost of the bond between rates and taxes. Mr. Stark indicated the District is going with taxes in regards to a new reservoir. The District is increasing rates for other system improvements, for example pipeline replacement projects. On July 1st 2000, rates were increased 25%. The District had proposed increasing rates 25% each year over a four year period. The Board decided to look at rate increases on a yearly basis. Ms. Sanders asked Mr. Stark what the average water bill for a Corbett Water customer is? Mr. Stark estimated \$25.00 to \$35.00 per month. Mr. Stark was also asked how the District rate structure compares to neighboring Water Districts. Mr. Stark replied that the District is probably on the high side at this time and will definitely be on the high side if rate increases are passed by the Board over the next few years. Ms. Sanders asked if the District had looked at any Federal Agencies in regards for a loan to complete some of the system improvements. Mr. Stark indicated the District had not. Ms. Sanders suggested

the District consider looking at some Federal Agencies that offer subsidized loan rates. Ms. Sanders indicated some State programs provide subsidized loan rates.

Linda Burtlehaus asked about the condition of the Districts pipes and water delivery system. Mr. Stark replied that some of the water delivery systems are in need of work and others are in good shape. Mr. Stark also mentioned that water isn't getting out to some of the far reaching areas and these types of projects would be very expensive. The pipes that need replacing are thirty and forty years old. Mr. Stark stated the District has approximately ten million dollars worth of work that needs to be done.

Kay Johnston asked about public support on the Bond measure and does the District think it will pass. Mr. Stark commented he thought the Bond measure will pass. Ms. Johnston also asked if we have had any open or public meetings about the proposed Bond measure. Mr. Stark replied that there hasn't been any special meeting specifically held regarding the building of the new reservoir, but added there have been articles in the newspaper. Mr. Stark stated there hasn't been much public interest.

Mr. Kalberg made comment on costs for capitol improvements needed in the Corbett Water District. He mentioned the District has saved approximately Three Hundred Thousand Dollars in the reserve fund to be used for capitol improvements.

Mr. Grover commented on a questionnaire that was sent to Corbett Water customers last spring and 13% were returned. The majority that did respond indicated a new reservoir was needed and were in favor of a bond measure to achieve that goal.

Mr. Schwartz commented on fire protection in the community of Corbett.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.