

**CORBETT WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD
Written Summary
September 17, 2013**

Board members present: Robert Gaughan, Sonny Boyd, Robert Churnside, Kevin Wilhelm, Jeff Hargens (arrived at 6:31 p.m.)

Staff present: James Jans, Shanti Burns

Audience members present: Robert Colclessor, Gordon Fulks, David Jacob, Brian Lee, John Ancheta, Sid Wines, Nicholas Ray, Leann Hamilton, Malcolm Freund (arrived at 6:35 p.m.), Patrick Oldright (arrived at 6:36 p.m.), Lori Winger (arrived at 6:40 p.m.), Dave Toby (arrived at 6:45 p.m.)

Vice chairman **Robert Gaughan** called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Kevin Wilhelm made a motion to approve the agenda, **Sonny Boyd** seconded, passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Sonny Boyd said on page 7 it reads “He thinks the water operations are *ran* in a fair manner”, however this should be changed to read “He thinks the water operations are *run* in a fair manner”. **Robert Gaughan** made a motion to approve the minutes of August 20, 2013 as modified, **Sonny Boyd** seconded, passed unanimously.

LEAK ADJUSTMENTS

2605-04: This customer’s case was viewed as a hardship because the renter moved into a home with a leak and had to repair it themselves even though they are on a limited income. **Jeff Hargens** made a motion to adjust the September/October 2012, November/December 2012 and January/February 2013 billing cycles each to the six month average after the leak was repaired, 45 units, **Sonny Boyd** seconded, passed unanimously.

SOUTH FORK DISCUSSION

Brian Lee from Pace Engineers states that he has prepared the exemption application and submitted the draft to Marty at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). Marty will be out of the office this week, however he has offered to review the application before it is officially submitted. **Brian Lee** was able to find a lot of the information needed from the environmental assessment that was done during the Bureau of Land Management logging operation. The application states that we would like to apply for an exemption of fish passage. The reason for this is because there is no benefit for the fish due to the culvert downstream of the dam blocking passage of cut throat trout going back upstream. If the dam was removed, there would only be about 300-400 feet of habitat for the fish. Therefore, until the culvert goes away

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SOUTH FORK DISCUSSION - (Cont.)

and opens up the whole reach of the stream there is really no benefit of removing the dam. He states that the District could also possibly go through mitigation. ODFW has identified a whole series of culverts throughout the entire Oregon stream network and then classified them in terms of priority. There would have to be another culvert that is in the same basin as the dam and the Gordon Creek area that may be a less costly project to the District, but may be more beneficial to the fish. Pace Engineers states there is a 14 foot waterfall on Gordon Creek about 2.5 miles below our intakes and no anadromous fish can get up it. He says the next step is to review the application with Marty, then wait for the decision after submittal. He states there will be meetings to attend in Salem and he will let the Board know when they are scheduled so they have the option to attend. He is going to try to come up with a solution that will be less costly than dam removal. He said if we are not successful with the exemption or mitigation, then we will start looking into the farmers screen options.

HYDRO REGULATORY EFFICIENCY ACT OF 2013 (HREA)

James Jans said that HR 267 was recently passed, therefore the District can now complete a short application which will greatly expedite the FERC process.

BLM THINNING / TREATMENT PLANT

James Jans states he recently went on a tour with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to view the thinning project around Gordon Creek. Pictures were distributed to the Board of Commissioners. He informed the Board that the thinning project has not caused any turbidity issues in Gordon Creek and BLM has placed 6 inches of gravel on the road to the Treatment Plant which is beneficial to the District. **Kevin Wilhelm** asked if the thinning project has been completed. **James Jans** informed him that they are not yet finished, however they have slowed down for the winter. He said they are going to slash and scatter the debris and will not burn anything near our treatment plant.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Secretary/Treasurer Financial Reports: **Jeff Hargens** noticed the auditors invoiced us close together. **Shanti Burns** informed him that we receive three invoices from the auditors each year; Once for the pre-term audit, once right after they conduct the in house audit, and once after the audit is complete. She states they begin the pre-term audit shortly after the end of the fiscal year. **Sonny Boyd** made a motion to approve the financial reports as presented, **Robert Churnside** seconded, passed unanimously.

Manager's Report: District Manager **James Jans** read as follows:

Distribution: The Littlepage project has been completed using over 1,100 feet of 8" C-900 pipe to replace the 6" steel that was in need of upgrading. This project took a little bit longer because of the large 200+ pair and fiber optic cable that were in our way, along with the old 6" steel pipe. The street cut has been patched and the pipe has been flushed. We will do pressure testing and

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MONTHLY REPORTS - Manager's Report - (Cont.)

BT samples later this week. This section of Littlepage only has one water service that needs to be tied over to the new main after the BT sample comes back absent.

The Meyers Lane project has had 686 feet of 4" C-900 pipe installed to replace the existing 1.5" steel pipe that was scheduled to be replaced back in the 1990's. The crew patched the street cut and we are waiting for the hot tap on the 6" main towards the west end near the fire hydrant on Benfield Loop. This section has four water services that we will tie over after the BT sample comes back absent.

The old metal lid at Reservoir 4 has been replaced with a utility vault lid on the existing vault for the altitude control valve. Reservoir 1 has been plugged and is now ready for us to abandon the inlet and out piping.

We had to replace a tap saddle on Bell Road last week. During the replacement we lost water pressure on Christensen and Hinkle Roads, which required a boil order for the 30 customers in those areas. The sample came back absent and everyone was notified that the boil order was lifted.

We had Liquivision Technologies clean and inspect Reservoir 6 and the clear well up at the treatment plant since it has been over 9 years since it was built. The floor had about one inch of silt/sand but other than that it was in great shape. Out of 1 being very poor and 10 being in very good shape, they gave us a 10 on both the reservoir and clear well.

A rebuilt fire hydrant from Fire Station 14 now resides on the 28000 block of E. Historic Columbia River Highway.

Jeff just completed a training class on sand filter treatment given by the Oregon Health Authority. Hans is scheduled to attend next month.

Office: The office has received \$2,879.42 from Visa, \$578.18 from M/C and \$122.00 from American Express last month, for a total year to date of \$21,956.62 gross reportable sales. During meter reading we generated \$116,341 in water sales and \$ 30,738 in base rate income from water used during July/August, for a total of \$147,079 dollars.

Treatment Plant: On August 26th at about 8:45 p.m., the turbidity on the raw inlet jumped to over 10.00 NTU's and our RSView32 software program did its job by sending out an alarm and opening the bypass Cla-val in order to dump the very high turbidity water. The plant was shut down via the laptop and we waited until morning to put it back on line. The source of the high turbidity was not BLM or logger's because they scheduled to remove the culvert the following day. The stream that the culvert was removed from also had a very small flow amount. BLM has almost finished the tree thinning project up at the Treatment Plant. They will do a little bit of slash and spread in order to cut down on the fire danger and informed us that they will not be burning any of the brush piles near the Plant.

Hydro & FERC: The Hydropower Regulatory Act (H.R. 267) will allow the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to exempt hydropower projects with up to 10 megawatts of capacity and removes any project of 5 megawatts from FERC licensing oversight. The U.S. Senate passed the Hydropower bills through unanimous consent on Thursday August 1st, and on August 9th

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MONTHLY REPORTS - Manager's Report - (Cont.)

President Obama signed into law the Hydropower Regulatory Efficiency Act of 2013. We have completed the Notice of Intent application and are awaiting results.

Shanti Burns states the office recently switched merchant service providers, which should save the District approximately \$400 per year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

Gordon Fulks asked if the Treatment Plant can automatically turn itself back on after a turbidity event. **James Jans** said that it does not automatically turn itself back on. He states it was turned off until they could check it in the morning as there was still plenty of water. When checked in the morning, the turbidity levels were normal. There is no way to find out what caused this turbidity event. He states that the instructor at the slow sand filtration class Jeff Busto attended was impressed with our telemetry, transducers and RSView32 system. He was told that some larger District's do not have this technology yet.

John Ancheta said he paid for a new service to be connected, and later found out that the District simply hooked his line into his neighbor's meter. **James Jans** informed him that his neighbor's service line has been removed for many years, therefore the District assumed this service was abandoned. He said that the District owns the meter and can move or replace them as needed. He states that when his neighbor installs his service line, we will hook a different meter up to it without any additional cost to him. **John Ancheta** and his neighbor **Sid Wines** said they were both satisfied with this.

Malcolm Freund said that fish on Gordon Creek were transplanted to the top part of the falls a long time ago for a natural fish hatchery.

UNFINISHED ITEMS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION

Sonny Boyd said he has already apologized to the office staff about the way he handled the recycling issue at the last Board meeting. He understands that the issue is now being taken care of and recycling will not be handled in the same manner as before.

Jeff Hargens noticed that there has been a greater public interest in the Board meetings, and he would like to thank all the people that have been attending the meetings.

Robert Churnside made a motion to adjourn the meeting, **Sonny Boyd** seconded, passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.