

WEST SLOPE WATER DISTRICT

Regular Board of Commissioners Meeting

October 18, 2017

Meeting Summary

CALL TO ORDER

Present: Chair Robert Rieck, Commissioners Charles Conrad and Micky Hoffman (Commissioner Position #2 remains vacant at this time)

Absent: Noel Reiersen

Management Staff: General Manager, Michael Grimm; Finance & Customer Service Manager Lucy Dawes

Public: None

1.0 – CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rieck called to order the Regular meeting of the West Slope Water District Board of Commissioners at 5:02 P.M., Wednesday, October 18, 2017.

2.0 - PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Rieck acknowledged there were no members of the public present. The District received notification over the phone from District customer Lance Clifford stating he no longer wished to be considered for the vacant Board of Commissioners position.

3.0 – CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Rieck commented the accounts payable report in the Board packet provided a clear picture of the District’s monthly transactions. Commissioner Conrad asked to withdraw Agenda Item 3.5 from the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Hoffman made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda consisting of Items 3.1 through 3.4 as well as Items 3.6 and 3.7, and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Conrad. The motion passed unanimously.

Regarding Agenda Item 3.5, Commissioner Conrad pointed out on the LGPI summary page labelled Main Account, there shows a line item that should drop down “From Cap Improvement Fund” as opposed to “From Equipment Reserve Fund”. Ms. Dawes agreed with the observation. Commissioner Conrad moved that Agenda Item 3.5 be approved with the change he identified. Commissioner Hoffman seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

4.0 - DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

4.1 – Operations Report: Mr. Grimm stated the District’s daily demand is typical for the Fall and Winter seasons now. This season’s daily average is slightly higher than seen in 2016 and is likely

due to the early heavy rains we received last year starting the first part of October. Lead and copper monitoring was performed the week of October 10. The analytical results will be available within a few weeks from Portland's water quality laboratory.

4.2 – Green Tank / SW 73rd Avenue Pipe Project: Mr. Grimm stated the current projection for project completion is probably mid-November as the contractor still has fencing, landscaping, and paving work to complete. The contractors also tried this week to substitute a different anti-graffiti product to the new vault's rock veneer without District or Murraysmith approval. The District has rejected the new inferior product and will hold the contractors to using the product mutually agreed upon in a signed contract modification in December 2016. It will cost the contractors more time at their expense to undo the improperly performed work and redo the work correctly which will continue to push their ability to achieve final completion further out and incur additional liquidated damages at the rate of \$375/day. Commissioner Conrad asked about the fencing task, and Mr. Grimm reported the fence posts have been installed with no damage to any private property. A recent survey by professional land surveyors verified the property corners to ensure the fence would be installed on District property only. Mr. Grimm also pointed out the extension to Murraysmith's consulting contract was for work to carry out the project through August (what was thought to be when the contractors would wrap up the project in early 2017). Clearly, the contractor's delays have added an additional three months to the project. Since there is very little remaining in the Murraysmith budget, the District has had to assume greater roles related to construction inspection and oversight. However, there are still tasks needed to be completed by Murraysmith which may involve needing additional funding from the District. Staff will present a request to the Board if needed at a future meeting for additional funding that would be covered by the liquidated damages paid to the District by the contractor. Functionally, the liquidated damages would be acquired by withholding money from retainage.

4.3 – Board of Commissioner Position #2 Vacancy: Mr. Grimm informed the Board one of the candidates, Mr. Paul Schuler, is not available to be interviewed this week due to being out of town. He requested an interview on Monday, October 23 if possible. Chair Rieck suggested a decision on Mr. Schuler's request be tabled until the special meeting October 19 when Commissioner Reiersen would be present. The other commissioners agreed. Three candidates were interviewed earlier today, and there are two more candidates to interview tomorrow.

4.4 – Personnel Changes: The District's new Customer Service Specialist, Janet Peterson, has started this week and is fitting in well with staff. During the training and transition period, both Ms. Peterson and Ms. Strathern will be in the office together. Over the next few weeks, Ms. Strathern's hours will begin to decline as she takes time to prepare for her family's move. The District is actively interviewing for a new utility worker to fill the position vacated by Keith Lewelling. Finally, Daniel Gridinar will be on paternity leave for three weeks beginning late October/early November when their second child is born.

4.5 – Late Breaking Issues – Mr. Grimm relayed a number items for information only to the Board which does not require any vote by the Board at this meeting:

- The Portland Water Bureau announced the corrosion control pilot study has dropped the orthophosphate treatment option and the high pH option. Going forward, only the pH adjustment & alkalinity addition option will be considered in the pilot study.
- The Bureau also issued a letter to OHA identifying their proposed compliance schedule to construct and operate a water filtration treatment plant. According to the schedule,

the plant would be operational September 2027. Bureau staff estimated the construction costs for the plant would be booked in FY2031. One very rough estimate by the Bureau found that if \$500 million in construction costs for a water treatment plant were booked in the current fiscal year, the wholesale rate impact would be a doubling of the current wholesale rate. For West Slope, the rate would theoretically increase from \$1.7/CCF to \$3.4/CCF. Chair Rieck stated it will become vitally important for the District to begin discussions in the next few months regarding long term water supply options.

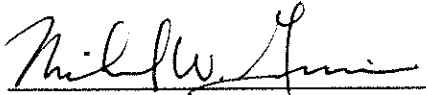
5.0 – COMMISSIONERS COMMUNICATION

No commissioner had a report of other meetings or other topics to be raised for this meeting or agenda items for future meetings.

6.0 – ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Hoffman moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Conrad seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously. Chair Rieck adjourned the October 18, 2017 regular Board of Commissioners meeting at approximately 5:43 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,


Michael W. Grimm, P.E.
Acting Secretary

Approved:

