

Beacon Hill Water and Sewer District Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 16, 2017 5:15 PM
1121 West Side Hwy, Kelso, WA 98626

Meeting called to order at 5:15 PM.

In Attendance:

Members: Commissioners Monte Roden, Bonnie Decius and Keath Huff
Staff: Dell Hillger, General Manager, Rick, Field Foreman, Debbie,
Finance Administrator and Alan Engstrom, Legal Counsel
Audience Jim Kuntz, WASWD Executive Director

Commissioner Huff made a motion to approve the minutes for the District's July 19, 2017 regular meeting. Motion carried.

Commissioner Huff made a motion to approve the minutes for the August 2, 2017 Joint Water Operating Board and the District's Special Meetings, held in the Small Conference Room at Longview City Hall. Motion carried.

Dell introduced to the Board Mr. Kuntz who is the Executive Director for the Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts (WASWD). Earlier in the day Dell took Mr. Kuntz on a tour of the District, sharing some of its history as well as projects we are currently working on. Mr. Kuntz thanked the Board for being a member of WASWD and proceeded to discuss the following topics:

- The annual membership dues and our participation in the Labor and Industries Retro Pool. Due to the safety record of the pool, \$650,000 was returned to 44 of its 96 members this year, with the District being one of them. WASWD is ranked in the top 5% in the state of Washington for these types of pools.
- Legislative issues WASWD has been working on are housekeeping bills such as Districts with operating revenue over five million dollars becoming their own treasurer, Districts can now charge for electronic record requests and can deny requests from angry customers requesting all of a District's records. They have successfully worked on killing bad bills such as unrealistic reductions in lead levels in drinking water and contractors filing claims after a project has been completed.
- WASWD has a news clipping service for water and sewer Districts called *In the News*. This publication is emailed to Elected Officials and General Managers. In the recent publication, Mr. Kuntz pointed out the article that discussed certain counties that were written up for violations of the Open Public Meeting Act.
- WASWD has been in contact with the Governor's office to see if there is anything they can do administratively for 65 members with on-going projects that are funded by the DWSRF tied to the State's Capital Budget that has not yet been funded.
- In looking for low interest loans for water and sewer Districts, WASWD has spent a little money to go back and talk to Senator Murray, Senator Cantwell and our representatives to find out if there is an infrastructure package for water and sewer Districts on the federal level. WASWD has also asked them to consider giving the EPA authority to block grant money to an association (such as WASWD) to

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- start their own revolving loan programs. This would take the burden off the Districts in applying for these funds. Mr. Kuntz said they are getting some traction on this.
- WASWD is asking its members to participate in their Economic Impact Study by completing a questionnaire. This information will be compiled and made available to its members.
 - WASWD is hosting General Manager Conferences twice a year.

1) Project Updates

Dell gave an update of the following projects to the Board as presented in the Manager's Report:

- a) New District Office – The foundation has been dug and forms will be constructed within the next couple of weeks. They are putting in the storm drainage across the main driveway and the manhole is being set.
 - b) Hillside Pump Station
 - c) Lexington Sewer Pump Station Improvements – The pump is up and running and in rotation without any issues. The only thing outstanding is the redundant level controls.
 - d) Water System Plan – The FCS Group is now working on the financials and rate study.
 - e) Nevada Drive Water Main Replacement
 - f) Beacon Hill Water Tower Footing Painting – This project is scheduled for August 28-31, 2017.
 - g) West Side Hwy Emergency Sewer Replacement – Dell estimated this project to cost around \$300,000.00. Sewer projects for 2017 are budgeted for \$500,000.00.
 - h) Ostrander Pump Emergency Replacement – Rick addressed the Board as to why the pump failed. Due to the age and type of failure they determined it was more cost effective to replace the pump instead of repair it. This pump had been showing signs of failing 18 months ago. Dell discussed the situation with the insurance company and filed a claim. Monte recommended, and Dell and Rick agreed to develop a method to record/track any maintenance or changes made at the pump stations. Once the system is in place Dell will follow up with the Board on the method(s) used.
- 2) Ostrander/Woodbrook Water Supply** – In addition, Alan and the Board requested looking into existing wells in the area for a redundant water source. After further discussion, Commissioner Huff made a motion to approve the amendment to the

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Water Study proposal from BergerABAM for the Alternative Study of the Ostrander/Woodbrook Service Area Second Supply, not to exceed \$16,000.00. Motion carried.

- 3) **LFCZD Pump Station** – The Board requested Dell to ask for the LFCZD’s written legal opinion on the assessments and have Alan review it. As far as rates go, the LFCZD will still be managing the rolls and as they make changes to the millage rates ours would go up accordingly. Commissioner Huff asked if there was a permit for the discharge and if so, is it transferable? Dell said his understanding is the Army Corp of Engineers will need a written transfer agreement transferring the responsibility to the District. This will not make the District a Flood or Diking District but more like a private pump station. The Board unanimously agreed to have Dell continue pursuing the transfer.

Confirmation of Lien Filings - The Board reviewed the monthly lien synopsis. It was moved by Commissioner Huff to approve the filing of July 2017 liens 1676 and 1677. Motion carried.

Financial Report – The Board reviewed the financial report.

Expenditures – After reviewing the District claims from the lists provided, Commissioner Decius made a motion to approve the claims as of this date, August 16, 2017 for claims submitted after July 19, 2017 for \$117,277.95, claims submitted to date for August 2017 for \$272,201.45 and payroll for July and August 2017. Motion carried. The July 2017 credit card statements were provided to the Board electronically prior to the August 16, 2017 meeting.

Other Business – The Board discussed the District’s dismissal request of one of the subcontractors on the New District Office Project with J.H. Kelly.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is September 20, 2017 at 5:15 PM.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 7:11 pm.

Monte J. Roden, President

Bonnie L. Decius, Secretary

Keath B. Huff, Commissioner