

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MEDFORD WATER COMMISSION
January 18, 2012

The regular meeting of the Medford Water Commission was called to order at 12:30 p.m. on the above date at the Medford City Hall Lausmann Annex, Room 151/157 with the following commissioners and staff present:

Chair Tom Hall; Commissioners Jason Anderson, John Dailey, Cathie Davis, Leigh Johnson

Manager Larry Rains; Attorney John Huttli; Deputy City Recorder Karen Spoonts; Administrative Coordinator Betsy Martin; Principal Engineer Eric Johnson; Public Information Coordinator Laura Hodnett; Geologist Bob Jones; Water Quality Superintendent Bob Noelle; Operations Superintendent Ken Johnson

Guests: City of Medford Councilmember's Bob Strosser, Jim Kuntz and Karen Blair; Medford Mayor Gary Wheeler; Medford Deputy Fire Chief Justin Bates; Central Point Mayor and Liaison Hank Williams; Central Point Assistant City Manager Chris Clayton; Public Works Management Joe Strahl and Chris Peters; Lee Fortier; Beverly Layer and Ken Fawcett of Americans for Prosperity; Geri Jo Kemp; Brad Martinkovich; Glenn Archambault of Jackson County Farm Bureau

2. Approval or Correction of the Minutes of the Last Regular Meeting of January 4, 2012

The minutes were approved as presented.

3. Comments from Audience

3.1 Brad Martinkovich thanked Commissioner Tom Hall and the board for their participation on water issues. Commissioner Hall thanked him for bringing this issue to the surface.

3.2 Beverly Layer appreciated the board considering the Klamath water issue. Commissioner Hall questioned what AFP stood for; she noted it stood for Americans for Prosperity.

3.3 Geri Jo Kemp thanked the board for having the Irrigation Districts Update presentation today; she would like to see the Commission continue to be involved in the coordination process of the Klamath water issue.

3.4 Glen Archambault of the Jackson County Farm Bureau stated that there is a great deal of water discussion in the United States around agriculture. He urged the MWC to keep agriculture in the back of their mind and continue to learn about the basin we live in. He noted that the WISE Project is an important project.

3.5 Joe Strahl of Public Works Management thanked Commissioner Hall for his direction and leadership with the MWC. He noted that at the Chamber meeting Economist John Mitchell spoke about finance and the rate of return.

3.6 Medford Mayor Wheeler thanked Commissioner Hall for his ten years of service and appreciated his support on the MWC. He noted that the terms for commissioner's usually ends up being long term; he hoped his business partner is doing well.

3.7 Medford Councilmember Strosser thanked Commissioner Hall for his support and hoped his business partner is doing well.

3.8 Medford Deputy Fire Chief Bates introduced himself and stated that he will be attending the meetings on behalf of the Medford Fire Department.

3.9 Medford Councilmember Blair thanked Commissioner Hall for his service.

4. Resolutions

4.1 No. 1474, A RESOLUTION Authorizing the Manager of the Medford Water Commission to Execute on Behalf of the Board of Water Commissioners a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for Funding

the Water for Irrigation, Streams and the Economy (WISE) Project Interim Coordinator and Oregon Solutions Process

The board was recently notified that the WISE Project was designated as one of Governor Kitzhaber's Oregon Solutions projects. The partners have been asked to contribute 50 percent of the funding towards the process, which would be \$3,167 each. The Commission will need to include \$8,167 in the Fiscal Year 2012-13 budget for its portion of the project as well as \$5,000 for the part-time coordinator position. Manager Rains stated that there were a few typos in the resolution that have been changed and pointed them out to the board. Staff recommended approval. Commissioner Dailey questioned what section 5B2 in the MOA meant about regulations being interrupted; Attorney Huttel stated that he did not draft the document but gave examples of what he thought was meant. He noted that this agreement has been in place for several years but would go back and clarify the wording if requested by the board. Mr. Dailey noted that that was not necessary.

Motion: Approve Resolution No. 1474

Moved by: Mr. Johnson

Seconded by: Mr. Dailey

Commissioner Davis questioned the length of the contract; staff noted it was for one year. Commissioner Dailey questioned why Medford and the MWC are paying twice; Geologist Jones explained the history of this but noted that the other cities will be approached as they need to be involved, especially Ashland. Mr. Jones noted that those involved are the parties that were originally able to move this project forward. Mr. Strahl questioned, in terms of funding, if this was in the rate calculation; Mr. Rains stated he would have to verify that. Commissioner Hall noted that it is good that the other cities can or will be involved. Mr. Dailey questioned if other cities would be involved in this next year; Commissioner Johnson noted that we would hope so.

Roll Call: Commissioners Anderson, Dailey, Davis, Hall, and Johnson voting yes.

Motion carried and so ordered. Resolution No. 1474 was approved.

Out of sequence.

6. Engineer's Report

- 6.1 Duff Reservoir Seismic Upgrade – The final concrete pour for the vertical walls will be poured this week. Interior work on the reservoir is nearing completion and final cleaning of the reservoir will start next week. Roof joint work repair continues.
- 6.2 Duff Filters 13-16, Redundant Backwash System and Yard Piping Project – Staff has compiled the data from the Water Treatment Plant visits and has issued the data to the Review Committee for consideration. The Review Committee will reconvene to discuss the data on Friday at 1:30 p.m. with Commissioners Hall and Dailey; Commissioner Hall questioned if Lee Fortier could attend. Mr. Rains noted that since the Review Committee has been involved in this process they should stay with those commissioners as they will need to report to the board. Mr. Dailey questioned if he could come as a guest; staff noted that he could. Mr. Hall noted that Lee Fortier thought that it would be hard to come up to speed; Mr. Hall noted that it does take a year to get up to speed.
- 6.3 Conrad Control Station Upgrades – Work continues; the electrical work is nearing completion and the painting will start next week.
- 6.4 Ave G 48" Transmission Main – The review of the material submittals continue. Moore Excavation is scheduled to start construction in March.
- 6.5 Martin Control Station – Staff has returned the corrections of the Basis of Design Report (BDR) to

OBECE. OBECE is incorporating the comments in the final BDR and will resubmit by the end of January.

7. Water Quality Report

- 7.1 The Intake Variable Frequency Drive Project is underway; staff expects a Pre-Design Report from Marquess & Associates in a few weeks; staff is considering a prepurchase of the drive unit because of availability and lead time.
- 7.2 Staff is preparing to finalize the proposed modification to the Big Butte Springs hypochlorite disinfection improvements; staff is working with Black & Vetch to come up with final designs.
- 7.3 The Willow Lake Algae Study from last year is expected next month. The Oregon Public Health Division lifted the health advisory pertaining to blue-green algae on Lost Creek Lake; staff noted that this is a reminder of a looming issue at Willow Lake.
- 7.4 There are numerous water quality programs and projects going on.

Commissioner Hall questioned how the plant has been doing since the shut down; Water Quality Superintendent Noelle noted that staff is trying to reclaim space after the remodel as it was very disruptive.

Back in sequence.

5. Authorization of Vouchers

Motion: Authorize the Manager and the Recorder to issue check-warrants in payment of invoices for a total amount of \$2,405,055.02

Moved by: Mr. Johnson

Seconded by: Ms. Davis

Commissioner Johnson questioned the payment to Alliance for Water Efficiency; Public Information Coordinator Hodnett noted that this is a new membership, although we have been involved in this organization. She further stated that they are making it viable to join, there are services available only for members, and most utilities of our size have been members for years. Commissioner Anderson questioned if we are still saving money by using the company Bend Mailing; Manager Rains noted that staff has verified that we are saving money.

Roll Call: Commissioners Anderson, Dailey, Davis, Hall, and Johnson voting yes; Anderson recused himself from the Knife River and Mail Tribune vouchers.

Motion carried and so ordered.

8. Finance Report

No report today.

9. Operations Report

- 9.1 Last Friday a call came in from a frantic employee who noted a large main break on Boardman; staff was able to isolate and slow the break down. The pipe was repaired and there was a very small amount of flooding to the area although there will be a small claim on one property. Commissioner Johnson questioned the age of the pipe; Operations Superintendent Johnson noted that it was a 1927 cast iron pipe and speculated that there may have been tension on the pipe due to rocks.

10. Manager/Other Staff Reports

- 10.1 A letter was received from City of Phoenix Engineer Joe Strahl pertaining to the Phoenix Water Agreement. Mr. Strahl proposed adding language to help provide a clear statement of intent of the

MWC relative to districts, in this case the Charlotte Ann Water District, and to help future elected officials of the City of Phoenix regarding the intent of the parties to this agreement. Mr. Rains noted that eventually the districts MWC serve grow down to nothing as the City of Medford annexes their areas; thought that this is just a statement pertaining to this, however, is not sure this really belongs in the agreement with the City of Phoenix. Mr. Rains stated that Attorney Huttl has seen this and thought the same. Mr. Huttl stated that this language seemed a little unnecessary; that both Phoenix and Charlotte Ann Water District are our customers and this should really be an issue between the two of them. Commissioner Anderson agreed with Attorney Huttl. Commissioner Davis was interested in what Mr. Strahl had to say in why he wanted this. Mr. Strahl noted that many of their customers are served by Charlotte Ann Water District and that the only purpose of having this in the agreement was to clarify to the elected policy makers in the City of Phoenix. Attorney Huttl noted that state law allows this. Commissioner Hall questioned if this made a difference to Mr. Huttl; Mr. Huttl noted that it did not. The board agreed to continue to negotiate but not to include the new language requested by Mr. Strahl. Mr. Strahl questioned the policy of the districts and annexation; staff noted that there is no policy with other districts outside of what is stated in our district agreements. Commissioner Johnson questioned if we have absorbed other districts; Attorney Huttl noted that on annexation the City authorizes the statutory option to take them in. Commissioner Hall noted that we don't allow NEW water districts in our system.

10.2 Mr. Rains reminded the board of the invitation to the annual Boards and Commissions luncheon.

10.3 Mr. Rains stated that at the next meeting the board will need to appoint a Chair and Vice Chair. He gave the general details of the process and noted that John Dailey took the place of Don Skundrick. Mr. Dailey's position would normally come up as the next chair; a year from now Mayor Wheeler would reappoint Mr. Dailey's position. Next in line for Chair would be Mr. Anderson and Mr. Rains suggested he could serve two years as Chair. He noted that there is a traditional order to filling the chair position and this has been talked about before but a final decision was not made. Commissioner Dailey questioned who was next in rotation after Commissioner Anderson; Commissioner Hall noted that it would be Commissioner Davis.

11. Propositions and Remarks from the Commissioners

11.1 Commissioner Anderson thanked Commissioner Hall for his service; Commissioner Johnson thanked him as well and appreciated his background and input. Mr. Hall noted that he will miss his work with the Commission.

12. Adjourn

There being no further business, this Commission meeting adjourned at 1:12 p.m. The proceedings of the Water Commission meeting were recorded on tape and are filed in the Water Commission's Office. The complete agenda of this meeting is filed in the Water Commission's Office.

Karen M. Spoonts, MMC
Deputy City Recorder
Clerk of the Commission