

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MEDFORD WATER COMMISSION
July 17, 2013

The pledge of allegiance was given.

The regular meeting of the Medford Water Commission was called to order at 12:22 p.m. on the above date at the Medford City Hall Lausmann Annex, Room 151/157 with the following commissioners and staff present:

Chair Jason Anderson; Commissioners John Dailey, Cathie Davis, Lee Fortier, Leigh Johnson

Manager Larry Rains; Attorney John Huttli; Deputy City Recorder Karen Spoons; Administrative Coordinator Betsy Martin; Principal Engineer Eric Johnson; Finance Administrator Tessa DeLine; Geologist Bob Jones; Water Quality Administrator Rosie Pindilli; Operations Superintendent Ken Johnson; Watershed Technician James Ellsworth

Guests: City of Medford Councilmember Bob Strosser; Ashland Public Works Director Mike Faught; Ashland Associate Engineer Pieter Smeenk; Central Point Mayor and Liaison Hank Williams; Central Point City Manager Chris Clayton; Eagle Point Mayor & Liaison Bob Russell; Eagle Point Public Works Director Robert Miller; Angela Boudro of Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District

3. Approval or Correction of the Minutes of the Last Regular Meeting of July 3, 2013
The minutes were approved as presented.

4. Comments from Audience

4.1 Eagle Point Mayor Bob Russell stated that on July 1 their base rate will go up.

4.2 Eagle Point Public Works Director Robert Miller commented that he received a compliment from a local homeowner stating that we have the best water in the nation.

5. Resolutions

- 5.1 No 1530, A RESOLUTION Authorizing the Manager to Approve Part B of a Contract with Black & Veatch, for Consulting Services to Design the Robert A. Duff Water Treatment Plant 65 MGD Flocculation and Sedimentation Basin Expansion Project, CIP 20-12 (323)

Prior to the July 3 board meeting, staff presented a study session on the next phase of the 65 MGD Flocc/Sed Expansion project. Based on an analysis of the costs as compared to prior capital projects and a review of other options, staff recommended approval of consultant Black & Veatch's proposed Part B.

Motion: Approve Resolution No. 1530

Moved by: Mr. Dailey

Seconded by: Ms. Davis

Commissioner Anderson questioned the attachment; Principal Engineer Eric Johnson provided information on the table presented and stated that the numbers are adequate numbers. Commissioner Dailey questioned the process; Mr. Johnson noted that this is a Quality Base System, is a more time consuming process but did provide positive results.

Roll Call: Commissioners Anderson, Dailey, Davis, Fortier, and Johnson voting yes.
Motion carried and so ordered. Resolution No. 1530 was approved.

6. Authorization of Vouchers

- 6.1 Continued Vouchers from the July 3, 2013 Board Meeting

Payment to Rogue Shred was approved by Commissioners Anderson and Dailey, who were both absent from the previous meeting.

6.2 Consideration of Vouchers for July 17, 2013 Board Meeting

Motion: Authorize the Manager and the Recorder to issue check-warrants in payment of invoices for a total amount of \$485,235.12

Moved by: Mr. Johnson

Seconded by: Mr. Fortier

The board questioned the payment to Water Research Foundation; staff noted that this is paid yearly. Commissioner Johnson questioned if they changed their name; Mr. Rains noted that they did. Mr. Dailey questioned if it is mandatory to be part of this organization and questioned the benefits; Manager Rains provided the positive aspects of being a member to this organization, such as reduced costs to meetings and receiving technical information.

Roll Call: Commissioners Anderson, Dailey, Davis, Fortier and Johnson voting yes; Fortier abstained from the Rogue Disposal and Rogue Transfer vouchers. Motion carried and so ordered.

7. Engineer's Report (E. Johnson)

- 7.1 Duff Floc/Sed Basins – Engineer Eric Johnson thanked the board for approving Resolution No. 1530. Staff has reviewed and commented on the Basis of Design Report, which has been returned to Black & Veatch to incorporate the edits and finish the report.
- 7.2 Duff Emergency Backwash – The project is waiting for equipment to be manufactured and delivered. The transformers have arrived and are stored at Pacific Electrical Contractors until the transformers are installed. The estimated time for delivery for the pumps and motors is late August.
- 7.3 Martin Control Station – The roof continues to be worked on; the roll up door is being installed and the heater, louvers and motor control center have been installed.
- 7.4 Water Main Project Highway 62 Bypass – Staff is continuing to resolve ODOT's conflict with MWC's facilities and should be finished by next week. Staff is still waiting on a response from ODOT concerning the relocation of the 14" water main on Highway 62.
- 7.5 Other Projects: Staff is currently negotiating scope of services with various consultants concerning the Duff Water Treatment Plant Raw Water Intake pumps, Duff II Water Treatment Plant Rough Grading, Vilas Road 20" Water Main Inter-tie and Stardust Pump Station pump upgrade.

Pertaining to the pressure at the mall, staff shut off a valve to determine which line the water was coming from. Another test will be performed at a later time. Staff believes a valve may have a broken operator. Commissioner Johnson questioned how often these valves go bad; Engineer Johnson stated that it is rare but these particular valves have not been used that often.

8. Water Quality Report (Pindilli)

- 8.1 Staff is busy with water quality along with additional compliance monitoring while Duff is on line. These include inorganics monitoring, volatile organics, synthetic organics, nitrates, lead and copper and unregulated contaminants monitoring. The monitoring for the 21 contaminants may be regulated in the future. Staff noted detection on vanadium, strontium, hexavalent chromium, and chlorate and will have to be reported in next year's consumer confidence report.

Mr. Dailey questioned if we have seen these before and if so, were they natural deposits; Water Quality Administrator Rosie Pindilli noted that we have seen some on low levels and some are natural. Mr. Rains noted that as testing becomes more detailed we will be able to test more.

- 8.2 Duff received a spectrophotometer which is capable of analyzing over 200 parameters and will be used to analyze parameters, accumulate baseline data, obtain data to optimize the treatment process, evaluate source water and distribution system water quality as well as future plant design.
- 8.3 Lost Creek Lake had posted a Hazardous Algae Bloom Advisory on June 20 but then lifted the advisory on July 8. This is the first time that the advisory was lifted during the summer season as it is usually lifted sometime in December or January.
- 8.4 Geologist Jones noted that money has been received to start the WISE project. The cost analysis is somewhat behind schedule; the Environmental Impact Statement will be started soon.

Commissioner Johnson questioned the algae outbreak because we have spent lots of money on this; we have not seen a report or a source of the algae and questioned when enough is enough. Mr. Rains noted that we will have something from our consultant shortly pertaining to algae at Willow Lake. Geologist Jones noted that he is working on this and the report, which will be available March or April of next year, will help determine where the algae is coming from. As far as other locations it's really an education basis. Some algae in this area is non-toxic and will not need to be reported. Mr. Rains reminded the board that they requested staff to be proactive at Willow Lake. Ms. Pindilli noted that the state would pay for the toxic testing for the algae bloom. Mr. Rains noted that that it is the first public system by the bloom which is required to test for algae and pertaining to Lost Creek Lake, there are two public systems above us.

9. Finance Report (DeLine)

- 9.1 Finance is busy with the software conversion; the main focus is customer service. Vendors are on site for the next several weeks. Staff is preparing for the year-end audit.
- 9.2 As interest rates are beginning to rise staff will be looking to add to our portfolio.

Mr. Dailey questioned if payroll is done in-house; Finance Administrator Tessa DeLine stated that it is all done in-house.

10. Operations Report (K. Johnson)

- 10.1 Staff is working with the vendor who will provide a new mag meter at no cost; staff will test again and hopefully this will solve the issue.
- 10.2 Staff is working with Service Master and a homeowner pertaining to the water leak flooding a home by Hedrick Middle School. Approximate damage is between \$4,000-5,000.

Mr. Dailey questioned if they are having issues with the mag meter at other locations; Operations Superintendent Ken Johnson noted that the meters work well at other locations; Mr. Rains noted that there must have been issues with mag meters in general in order for the vendor to agree to pay for this. Staff is keeping RH2 Consulting informed as well.

11. Manager/Other Staff Reports

- 11.1 Mr. Rains stated that a letter of complaint was received pertaining to backflow device testing on private property. He further stated that this complaint is contrary to what we do and upon further checking it was not our backflow contractor. Mahar Brothers Construction Company had sent someone out to check the backflow device as the home had recently been sold. Medford Councilmember Bob Strosser noted that he would discuss this with the contractor. Mr. Dailey

questioned if the contractor had mentioned the MWC; Mr. Strosser noted they did not and explained the circumstances.

11.2 Staff has had two meetings with the City of Ashland regarding their request for an emergency water connection. Staff will come back to the board once solutions have been determined. The City of Ashland has also had talks with the City of Phoenix regarding emergency connections. Mr. Dailey would like an explanation of why Ashland has not connected to the TAP project as designed; Mr. Rains stated that is one of the solutions.

11.3 Mr. Rains attended the council meeting where code changes pertaining to the billing system was discussed. Per the board's request, "as directed" was removed from the language.

11.4 Pertaining to the new software, the billing has resumed. There have been small bumps along the road but they are using the month of July to play catch-up. August we will be back on schedule for the billing process.

12. Propositions and Remarks from the Commissioners
None.

13. Adjourn
There being no further business, this Commission meeting adjourned at 12:58 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