



# BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

**Wednesday, March 20, 2024**

Medford Police Department Prescott Room  
219 S. Ivy Street, Medford, Oregon 97501

The regular meeting of the Medford Water Commission was called to order at 12:30 p.m. on the above date at Medford Police Department's Prescott Room, with the following commissioners, staff, and guests present:

Chair Bob Strosser; Commissioners Jason Anderson, John Dailey, Mike Smith, and David Wright.

General Manager Brad Taylor, Executive Administrative Assistant Amber Furu, Finance Manager Beau Belikoff, HR Manager Tanya Haakinson, Engineering Manager Brian Runyen, Information Technology Manager Kris Stitt, Water Operations Manager Dan Perkins, Water Resources & Customer Service Manager Julie Smitherman

Guest(s): Attorney Mark Bartholomew, Medford Council Liaison Nick Card, Shelby Snow\* (\*Via Zoom)

### **3. Comments from the Audience**

Medford Council Liaison Nick Card expressed appreciation for the capital investments made by Medford Water in improving the water system infrastructure. He noted the significance of these infrastructure enhancements and highlighted ongoing collaborative efforts between the City of Medford, Medford Water, and Jackson County in various infrastructure projects. Card conveyed his anticipation for an upcoming joint meeting scheduled in April between Medford Water and the City of Medford. He emphasized that the meeting would encompass more than just an increase in water rates, as it would also address the Wastewater Treatment Plant's implications for sewer systems and other developments within the county. Recognizing the importance of these investments, Card expressed hope for the collective efforts to alleviate the financial burden on citizens and ratepayers.

### **4. Approval or Correction of the Minutes of the Last Regular Meeting of March 6, 2024**

***Motion: Approve the minutes of the last regular meeting as presented.***

***Moved by: Mr. Dailey***

***Seconded by: Mr. Wright***

***Roll Call: Commissioners Anderson, Dailey, Smith, Strosser, and Wright voting yes.***

***Motion carried and so ordered.***

### **5. Leadership Team Reports**

Leadership Team Reports were deferred due to lack of time and will be emailed to Commissioners following the meeting.

### **6. EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(h) - to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.**

The Board adjourned to executive session at 12:39 p.m.

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The Board reconvened at 1:34 p.m.

### **7. Consider Matters of Executive Session and Provide Direction as Needed**

***Motion: That the General Manager work with our consultants and legal counsel to evaluate the DEQs stated response to the Medford Water Commissions application for a new water withdrawal site and come back to the Board with our best options to preserve the Medford Water Commissions lawfully issued permits and certificates.***

***Moved by: Mr. Anderson***

***Seconded by: Mr. Wright***

***Roll Call: Commissioners Anderson, Dailey, Smith, Strosser, and Wright voting yes.***

***Motion carried and so ordered.***

**8. Propositions and Remarks from the Commissioners**

- Commissioner Smith requested Information Technology Manager Kris Stitt to compile a report on the extensive testing conducted, expressing admiration for the effort and results. Stitt acknowledged the request, confirming capability to compile the report.
- Commissioner Strosser commented that he and General Manager Brad Taylor attended the funeral for former Medford Water employee, Jim Stockton; it was a nice service and well attended.

**9. Adjourn**

There being no further business, this meeting adjourned at 1:39 p.m. The proceedings were recorded and are on file along with the complete agenda of this meeting.



Amber Furu  
Assistant Clerk of the Commission