

**WATER DISTRICT 19**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**  
**Tuesday, May 12, 2020**

**REGULAR MEETING 6:00 PM**  
**Meeting Members participated by using “Zoom” conferencing**

**Board President Bob Powell** called the Regular Meeting of the Water District 19 Board of Commissioners to order at 6:00 PM. Those also in attendance were **Commissioners Seth Zuckerman** and **Mike Weller**, **General Manager Jim McRae** and Office Administrator **Melody Snyder**.

• **VISITOR BUSINESS**

- Potential discussion on sale of K2 – Commissioner Powell has had no further contact or information from the prior interested party he had heard from at the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

• **BOARD – ACTION REQUIRED**

- Sign-off on 115<sup>th</sup> Tank & enclosure – The plans presented to the Board are intended to be a presentation to the local residences, General Manager McRae will ask Shelby Middling, one of the nearby property owners, to coordinate with the other residences for setting up a meeting. The Department of Health is also interested in the plans and General Manager McRae will work with WA DOH to update them as we progress through the project. **Commissioner Weller** suggested that the district contact PSE (Puget Sound Energy) about enclosing their power pole within our fencing. The Board also recommended that we get a legal agreement with the property owner about leasing their property for the tank & enclosure until the main on Bank Road is completed.
- Water System Plan Discussion & Approval – Chapter 8 – Capital Improvement Plan and Chapter 9 – Financial Analysis was discussed, and changes made with assistance from the Board. **General Manager McRae** will make the requested changes for the two chapters. **Commissioner Zuckerman** will work on a revenue target for the next meeting and will send additional verbiage and asked that the word “primarily” on page 3 9-3 be stricken and instead use: “*Is used for construction and upgrades*”. Last sentence on page; “it is the district’s objective to maintain \$600,000 in funding accounts.” **Commissioner Zuckerman** will email the changes he would like to see to General Manager McRae.
- Approve minutes from Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> Regular Board Meeting – **Commissioner Powell** deferred approval until the next board meeting. **Commissioners Zuckerman** and **Weller** agreed.

• **BOARD – DISCUSSION/TABLE/MORE INFORMATION**

- Discussion on COVID-19 impact on operations & 2020 revenue has been minimal, and operationally we are about where we were before the virus. As part of the safe distancing protocol, it has been good for General Manager McRae to work from home 2-3 days a week. Operators are getting most of the work done, however there are some work orders still backed up from before the quarantine. Currently, all hands are working to get the treatment plant operational, as it has been offline for several months, and intermittently online for the last two months. General Manager McRae sees no problems having the plant fully operational for summer, despite some last-minute issues with one of the finish water pumps. Generally, the District takes the wells offline for the month of May, but we have not been able to take the wells offline and only run the Treatment Plant at this time.
- Continuing ERU discussion – **Commissioner Zuckerman** is not ready to take any action, suggested thoughtful discussion at this time. **Commissioner Weller** brought forward a table he has been

working on for consideration. Discussion occurred about different housing types, mixed family use etc. The Board will look at specific projects that have been done/not done for mixed use.

- Status of 216<sup>th</sup> main project – funding readiness – **General Manager McRae** has been in contact with a Representative with the Department of Agricultural about receiving funding for some of our projects. He's looking at consolidating 3 of our projects into a line of credit and would like to move forward. The Board discussed issues with the funding, administrative challenges, the life of the loan and the costs to district customers. **General Manager McRae** will continue to ask questions on the requirements and commitment from the district and bring to the board for more discussion. General Manager McRae will continue discussions with the USDA to continue to evaluate the possibilities. According to the regional director the interest rate on the loans should be around 3.5%.

#### • **ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

- General Manager McRae provided the board with a worksheet showing the pre & post wages of the operators in acknowledgement that the current union wage scale has been integrated into the Water System Plan. The potential candidate for the WTPO 3 or 4 position, who is currently living in Alaska will have to self-quarantine upon returning to Fairbanks, even though he would not have to quarantine upon arrival in Washington. Since Fairbanks has on-demand Coronavirus testing, General Manager McRae suggested that he test upon arrival in Fairbanks after an onsite visit of the District. The candidate is also concerned about the cost of living on Vashon, especially if he wanted to purchase a home.
- Financial report through April 2020 were submitted to the Board for review in their packet
- Production report through April 2020 – The treatment plant was off-line from January through April, which last year for the same period produced about 25% of the district's water. This year the wells generated 100% of the District's water. January through April are generally leaner months, which allows the District to rely on the wells more heavily. However, improvements in Well #4 and Well #2 have provided better capability to produce water during the times the surface is too turbid to operate during the rainy seasons.

**Commissioner Weller** made a Motion to conclude the meeting at 9:15 PM; **Commissioner Powell** seconded. Motion passed unanimously.