

Water District 19
Board of Commissioners Meeting
Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Regular Meeting 6:00 PM

Board President Seth Zuckerman called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:03 PM. Those also in attendance were **Commissioners Mike Weller** and **Robin Pfohman**, **General Manager John Martinak**, **Operator in Responsible Charge Armin Wahanik**, **Office Administrator Melody Snyder**, and visitor present was Jim Gross, Vashon Sewer District.

6:03 PM Call to Order – **Commissioner Zuckerman**

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – Thursday, February 16th, 2023 – Regular Meeting. **Commissioner Weller** made a Motion to approve the minutes as presented; **Commissioner Pfohman** seconded, and **the motion was carried unanimously**.

Review of Vouchers/Warrants/Electronic Payments – Maintenance Fund Vouchers #27347 through #27380 totaling \$48,253.04. **Capital Improvement Fund Voucher #12298** for \$1,308.22. **Payroll warrants #4048** through #4064 totaling \$35,290.00 and **Payroll EFT Direct Deposits** totaling \$11,386.66 dated 02/16/23 and 03/01/23. **Electronic payments** dated 02/17/23, 03/02/23 and 03/13/23 totaling \$9,018.58 and **Department of Revenue** payment for \$6,228.52. **Commissioner Weller** made a Motion to approve the vouchers as submitted and seconded by **Commissioner Pfohman**. Vouchers approved unanimously.

Jim Gross, Vashon Sewer District Manager and President of BHC Consultants, discussed with the Board about consolidating the Vashon Sewer District with Water District 19. He gave a brief presentation about current staffing, history, organization, rates, projects, and areas being served by the Sewer District. **Commissioner Zuckerman** commented after the presentation that it doesn't seem like something the district can contemplate at this particular time. The Commissioners did not rule out considering this probability at a future date.

System Operations Report – Operator in Responsible Charge Armin Wahanik – told the Board about a customer email concerning PFAS (polyfluoroalkyl) substances in the district's water sources. Armin informed the Board that the district would be monitoring for PFAS and about the yearlong sampling study, part of an EPA grant that will begin January 2024. **Commissioner Zuckerman** inquired about the Scada project and where we stand on implementation; he asked to have regular updates from Armin.

Financial Report – General Manager John Martinak –

- Profit & Loss through 02/28/2023 – Net profit was \$30,000 for the year through February. A quiet start to the year had Facilities and Infrastructure costs down \$17,000 from last year. To date, 2023 has seen only one leak repair and no equipment in need of repair, though an Ellis pump is scheduled for repair. Admin payroll is down with the elimination of the Project Manager position.
- Financial Projections through 2023 – Increases in O&M expenses, payroll, and loan payments will necessitate a rate increase. More discussion is needed on projected expenses and potential

increases in revenue. The Board will hold a special meeting to discuss a new rate structure and water unit buy back.

- Morgan Hill update – **General Manager Martinak** reported that Morgan Hill well is currently offline pending repairs to the storage tank. No date for when the system will be back in service.
- Cost-of-Living Allowance for Administrative Staff – **Commissioner Zuckerman** made a Motion to award an 8.5% cost of living increase for the Administrative staff retroactive to the first of the year. **Commissioner Weller** seconded, and **the motion was carried unanimously.**
- Rate Adjustments – Discussion/Action Item – tabled.

New Business

- Filling Vacated Operations Position – **General Manager Martinak** commented that the district is limited with staff that hold the proper water certifications since **Operator Tech Roeser** turned in his resignation. **Operator in Training Alberthal** does not have any certifications yet. **General Manager Martinak** can sit for the WTPO 2 exam when ready. **General Manager Martinak** will place an ad for the position occupied by **Operator Tech Roeser**.
- Gustav Island Mutual Water Unit – **Office Administrator Snyder** spoke to the Board about an Island Mutual Water customer that may not have been aware of the merge between the two water companies in 1969. Contact will be made with the District's attorney on the situation.
- Water Share Buy Back/Exchange - Tabled

Old Business:

- Labor negotiations – **General Manager Martinak** reported that they haven't met since February 2023, awaiting feedback from the Board.

Schedule Next Meeting – Special Meeting is being scheduled for Monday, March 27th at 6 PM. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the water unit buy back option, new rates conversation and going into Executive Session to review the performance of a public employee per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)

At 8:02 PM Commissioner Zuckerman announced that the Board of Commissioners will meet in executive session until 8:45 PM to review the performance of a public employee as allowed by RCW 42.30.110(1)(g).

The Board is not expected to take further action following the executive session.

At 8:49 PM the Board came out of executive session and called the regular meeting back to order.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Board, **Commissioner Zuckerman** adjourned the meeting at 8:50 PM. **Commissioner Pfohman** seconded, and **the motion was carried unanimously.**