

WATER DISTRICT 19
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
Tuesday, February 8, 2022

REGULAR MEETING 6:00 PM

Board President Seth Zuckerman called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:04 PM. Those also in attendance were **Commissioners Mike Weller** and **Robin Pfohman**, **General Manager John Martinak**, and **Office Administrator Melody Snyder**. Visitor present was Charlotte Lubbert.

AGENDA

• **VISITOR BUSINESS**

- None

• **BOARD – ACTION REQUIRED**

- **APPROVE MINUTES** – Tuesday, January 11, 2022, Regular Meeting – **Commissioner Pfohman** made a Motion to approve the minutes as amended; **Commissioner Weller** seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

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

- Water System Plan update: **General Manager Martinak** updated the Board with the questions that Jay Hill of the Utility Technical Review Committee asked about the Water System Plan's number of water units coming off the waiting list. He also asked about other projection numbers listed in the 10-year plan and concerns about actual real data versus those projections. He's also heard from the Department of Ecology, questions about water rights. No comments yet from the Department of Health. He mentioned that Doug Wood, from the Department of Ecology will be on the Island at the end of the month and will try to schedule time to meet to discuss water right issues.
- Seago's water availability/service area adjustment with Heights – Jay Hill also informed **General Manager Martinak** that a parcel in the district's service area owned by the Seago's are reaching out to Heights Water District about attaining water service from them. District 19 cannot serve them due to the moratorium. They never got on the District's waiting list as they were under the impression that they had water at their property. Heights is looking into possible ways they might be able to assist.
- VHS water system tech training program – Vashon meeting on hold for the moment. The school wants to hear what the training possibilities are.
- Public outreach update – **Commissioner Weller** liked the blog post Mary Bruno wrote in the Vashon Beachcomber about water district's having problems finding water operators. Concerning the same subject, **Commissioner Pfohman** reported that she did reach out to the University of Washington for student volunteer assistance. The Board discussed the possibility of working with the other water district's on Vashon to help fill in the operator shortage.
- Redefining ERU value for multi-family housing – **General Manager Martinak** has been reviewing water usage numbers for Apartments in the high use months and their water usage is conservative. The numbers came out a little over 50%. He indicated that the district could gain about 49 extra water units. Irrigation is a big factor. Commissioner Zuckerman wondered if we did revise those ERU numbers, would the district buy those ERU's back and resell them? **General Manager Martinak** will do some research and get back to the Board.

- Approach to clearing water service wait list – **Office Administrator Snyder** has contacted the #1 applicant on the waiting list to find out if they still would be needing the 32 water units they are on the list for. No response as of today. She will follow up with them.

• **ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

- General Manager's report – Discussion occurred on revising the leak adjustment policy. Current policy requires a gate and a pressure reduction valve (PRV) installed before a leak adjustment can be applied. The requirement may be changed to high-pressure zones. **General Manager Martinak** relayed that he's been in conversation with **Project Manager McRae** about working on an easement agreement with the property owner on the Bank Road and 115th Ave SW. The property owner has allowed the district to use their property but haven't finalized an agreement. He also reported that the district is in conversation with KJR radio about installing a transmitter on the million-gallon tank at the well site. He went out and talked to Rick Wallace of Voice of Vashon who recommended the site to KJR Radio. Project Manager McRae will investigate a lease proposal.
- Financial report through January 2022 – **General Manager Martinak** reported that he went back 4 years of financial data to look for trends and noted Capital reserves are going the wrong way. His concerns are the overtime expenses, though one of the biggest overtime users is no longer employed at the district. New Operations Lead Wahanik is already looking to change weekend regulatory scheduling time. The work week schedule won't be able to change until the Union negotiations come up sometime late 2022.
- Production report through January 2022 – The production report came in late this afternoon so wasn't available for the meeting. Operator Roeser has been the only operator since February 4th due Operations Tech I Kassik being out for medical leave.
- Other Reporting – An entry level candidate was interviewed by General Manager Martinak. He's scheduled to meet with New Operations Lead Wahanik and the rest of the Field Operators.

Commissioner Zuckerman announced that the Transition agreement between former **General Manager Jim McRae** and the District has been signed.

Agenda items for next board meeting: Hiring, Budget Model, ERU calculations. New Operations Lead Wahanik will also be attending the Board Meetings.

Commissioner Zuckerman closed the meeting by expressing his excitement about the new dynamics with the new General Manager and staff. All agreed.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Commissioners moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05