

Water District 19
Board of Commissioners Meeting
August 27, 2024

Special Meeting 6:00 PM

Commissioner Seth Zuckerman called the Special Meeting to order at 6:03 PM. Those also in attendance were **Commissioners Michael Weller** and **Robin Pfohman**, **General Manager John Martinak** and **Office Administrator Melody Snyder**. One visitor was present, Vashon Household Board Member **Kim Goforth**

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

Correct/Sign Resolution 1183 – **Commissioner Zuckerman** made a motion to replace the word “updating” with the word “amending”, **Commissioner Pfohman** seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Emergency Water Use Restrictions – Due to an algae bloom in the recycle ponds, the Department of Health is requiring the district to stop using recycle water in the treatment process until the ponds can be drained and cleaned. In order to limit the wastewater discharge violations that will result while recycle water cannot be used, the District needs to minimize demand and limit treatment plant operations until the DOH request is met. To supplement District groundwater sources, General Manager Martinak has asked Heights to open the emergency intertie between the two systems. The District is expected to begin drawing 50 – 80 gpm through the intertie on 09/29/2024. **Commissioner Weller** moved to declare the moderate emergency conditions until the ponds can be cleaned out and the treatment plant brought back online, at which time the emergency declaration will end. **Commissioner Pfohman** seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Water Unit Allocation Policy – The board used to Allocation Policy time to discuss possible revisions that will be presented for public input at a future meeting

Discussion Agenda –

1. Policies for transferring water
2. Define priority use
3. What makes a project qualify as imminent

Priority Uses

1. Fire Department, Schools, Public Agencies- immediate allocation
2. Affordable housing 100% Affordable/80% AMI
 - Multi-Family Housing at market rate – go through open process [more discussion of exact requirements to qualify as affordable is needed]
3. Hardship cases – existing water source no longer viable

- Did property have water available when it was purchased/developed?
 - Well failure versus desire to get off well
 - Needs: demonstrate permitted dwelling & water source in existence by some date
 - Require report documenting situation and efforts to correct it prior to requesting hardship
- Would commercial uses also get prioritized? The board is not in favor of adopting such a broad definition of priority

Transferring ERUs

Create option for those selling back water units to designate them to go towards Priority Uses (or mainstream lottery, it would be “sellers choice”) – repurchased units would add to existing allocated amount

Imminent project definition

- Anyone can enter lottery
- Once a customer is selected by lottery, they would have a specific amount of time to meet milestones, e.g. maybe it would be 3 years to apply for a permit, then additional time to complete construction. The board will need to develop a draft table of possible times for public input.
- Would all projects follow same timeline, or should district adopt different timelines for single-family versus commercial/multifamily?

At 7:51 PM, **Commissioner Zuckerman** announced that the Board of Commissioners will meet in Executive Session to review the performance of a public employee as allowed by RCW 42.30.110(1)(g). The Board will be in Executive Session until 8:15 PM. The Board is not expected to take further action following the Executive Session.

At 8:25 PM, **Commissioner Zuckerman** called the regular meeting back to order. No action was taken during the executive session.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners, **Commissioner Weller** made a motion to conclude the meeting at 8:26 PM. **Commissioner Zuckerman** seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.