

COLTON WATER DISTRICT  
MEETING OF THE BOARD  
NOVEMBER 21, 2023

\*The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

\*Board Members: Vice President Colin Wait, Carl Stephens, Alan Gross and Teresa Bricker.

\*Others present: Pete Dostert and Betty Hodges.

Carl Stephens made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 17<sup>th</sup> board meeting, Teresa Bricker seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

**\*Financial report:** Betty Hodges reported that the charge from WHA Insurance of \$307 was for the yearly crime policy. \$53,528 was transferred this month, which included the per account fee of \$2,970, \$15,552 for the regular savings transfer amount and an extra \$35,000 to lower the balance of the account. The miscellaneous income deposit amount of \$1,430 included \$675 that should have been deposited into construction for the road push, and will be transferred at the next bank transaction. The final hydrant repair cost was \$8,845. We have billed and received payment from Farmers Insurance \$9,235 which included Pete's labor. Betty Hodges explained that the invoice from CwM-H2O for \$805 was from the previous scope of work that Bob Long thought was completely billed but was not because they were short staffed and it hadn't been billed yet. This was previous allocated money.

Carl Stephens made a motion to accept the financial report for September. Teresa Bricker seconded and the motion carried unanimous.

**\*Superintendent's Report:** Pete Dostert talked about the visit with Bob Long on October 25<sup>th</sup> to the treatment plant for some details needed for the claim of beneficial use survey. Also, a site visit with Colin Swanson – Senior Field Representative of Lori Chavez-DeRemer's office on November 16<sup>th</sup> for a meet and greet with Colton Water District and Chief Todd Gary of Colton Fire District for a tour of our Community and treatment plant. Pete also mentioned that he is going to schedule with the contractor to get 2 more P/R's replaced soon.

**\*Old Business:**

Water/Fire Infrastructure project: Alan Gross mentioned meeting with Bob Long and Colin Swanson and both recommending we should be applying for grants. Colin Swanson said they would write letters of support for the grants. He recommends that we apply for the community funding projects grant again in March. The time frame is very short from the announcement to deadline to apply. Alan suggested a Grant Committee gather to start going over this with Dave Ulbricht in the first week of December, but no date has been set yet. Dave is also going to work with us on a One-Stop meeting and Alan passed out paperwork for a temporary proposal that needs to be submitted 30 days prior to the meeting. Alan has identified two grants that we should apply for. The first one is a Federal grant and is a Community funding grant due in February or March and second, is the Oregon Water Resources Department yearly grant due approximately April 24<sup>th</sup> 2024. Colin Wait asked about the grant committee. Alan said it is Teresa Bricker, Betty Hodges and himself. Colin asked if it was open to the public and it was agreed that it was a good idea. Discussion continued and it was agreed that more information was needed regarding the grant needs and amounts.

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Alan Gross made a motion to allocate a \$1,000 for engineering support and \$1,000 for grant consultant support to develop firm quotes needed to bring proposals to the December board meeting for approval. Motion was **not** seconded.

Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan (NHMP): Teresa Bricker told the board that Ken Carroll, Pete Dostert, Betty Hodges, Alan Gross and herself met with Mike Howard and Amanda Ferguson from University of Oregon to discuss the NHMP to discuss our plan. They will be working on these action items until the first week of December and will have them back to us. Jim Lugosi from Clackamas County GSI is working on updating our map for the project as well. Teresa said we probably won't meet the deadline for this year for any brick grants, but it will be ready for next fall.

Water Rights – Bob Long: Bob Long visited the treatment plant on October 25<sup>th</sup> to gather some necessary details needed to finish the claim of beneficial use survey. He has reached out with a few other questions since then, but now has everything he needs. Alan requested a quote from Bob to proceed with steps three and four for the transfer of water rights. The quote is \$11,140. The quote was tabled for the next meeting.

Systems Development fee: Teresa Bricker had a meeting with Mark Knutson from SDAO. He went over our policy and ordinance. Since it is an ordinance it is a law and supersedes anything in a policy and should have language that says that. The methodology did not take in to consideration anything in the future, only the past for reimbursement. Also, in the past all expenses were included in the figures but should not have included maintenance and also, only be calculated for  $\frac{3}{4}$  in meters. We cannot change our current methodology because it is an ordinance. We could have an SDC study done, but it is not cheap. Teresa talked to 2 different people at Civil West engineering firm and there is money available to help with that and to help update our master plan. Teresa has invited Mark to our December 19<sup>th</sup> board meeting at 6:30 to help explain this to the board. Teresa has a meeting with Dan from Civil West to find out how much money we could get, and will report back at the December board meeting.

Hydrant damage/Insurance update: Payment has been received from the insurance company in the amount of \$9,235. To add the hydrants to the insurance schedule would be \$1,100 annually. This discussion has been tabled.

Betty Hodges informed the board the Van Road tank is still listed at the 2015 replacement value at \$690,955 and needs to be increased to \$744,757. Teresa asked what the cost would be. Betty said she would get that for the next meeting.

Banking- Pledge of Collateral update: Betty informed the board that there is no letter specifically guaranteeing protection, but Umpqua bank is on the list of qualified depositories that participate in Oregon public funds collateralization program, and that is our guarantee that we are covered.

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**\*New Business:**

2024 Water Rate increase: Carl Stephens made a motion to increase the water rate 4% (from \$5.28 to \$5.49) and add \$2.00 to the monthly meter fee (from \$27.22 to \$29.22 for ¾" meters) which will increase the per account fee that comes out of that from \$6.00 to \$8.00. Other size meters will increase at the same rate. Teresa Bricker seconded and the motion carried unanimous. Public notices will be published in the Harold Pioneer in the December 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> for a public meeting.

Discussion continued about late fees, shut off fees, NSF fees and In-service fees. It was established that these fees are not in the policy book, and should be updated.

**\*Added Agenda:** None

\*The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.