



REGIONAL WATER PROVIDERS CONSORTIUM BOARD MEETING Minutes of February 1, 2017

Consortium Board Tom Lewis called the Regional Water Providers Consortium Board Meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. The meeting was held in the Metro Council Chambers.

Elected representatives from fifteen Consortium member agencies were present at the meeting (which is a quorum), including City of Beaverton, Clackamas River Water, City of Forest Grove, City of Gladstone, City of Hillsboro, City of Lake Oswego, City of Milwaukie, Oak Lodge Water Services, Rockwood Water PUD, City of Sherwood, South Fork Water Board, Sunrise Water Authority, City of Tigard, City of Tualatin, and Tualatin Valley Water District.

Consortium member agencies not represented by elected officials at this meeting included City of Gresham, Metro, City of Portland, Raleigh Water District, City of Sandy, and West Slope Water District.

Introductions: Introductions were made. Those in attendance included Councilor Mark Fagin and David Winship from the City of Beaverton; Commissioner Naomi Angiers and Todd Heidgerken from Clackamas River Water; Mayor Peter Truax and Rob Foster from the City of Forest Grove; Mayor Tammy Stempel from the City of Gladstone; Andrew Degner from the City of Gresham; Commissioner David Judah and Kevin Hanway from the City of Hillsboro; Mayor Kent Studebaker and Kari Duncan from the City of Lake Oswego; Tim O'Brien from Metro; Councilor Lisa Batey from the City of Milwaukie; Commissioner Nancy Gibson and Dan Bradley from Oak Lodge Water Services; Edward Campbell, Teresa Elliott, and Sara Petrocine from the City of Portland; Director Tom Lewis and Brian Stahl from Rockwood Water PUD; Councilor Sean Garland and Craig Sheldon from the City of Sherwood; Mayor Russ Axelrod from South Fork Water Board; Commissioner Kevin Bailey from Sunrise Water Authority; Councilor Tom Anderson and John Goodrich from the City of Tigard; Councilor Frank Bubenik and Jerry Postema from the City of Tualatin; Commissioner Jim Duggan, Mark Knudson, and Clark Balfour from Tualatin Valley Water District; Scott Fernandez, citizen; and Rebecca Geisen, Bonny Cushman and Patty Burk, Consortium Staff.

Approval of Consortium Board Minutes for October 5, 2016: Commissioner Nancy Gibson made a motion to approve the October 5, 2016 Consortium Board meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Jim Duggan seconded the motion. The Consortium Board unanimously approved the October 5, 2016 Consortium Board minutes as presented. (15:0:0)

Public Comment: None.

FY 2017/18 Consortium Budget and Work Plan: Rebecca Geisen, Consortium Project Manager pointed out that included in the meeting materials packet was a FY 2017/18 budget and work plan memorandum and budget matrix for Board consideration and adoption at tonight's meeting. Ms. Geisen reminded Board members that budget concepts were discussed at the October Board meeting and Consortium staff was directed to craft a budget to reflect a 2-3% increase in dues while trying to maintain core programs. Ms. Geisen advised that because of the relatively low carry-over and the loss of Metro's membership, the budget concepts shared in October reflected some programmatic cuts to maintain a minimal increase in dues. She noted however, in December, the City of Portland provided the 2017/18 staffing costs which reflected a smaller increase than the placeholder staff costs projected. Ms. Geisen said as a result, Consortium staff was able to restore the programmatic cuts, and keep the dues increase to 3%.

Ms. Geisen advised that the Consortium Technical Committee and Executive Committee have reviewed the budget and work plan, and offer it for Board consideration and approval.

Ms. Geisen gave a brief PowerPoint presentation on the Consortium and its programs, and outlined the new projects proposed in the FY 2017/18 work plan. New projects included the launch of a new television campaign to promote emergency preparedness related to water; the development of new videos to promote emergency preparedness and conservation; an update of the Consortium 5-year Strategic Plan; a restart of sinking funds for updating the Regional Interconnections Study; and funds for trainings and exercises. Ms. Geisen advised that the proposed FY 2017/18 Consortium work plan maintains the current conservation program levels and broadens outreach for emergency preparedness. The FY 2017/18 budget is a six percent decrease from FY 2016/17, however, dues for members will increase by approximately three percent because of a lower carryover and having one less member.

Ms. Geisen explained that the budget carryover amount from FY 2015/16 is \$58,500. She noted that traditionally the carryover amount is used to off-set future dues, however, the Board has discretion as to how to spend the carryover and will need to decide how to disperse the carryover amount of \$58,500 from FY 2015/16. Ms. Geisen said if no action is taken by the Board for the carryover amount, the carryover will be credited to the participant dues for FY 2017/18.

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Chair Lewis opened the meeting for discussion.

Chair Lewis commented that over the past few years, the Consortium Board has been focusing on increasing its efforts in emergency preparedness and believes a good balance of programs, i.e., conservation, regional coordination, and emergency preparedness has been achieved. Chair Lewis reiterated that the Executive Committee supports the FY 2017/18 work plan and budget as presented.

Board members discussed the recent minor fluctuation in membership and Metro's decision to withdraw from the Consortium in the upcoming fiscal year.

Ms. Geisen advised that Consortium staff, some Board members, and member staff have had discussions or meetings with Metro to try to encourage them to stay on as members. Ms. Geisen advised that in late November she, Board Chair Tom Lewis, Brian Stahl from Rockwood Water PUD, and Tim O'Brien met with Councilor Shirley Craddick and Council Policy Coordinator Ernest Hayes from Metro to discuss Metro's decision to withdrawal from the Consortium, why their role is important to the Consortium, and the value the Consortium brings to Metro. Ms. Geisen noted that she felt the discussion went well and that Councilor Craddick seemed open to discussing their membership with the other Councilors. However, Metro's decision to leave still stands.

It was asked that Consortium staff send out talking points to Board members for use during conversations they may have with Metro Councilors at other meeting/venues of elected officials since it was still felt that Metro was an important part of the Consortium and its mission.

Commissioner Naomi Angiers asked how often the on-line how-to videos were viewed. Bonny Cushman reported that the videos are housed on the Consortium website as well as the Consortium YouTube, Facebook and Twitter pages. Ms. Cushman advised that in the first four months of the emergency preparedness video being available via the website and various social media channels, the video was viewed over 5,000 times.

Commissioner Jim Duggan made a motion to approve the FY 2017/18 Consortium work plan and budget as presented and to use the FY 2015/16 carryover of \$58,500 to offset the dues. Commissioner Nancy Gibson seconded the motion. The motion to approve the FY 2017/18 Consortium work plan and budget and to use the FY 2015/16 carryover of \$58,500 to offset the dues was unanimously approved as presented. (15:0:0)

Washington Park Reservoir Improvement Project Update: Teresa Elliott, Portland Water Bureau Chief Engineer joined the Consortium Board meeting to give an update on the Washington Park Reservoir Improvement Project.

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Ms. Elliott advised that in order to comply with federal and state mandates and ensure a healthy, resilient, and secure water system, the Portland Water Bureau has moved forward with an eight-year capital improvement project to update the Washington Park reservoir site.

Currently, Washington Park's open Reservoirs 3 (upper) and 4 (lower) occupy the site along with two gate houses, a weir building, three pump houses, a generator house, and associated underground piping. The reservoirs are part of an ingenious gravity-fed drinking water system constructed more than 120 years ago in 1893 and 1894, respectively.

The Washington Park Reservoir Improvements Project entails building a new, seismically reinforced below ground reservoir. The reservoir will not only maintain the historic drinking water function provided by the original reservoirs, but will be engineered to withstand ongoing landslide encroachment and potentially catastrophic effects of a major earthquake and will feature a reflecting pool on top in the same general footprint as the historical Reservoir 3.

Reservoir 4 will be disconnected from the public drinking water system, and a lowland habitat area/bioswale and a reflecting pool will be constructed in the basin. Work will primarily be within the Historic District.

When complete and online, the new underground reservoir will supply water to Portland's west side, including all downtown businesses and residents, the Oregon Zoo, more than 60 parks, six hospitals, and 20 Portland public schools.

The project is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2023.

Project Manager Report: Ms. Geisen pointed out that a detailed tri-annual activity report was included in the meeting materials packet and encouraged Board members to look over the report for information on activities conducted since the last Board meeting in October.

Conservation Program: Ms. Geisen reported that Consortium staff negotiated contracts with media partners Alpha Media (seven radio stations), KGW (channel 8) television, KUNP (Spanish language television Univision), and Garden Time television for its 2017 conservation-focused media campaign. All of the 2017 ad packages met or exceeded past campaign's numbers.

Ms. Geisen advised that the Consortium is partnering with Mad Science to deliver one Consortium-sponsored show to a school in each member agency's service area. She noted that this year's show is "What Do You Know About H2O" which is geared toward 3-5th graders. Only about half of the shows have been scheduled so far – the winter weather has had an effect on scheduling.

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The Consortium will again provide sponsorship funds and have an exhibit at this year's Children's Clean Water Festival (CCWF). Both media partners KGW, Channel 8 and KUNP, Univision will attend the festival to film new stories. The CCWF is Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at the University of Portland. Approximately 1,400 fourth graders will participate in this year's festival.

Regional Interconnections Study Update: Ms. Geisen advised that Consortium members submitted updated system and interconnections information to Murray Smith and Associates (MSA) in late 2016. MSA met with the Consortium Technical Committee in January to establish the criteria that will be used to rank the importance of the 190 interconnections between provider systems. Once completed, water providers will be able to utilize this information to prioritize critical interconnections for maintenance, operational improvements, security, etc. The project will conclude with a tabletop exercise in the fall of 2017.

Urban Area Security Initiative Grant Funding: Ms. Geisen reported that project proposals were drafted for potential 2017 Urban Area Security Initiative Grant. South Fork Water Board submitted a proposal for a mobile water treatment system and the City of Gresham submitted a proposal for a mobile hose reel system. Ms. Geisen advised that information about the 2017 UASI grant will be available soon.

Emergency Water Bags: Ms. Geisen said this past fall, Consortium staff started work on procuring one-gallon emergency water bags. She noted that the purpose of the bags is to store them with emergency water treatment and distribution systems throughout the region and to use them as outreach tools to educate the public about the importance of storing an emergency supply of water.

Emergency Preparedness How-To Video: Ms. Geisen advised that Consortium staff worked with the Emergency Preparedness Committee (EPC) to draft a script for a new how-to video that explains how to access water from your water heater in an emergency. Donn Bunyard of Clackamas River Water will serve as the Consortium spokesperson for the video which will be completed in spring 2017.

Drinking Water Advisory Tool: Ms. Geisen noted that service area map updates have been completed for the Drinking Water Advisory Tool.

Membership: Ms. Geisen noted that she recently met with the Cities of Troutdale, Fairview and Wood Village about their possible interest in joining the Consortium.

Board Elections: Ms. Geisen explained that current Board Chair Tom Lewis is serving his second year of a two consecutive year term, and the current Consortium Board Vice-Chair did not win reelection which leave a vacancy. She also noted that there is a vacancy on the Executive Committee as well. Ms. Geisen advised that Board elections are normally done at the June meeting every year, so elections to fill all of the positions will take place in June.

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Ms. Geisen encouraged Board members that would like to get more involved with the Consortium to consider a seat on the Executive Committee and/or the Chair and Vice-Chair positions.

2017 Oregon Legislative Update: Sara Petrocine, Water Resource and Urban Affairs Coordinator at the Portland Water Bureau and Clark Balfour, General Counsel with Tualatin Valley Water District joined the meeting to give Consortium Board members a preview of the 2017 legislative session and water-related bills.

Ms. Petrocine reported that the 2017 State of Oregon Legislature officially convened today, February 1, 2017 with a regular session that cannot constitutionally exceed 160 days. She advised that the main issues facing lawmakers this session includes the budget, which has a \$1.6 billion shortfall, taxes, transportation package, and housing. 1,500 bills were filed in the pre-session which is a record; approximately double the normal number of bills that are filed.

Ms. Petrocine and Mr. Balfour reviewed several water-related bills that could be of interest to water providers. Those bills included:

Water Issues

Agency budgets

HB 2295 – Increases Water Resources Department’s water rights transaction fees.

HB 2296 - Creates application process and increases fee for construction of individual wells.

Clean diesel

HB 2110 - Requires Environmental Quality Commission to adopt standards to reduce non-road diesel emissions.

HB 2138 - Requires public improvement contracts to reserve 1% of contract price for diesel retrofits of contractor equipment.

HB 2269- Use of Volkswagen Settlement Funds to reduce emissions.

Drought

HB 2241 and **HB 2297** – Placeholder bills from the Drought Task Force.

HB 2705 - Requires water measurement at point of diversion.

HB 2027 - Creation of a “Dry Day Fund” with lottery proceeds to fund water storage projects.

HB 2097 – Creates a regional approach to water resource management and drought resilience through creation of six water resource target regions.

HB 2722 - Allows residents of a Homeowner’s Association to be released from irrigation requirements in Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions during drought or curtailment.

Eminent Domain

SB 535 - Establishes minimum valuation standards for acquisition of property based on Assessor’s real market value.

Fish persistence

HB 2099 and **SB 466**- Defines “undeveloped portion of permit” and draws bright line in time for extensions at December 2013 for municipal water rights extensions.

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Groundwater

HB 2707 - Appropriates money to Water Resources Department for groundwater studies and analysis in priority basins.

HB 2404 - Requires OHA to analyze groundwater contaminant data; authorizes grant fund for treatment systems for qualifying homeowners or renters; requires well testing by Landlords.

Public Contracting

SB 382 - Raises threshold of price at which contracting agency can directly appoint architect, engineer, photogrammetrist, transportation planner, or surveyor to \$500,000.

HB 2196, HB 2564 and **SB 287**- Requires determination of responsibility for public improvement contracts to be based on whether contractor has provided health care to employees for two years.

HB 2563 and **SB 288** - Preference for contract award Oregon and U.S. contractors and suppliers.

Public Records

HB 2455 - Requires public records retention schedule; response within seven days; other requirements regarding public records. Non-task force bill.

SB 106 – Creates Public Records Advocate and Public Records Advisory Council – would act as mediator but not have the power to compel release of records. Task Force bill.

Recreational Immunity

HB 2483 and **SB 327** would clarify that public employees are included in the definition of owner so that immunity would apply to them as well.

Water Quality

HB 2386 and **HB 2645**- Directs manufacturers of certain drugs to develop drug take-back programs for disposal.

HB 2269 - Changes to hazardous substance reporting requirements under local Community Right to Know ordinances.

HB 2711 – Creates fracking moratorium until 2026.

The Regional Water Providers Consortium Board meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m. The next meeting of the Regional Water Providers Consortium Board is June 7, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the Metro Council Chambers.

Submitted by Patty Burk, Consortium Staff