

DOUGLAS COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT NO. 1
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

December 13, 2022

Those present were:

Board of Commissioners: Greg Peterson, President; Wayne Barnhart, Vice-President; Cheryl Sutton, Secretary.

District Staff and Consultants: Darrell Winans, District Manager; Bernita Landers, Assistant District Manager/Finance Officer; Charles Zimmerman, Ogden Murphy Wallace.

Guests: Jeremy Stumetz, RH2 Engineering.

CALL TO ORDER:

President Peterson called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Commissioner Sutton requested the addition of WASWD Lawyers Workshop to the Agenda.

Commissioner Barnhart moved, and Commissioner Sutton seconded, the motion to approve the Agenda with the addition. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Barnhart moved to approve the Consent Agenda which includes approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of November 22, 2022; Vehicle Fund Voucher number 3014399 in the amount of \$40,442.00; O&M Fund Wages & Benefits Vouchers numbered 3014400 to 3014402 in the amount of \$134,600.84; and O&M Fund Vouchers (\$225,534.22), Capital Systems Fund Vouchers (\$28,610.00), and Construction Fund Vouchers (\$0.00), all collectively numbered 3014403 through 3014450 in the total combined amount of \$254,144.22; Commissioner Sutton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEMS:

FCS Group Rate Study Agreement: Manager Winans presented the rate study agreement for review. A discussion followed. **Commissioner Peterson moved and Commissioner Barnhart seconded the motion to authorize the Manager to execute the rate study agreement with FCS Group. The motion carried unanimously.**

RH2 2023 Rate Schedule: Jeremy Stumetz presented the 2023 rate schedule and explained the reasons reflected in the 9% increase. A discussion followed regarding different RH2 customer classes and rates, the least-costly class rate which is applicable to the District, and estimated comparative costs of hiring an in-house engineer. **Commissioner Barnhart moved and Commissioner Peterson seconded the motion to approve the RH2 2023 Rate Schedule. The motion carried unanimously.**

RH2 Wenatchi Landing Contract Amendment #3: Manager Winans and Jeremy Stumetz presented an amendment to the Wenatchi Landing services agreement for lift station property acquisition assistance. **Commissioner Peterson moved and Commissioner Sutton seconded the motion to authorize the Manager to execute the Wenatchi Landing Sewer Extension – Phase I North A Lift Station Property Acquisition Assistance Amendment No. 3. The motion carried unanimously.**

Baker Avenue Gravity Sewer Mainline Break: Manager Winans reported on a broken sewer mainline behind 706 N Baker Avenue during Douglas County PUD work on Wednesday, December 7, 2022. An emergency repair was completed by Pipkin Construction. **Commissioner Peterson moved and Commissioner Barnhart seconded the motion to ratify the Manager's actions to arrange repair of the break and report back with costs of the repair. The motion carried unanimously.**

Jeremy Stumetz left the meeting.

WASWD Lawyers Workshop: Charles Zimmerman reported on topics discussed at the workshop.

Charles Zimmerman left the meeting.

2023 Wages & Benefits Budget: Manager Winans presented a proposed budget based on a year-over-year CPI rate of 7.63%. A lengthy discussion followed regarding inflation trends, the methodology of historical wage increases,

industry standards of percentages of wages and benefits to total O&M, and comparable entities.

Manager Winans and Assistant Manager / Finance Officer Landers left the meeting temporarily during Board discussion.

Commissioner Barnhart moved and Commissioner Peterson seconded the motion to adopt the 2023 Wages & Benefits Budget as presented. The motion carried 2-0-1. (Commissioner Sutton abstained).

2023 Operations & Maintenance Budget: Manager Winans presented a proposed budget and reported on cost increases and anticipated expenses. A discussion followed. **Commissioner Sutton moved and Commissioner Barnhart seconded the motion to adopt the 2023 Operations & Maintenance Budget as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

MANAGERS REPORT:

Regional Aquatics Center: Manager Winans reported on the December 7th, regional meeting regarding a regional aquatics center in the Wenatchi Landing area.

New Years, New Beginnings Celebration: Manager Winans reported that an employee appreciation luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, January 5th, at 1:00 at Bob's Burgers and Brews.

Microsoft Data Center Tour: Commissioner Peterson and Manager Winans reported on the Microsoft Data Center tour that occurred on Tuesday, November 29th.

2023 Insurance & Benefits Enrollment: Assistant Manager/Finance Officer Landers provided forms for Commissioner benefit renewal for 2023.

WASWD Commissioners Workshop: All 3 commissioners plan to attend the workshop on Saturday, January 28, 2023.

COMMISSIONERS CORNER:

Commissioner Sutton led a discussion of assorted staff-related items of interest.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Board President Peterson declared the meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.



GREG PETERSON
President



WAYNE BARNHART
Vice President



CHERYL SUTTON
Secretary