

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MEDFORD WATER COMMISSION

May 18, 2016

The regular meeting of the Medford Water Commission was called to order at 12:37 p.m. on the above date at the Medford City Hall Lausmann Annex, Room 151/157 with the following commissioners and staff present:

Chair Leigh Johnson; Commissioners Jason Anderson, John Dailey, Lee Fortier, Bob Strosser

Manager Larry Rains, Medford City Attorney Lori Cooper; City Recorder Karen Spoons; Administrative Coordinator Yvette Finstad; Finance Administrator Tessa DeLine; Public Information Coordinator Sara Bristol; Conservation Coordinator Laura Hodnett; Geologist Bob Jones; Water Quality Director Rosie Pindilli; Operations Superintendent Ken Johnson; Duff/Water Treatment Plant Director Jim Stockton; TS Administrator Kris Stitt

Guests: Medford Councilmember Chris Corcoran; Central Point Mayor Hank Williams; Central Point City Manager Chris Clayton; Eagle Point Administrator Henry Lawrence

The pledge of allegiance was given.

3. Approval or Correction of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 4, 2016

The minutes were approved as presented.

4. Comments from the Audience

4.1 Commissioner Johnson asked Eagle Point City Administrator Henry Lawrence how much money was raised for the Butte Creek Mill fundraising event; Mr. Lawrence was unsure but it was a good event.

5. Resolutions

5.1 No. 1598, A RESOLUTION Authorizing the Chair of the Board of Water Commissioners to Execute an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA), By and Between the Medford Water Commission (Commission), a Chartered Municipal Water Utility of the City of Medford, Oregon, and the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), Permitting the Commission to Participate in Cooperative Activities Within Jackson and Josephine Counties Related to the Collection and Disposal of Waste Pesticide Materials and Authorizing the Transfer of Funds to Reimburse ODA for the Associated Pesticide Disposal Costs

After receiving a grant from Oregon Health Authority, administered by Infrastructure Finance Authority, MWC worked in coordination with the ODA to hold pesticide collection and disposal events on March 4 and 5, 2016. All activities and expenditures for this project are complete. ODA has received the bill from their contractor for the agricultural waste chemical disposal costs; MWC will be transferring \$18,000 to them to cover these costs, which will be reimbursed to us from the grant.

Motion: Approve Resolution No. 1598

Moved by: Mr. Daily

Seconded by: Mr. Strosser

Commissioner Dailey questioned why Josephine County was involved and did we put up any money; Geologist Jones noted that ODA put up money although we did not.

Roll Call: Commissioners Anderson, Dailey, Fortier, Johnson, and Strosser voting yes.

Motion carried and so ordered. Resolution No. 1598 was approved.

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- 5.2 No. 1599, A RESOLUTION Authorizing the Manager to Execute a Contract Amendment for GSI Water Solutions, Inc. (GSI) for Consulting Services for Permitting Related to the Duff II Water Treatment Plant

A sole source contract for GSI was previously awarded by board members for Consulting Services for Permitting Related to the Duff II Water Treatment Plant. Additional work, estimated to cost from \$80,287.00 to \$87,613.00, is required due to changes in the scope by the National Marine Fisheries Service and the US Army Corps of Engineers so that they can more realistically evaluate the effects of the project on aquatic species. The total cost of the amendment and the original contract exceeds the Manager's purchasing authority without board approval.

Commissioner Anderson questioned what the amendment was; Manager Rains noted this pertains to when we will build. He noted we could do the intake screens after ten years although we could get in the river right now. Geologist Jones noted we are amending the cost.

Motion: Approve Resolution No. 1599

Moved by: Mr. Dailey

Seconded by: Mr. Strosser

Roll Call: Commissioners Anderson, Dailey, Fortier, Johnson, and Strosser voting yes.

Motion carried and so ordered. Resolution No. 1599 was approved.

6. Authorization of Vouchers

Motion: Authorize the Manager and the Recorder to issue check-warrants in payment of invoices for a total amount of \$403,207.01

Moved by: Mr. Anderson

Seconded by: Mr. Dailey

Roll Call: Commissioners Anderson, Dailey, Fortier, Johnson, and Strosser voting yes; Fortier recused himself from the Rogue Disposal & Recycling voucher; Johnson recused himself from the Stanley voucher.

Motion carried and so ordered.

7. Engineer's Report (Principal Engineer Eric Johnson)

Not in attendance

8. Water Quality Report (Water Quality Director Rosie Pindilli)

- 8.1 Water Quality Director Pindill stated that lead and copper are still in the news and provided information on recent American Water Works Association (AWWA) public affairs advisories. On April 7, 2016 lead and copper rule exceedances were published; April 13, 2016 AWWA testified to Congress; April 14, 2016 lead in water in schools was in the news; May 3, 2016 AWWA urged consumers to identify lead service lines in their homes; May 6, 2016 legislation on hold, May 12, 2016 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) stresses transparency and public outreach is key to mitigating lead risks. On a state level, the EPA asked states to address five areas of risk from lead in drinking water. In response, the Oregon Health Authority submitted a letter dated April 5, 2016 to the EPA, which was included in the Commission's packet.

Commissioner Anderson questioned what Ms. Pindilli would like to bring up pertaining to the conference she attended; she stated she felt that entities need to get in front of this even if there is not an issue.

9. Finance Report (Finance Administrator Tessa DeLine)

- 9.1 Finance is working on the budget analysis to determine what is driving the increases. Ms. DeLine stated that a written report will be available June 1, 2016.

10. Operations Report (Operations Superintendent Ken Johnson)

- 10.1 Operations Superintendent Johnson stated that he attended a seminar pertaining to earthquakes where there was discussion on how you can restore your water source. He also

attended a FEMA Emergency Management workshop and on June 9, 2016 he will attend an earthquake tabletop exercise.

**11. Manager/Other Staff Reports**

- 11.1 The City of Eagle Point will hold a public hearing pertaining to a 4% water increase.
- 11.2 The City of Medford encountered a water line in the new section of Holly Street for the new police facility, which will need to be replaced. MWC will use in-kind services and contribute \$17,000 to the material that will be used for it. This is a \$70,000 project; MWC will share about \$30,000.

**11.3 Corrosion Issue**

Mr. Rains stated that the Board had directed staff to provide their recommendations pertaining to lead and copper. A brief memo and chart was provided. Mr. Rains stated if the Board agreed to the in-depth corrosion study this would be the first time one has been done this extensively; the uni-directional flushing program has not been done either.

Commissioner Johnson thanked staff for the options presented and would like a study. Commissioner Strosser agreed the in-depth corrosion study is needed. Commissioner Anderson agreed and would like item 17 (the study) done as soon as possible and prepare for items 18 and 19 to perhaps be initiated after the study is concluded or in the future. Commissioner Fortier questioned the cost of lead/copper testing; Ms. Pindilli noted it would be \$30 each for the analytical test cost. Commissioner Dailey questioned if we should wait until after the rule; Commissioner Fortier noted the only thing that would change would be the threshold limits and we have an obligation to educate our customers. Commissioner Strosser noted we should actively look for lead service lines. Discussed was the outlaw of lead used in soldering of pipe joints in the mid 1980's. Commissioner Johnson also suggested items 21 and 22 be considered down the line after the study is completed.

**Motion:** Direct staff to continue option items 1 thru 6, proceed in implementing new options 7 thru 15, and proceed with item 17 working with a consultant to provide a complete up-to-date study on the aspects of corrosion and how it interacts with the MWC system as soon as possible.

Moved by: Mr. Strosser

Seconded by: Mr. Dailey

Ms. Pindilli stated we are focused on lead but expressed concern with copper as it is usually overlooked. Commissioner Strosser noted his motion would include anything corrosion, including copper.

**Roll Call:** Commissioners Anderson, Dailey, Fortier, Johnson, and Strosser voting yes.

Motion carried and so ordered.

The Board continued their discussion on additional options, such as private plumbing, long service line replacements, uni-directional flushing and expanded testing. Commissioner Dailey questioned what the study will do; Mr. Rains said the study will provide recommendations.

**12. Propositions and Remarks from the Commissioners**

**13. Adjourn**

There being no further business, this Commission meeting adjourned at 1:17 p.m. The proceedings of the Medford Water Commission meeting were recorded on tape and are filed in the Water Commission's Office. The complete agenda of this meeting is filed in the Water Commission's Office.

Karen M. Spoonts, MMC  
City Recorder  
Clerk of the Commission