August 21, 2017 Minutes

King County
North City Water District
1519 N.E. 177th Street
Seattle, Washington 98155

AGENDA

Call to Order: 7:00pm by Craig Christensen, P.E., Section IV Director

Welcome: Diane Pottinger, General Manager, welcomed everyone. Indicated their District was involved with various community events over the past few weeks.

Approval of Previous Minutes: Motion made/seconded to approve the Section IV July 17, 2017 meeting minutes as presented which was emailed/distributed along with the August agenda.

Approval of Agenda: Craig called for additions to the agenda. Two items added: a) Address the Section IV stipend for the upcoming WASWD conference in Wenatchee; b) Award presentation to state representative.
Motion made/seconded to approve as modified. Send agenda revisions items to Craig Christensen, P.E., via email craigc@chsengineers.com or telephone 206-930-5191.

Introduction of Attendees: Section IV members, associate members, guests introduced themselves 22 in attendance.

WASWD Budget Presentation – Jim Kuntz handed out a 2018 proposed budget (Jan – Dec.) for WASWD. The chart contained the following major categories:

Revenues:
Membership, Conference/Workshops, Advertising, Miscellaneous Income

Expenses:
Salaries & Benefits Contract Services, Legal, Conference/Educational Forum, Publications/Marketing, Administrative, Miscellaneous. A comparison of the actuals from 2014 the 2016 and the adopted 2017 supplemental budget figures. Net Operating Income for 2017 shows a negative $85,109. The 2018 proposed budget has a negative $29,459. The final budget will be reviewed and approved at the Fall Conference.

Jim indicated the budget reflects the Board’s decision to draw down reserves to $350,000. Discussion took place on keeping the reserves and spending the funds on required activities.

Legislator Award: Jim indicated that Board approved Cindy Ryu, 32nd District representative in Olympia for an Outstanding Legislator Award in her support and dedication for the Public Works Trust Fund (PWTF) related to loans and grants. Rep Ryu gave a short synopsis of her background. Was elected 7 years ago and is in her 4th term. She was the Mayor of Shoreline and was the first female elected in the USA as a female mayor. She provided a short list of her accomplishments as a representative. We thanked her for her support to the PWTF.

Executive Director’s Report: Jim Kuntz addressed the following topics:
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- WASWD fall conference will be from September 27th to 29th at the Wenatchee Convention Center. A quorum of 35% (34 of 97 members) required at the annual business meeting on Friday.
- The Doxo 3rd party initiative was discussed. This company is taking the District’s utility bills and putting a copy of the bill on their website and is assessing a late fee which is not accurate. Currently Skyway and Coal Creek Districts are affected. Recommend Districts should trademark their mark and logo and their website to prevent fraud and protect all legal rights.
- An economic survey requesting 2016 data/information from each of the 182 water/sewer impact was mailed out by the WASWD office. Districts, GM’s and Finance manager to complete the form and return. As of this meeting about 50% have been returned. Eastern Washington University (EWU) in Cheney will be collecting the data and providing the stats on the results.
- There is a meeting scheduled for all General Managers at the Mukilteo Water District office on August 24th at 10 AM.
- Retro Program- Seeking nominations. Looking for individuals to be on this committee. Submit your name to WASWD by August 25th.
- The WASWD office lease space is coming to an end of 7/31/18. Currently office is 1600 square feet. Decision to extend option or move. Landlord is raising the rent to $25 a foot with annual cost of $46,000. Jim will be sending an email to all Districts requesting their input to see if there is available space to rent.
- State Budget – The Hirst decision and hence, the State Capitol Budget ($4.2 Billion) is on hold. The 45th District in Senate seat is up for election. Possibly a democrat may be elected for this seat. Governor Inslee wants a capital gains tax; reduce the school property tax; and recommending a carbon tax to raise state revenues.
- WASWD –draft- Legislative Agenda.- Jim handout the proposed agenda which will be part of the 60 day short session. Topics included: a) Preserve Authority; Remaining items from 2017 Session: PWTF, Hirst Fix, Foster Fix- Mitigation; New Legislative Issues for Consideration: King County Franchise Fee, GMA Modification-West Sound Utility District, Small Districts-Commissioner’s Health Care, Commissioner’s compensation, Reclaim Water Rule, Stormwater Injection in the Critical Aquifer Recharge Area, Service Agreements/Assumptions Law, Perfluorinated Compound Maximum Containment Level, Remediation Requirement, Grinder Pump Ownership, Billing Non-Water Customers for Fire Protection Benefit, Street Light System Ownership, Sewer & Water District Commissioner Qualification. Bills to Watch: County Utility Tax Authority, Lead in Drinking Water Bills, Contractor Claims Bill, State Bank Study

Board of Director’s Report: Jerry Thornton reported the following:
- Heather Kibbey, WASWD’s Regulatory Liaison attended the board meeting.
- WASWD Scholarships committee: 5 applicants to the Scholarship Program received a total of $8,000 for higher education.
- Working on logistics for the WASWD Fall conference in Wenatchee.

Committee Reports:

Emergency Management: On behalf of Laura Gallez, Jerry Thornton, Dist. #125 indicated WARN/FEMA is looking at a future exercise involving states of Washington, Oregon and Idaho to participate for a more inclusive northwest drill. Tim McClellan, Commissioner from Lakehaven indicated there will be representative from their district attending upcoming emergency management training in Virginia.
Public Works Trust Fund (PWTF): Governor Inslee re-appointed Diane Pottinger, General Manager, North City Water and Pam Carter, Commissioner from Valley View Water to continue their support to the PWTF committee. Congratulations!!

SPU Operating Board: Ron Speer indicated no meeting.

Government Relations: Steve Pfaff indicated Legislative report was covered under Jim’s executive director’s report.

King County: MWPACC, RWQC & Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC)
Steve Ohlenkamp, WASWD - Section IV consultant reported the following:

The monthly MWWPACC meeting usually held on the forth Wednesday, was cancelled for July. The next meeting will be held on August 23 at the Tukwila Community Center.

The MWPAAC subcommittee meetings were held on August 3 at the Tukwila Community Center.

The Rates & Finance Subcommittee received a briefing by Sharman Herrin, WTD Government Relations Administrator, on a Capacity Charge Proviso Final Report regarding the feasibility of converting capacity charges to liens. Next they held a joint session with the Engineering & Planning Subcommittee (E&P) on specific capital projects that are underway, presented by Stan Hummel, Project Management Unit Supervisor.

The E&P subcommittee heard a presentation by WTD Assistant Project Ashley Mihle entitled “Biosolids/Reclaimed Water/Energy/Technology Assessment Strategic Plans & Goals. Next WTD planner Nicole Smith gave an Inflow/Infiltration Project Scope of Work Update. And finally, John Phillips, WTD CSO Control Program Manager, made a presentation on a Climate Precipitation Study.

The Regional Water Quality Committee, usually held on the first Wednesday of the month in the Metropolitan King County Council chambers, was cancelled for August due to the annual two week council break.

The next meeting of the GMPC scheduled for Wednesday, September 27 has been cancelled. A brief update on King County’s progress in developing a program to implement the Franchise Compensation Fee Ordinance: the public rule to implement county code changes made in late 2016 are being researched and written by the Facility Management Division will not be completed until sometime this fall. The county is still interested in working with the special districts and Section IV and will be reaching out in late September. The county is also working on a “forbearance” option to be discussed and potentially negotiated with the special districts. Negotiations between PSE and the county are underway and negotiations between Seattle City Light and the county are also underway.

Section IV Stipend: Craig Christensen opened the discussion. Stipend will pay the conference fee for 1 individual to attend the Fall Conference in September. Suggestions from the floor were not to have an existing WASWD member. Each Section received a stipend. Jim Kuntz was authorized to try to find a non-member district to accept the conference stipend.

Section IV Director Election: Craig indicated Section IV Director’s term will end next month. Requested nominations from the floor. Commissioner Canter nominated Craig for another term. No other names were offered. A unanimous vote was casted and Craig Christensen was elected as Section IV Director for a 2nd term. Congratulations Craig!!
Other Reports:
Jim Kuntz recognized Brian Egan, WASWD President for coming to all section meetings as he lives in Wenatchee. By attending it helps him understand how each of the four sections handles various industry topics. This current meeting will be Brian’s last meeting as WASWD President. We all thanked him for attending all of our Section IV meeting.

Future Meetings:
(Starts @ 7pm, unless noted)

- September 28th- 7:00AM-Breakfast. Meeting at 7:30AM. Wenatchee Conv.Center.
- October 16 – Highline Water, Midway, WA
- November 20 – Cedar River Water, Renton, WA
- December 18 - TBD

Good of the Order: None

Adjournment: Meeting concluded @ 8:15 pm.

Submitted by,
Sam Amira, Commissioner
King County Water District #90
Renton, Washington

To request items be added to the Agenda contact:
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