

SOUTH FORK WATER BOARD
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
July 10, 2014

Board Members Present: Doug Neeley, Oregon City Mayor Chair
John Kovash, West Linn Mayor, Vice Chair
Rocky Smith, Oregon City Commissioner
Betty Mumm, Oregon City Commissioner
Mike Jones, West Linn Councilor
Jody Carson, West Linn Board Member

Staff Present: John Collins, SFWB General Manager
Kim Brown, SFWB Staff
Wyatt Parno, SFWB Finance Director
Mark Cage, SFWB Staff
Doug Crawford, SFWB Staff
Christopher Crean, SFWB Legal Counsel

Others Present: Alice Richmond, West Linn Resident
Ernie Platt, Sunrise Water Authority

General Board Meeting

(1) **Call to Order**

Chair Neeley called the meeting of the South Fork Water Board to order at 6:03 pm.

(2) **Public Comments**

There were none.

(3) **Consent Agenda**

(A) Approval of the Minutes of the March 13, 2014 Board Meeting.

Board Member Mumm moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Board Member Jones seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(4) **Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA)**

John Collins, General Manager, reported that President Obama had signed WIFIA on June 10th, while the American Water Works Association (AWWA) Conference was being held. The Act, which was included in the Staff report, was a five-year pilot project that would reduce financing costs for projects in excess of \$20 million. Smaller entities could team up on projects to be eligible for a share of the \$20 million in available funding. For example, South Fork could partner with Sunrise, CRW, and North Clackamas County Water Commission to receive joint funding for the current study to search for a backup water source for the Clackamas River. South Fork's infrastructure was not in critical need, being newer, but as a pilot project over the next five years, financing possibilities could exist for public works projects in the future. The funding would come through EPA, which ultimately might come to the State through Revolving Fund. He was certain wastewater infrastructure was covered in the Act, but he was uncertain about storm water infrastructure. He did not know if partnering

with South Fork on one project might preclude Oregon City or West Linn from pursuing WIFIA funding on another project.

(5) **Business from the Manager**

1) Update on Hydro-Rake and Pressure Washing System at CRI

John Collins, General Manager, showed the Board pictures of the pressure washing system Staff built to clean algae off the fish screens of the intake structure on the Clackamas River. A video of the system in operation was also shown as he described how the new system worked. This system would save SFWB the \$2,500 to \$6,000 needed to hire a certified diving team to do the same work. He reminded that the high-end, \$8,000 to \$9,000 pressure washer used in the system was purchased through State Cooperative Purchasing Program and rebuilt for about \$500. The device remains under the water's surface because if the debris material broke the surface of the water, South Fork would have to reclaim and remove it. He commended Doug Crawford for his terrific work on building and implementing the system.

2) Update on HomeServe Policy Program

John Collins, General Manager, reported that he and SFWB Attorney Chris Crean had further researched the HomeServe Program based on the Board's direction at the last meeting and the HomeServe representative for the area clarified that SFWB was not an eligible partner for the program. Only the entities actually billing customers could participate, so HomeServe would now try to engage Oregon City and West Linn in the program.

3) Successful Participation in ENERNOC Energy Reduction Event

John Collins, General Manager, reported that the Energy Savings Grant with ENERNOC proved very successful during a hot weather spell, as South Fork was able to reduce power and qualified for savings. South Fork was unable to participate recently due to low reservoir levels, which was expected during the summer, but the program was working smoothly and increased participation was anticipated during the winter months.

(6) **Business from the Board**

Board Member Jones reported that the AWWA Conference was very beneficial. Discussion at one workshop regarded the difficulty of communicating about water bills, and the American Water Resources Council requested a half-page write up about how West Linn does not have a water bill, but rather a city services bill. Another takeaway was the four page Strategic Business Plan used in Minneapolis. Considering SFWB's Capital Improvement Plan and Strategic Plan, he believed having a simpler, more easily understood document would be great way to communicate with citizens. He brought copies of the four page Strategic Plan for the Board members to review.

Board Member Mumm reported that the conference was very well presented. Her takeaways included the availability of grant and low interest EPA loan opportunities. She learned that other cities were also struggling with how their water bills worked, but recognized that SFWB was much better off than many other entities.

Chair Neeley announced that the First City Festival would be held July 26, 2014 and Oregon City would be symbolically renamed Stumptown for the day.

(7) **Executive Session –Adjourn regular meeting and convene Executive Session.**

Chair Neeley recessed the regular meeting to convene the Executive Session at 6:25 p.m.

- a. To consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(f).
- b. To consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(h).

(8) **Reconvene Regular Meeting if needed to take any action necessary as determined in Executive Session.**

Chair Neeley reconvened the regular meeting at 7:04 p.m. and called for a motion.

Board Member Carson moved to extend General Manager John Collin’s contract to December 31, 2018 and grant 5 percent raise. Board Member Mumm seconded the motion.

Board Member Jones stated it was the consensus of SFWB Board that Mr. Collin’s does an exemplary job and that the Board would do whatever Mr. Collin desired, within the Board’s ability and authority, to continue with that exemplary performance and that during the next budget year, the Board wanted Mr. Collins to expend the resources necessary to evaluate the organization and begin creating a succession plan.

Motion passed unanimously.

Chair Neeley adjourned the regular meeting of the SFWB at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

By Paula Pinyerd, ABC Transcription Services, Inc.
for John Collins, SFWB General Manager