



**LAKEWOOD WATER DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Minutes of Special Meeting  
April 25, 2024  
Boardroom & Via Microsoft Teams**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Vice President Rediske called the Special Meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

**2. ATTENDANCE**

Present at the meeting: Commissioners G. Rediske and G. Barton; General Manager M. Meyer, Operations & Maintenance Manager J. Dean, Finance Manager P. Mendoza, IT Manager C. Fast, HR Manager B. Levo, and Administrative Assistant J. Clark.

Excused: Commissioner J. Korsmo

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Norm Conner was present and elected to speak at the end of the meeting during the public comment period.

**4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM 3/28/24 MEETINGS.**

**COMMISSIONER BARTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING MARCH 28, 2024, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER REDISKE. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**5. FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Philip Mendoza, Finance Director presented the March 2024 financial to the Board.

- *Retail Sales* Currently we are 5.86% higher than budgeted for the month and 5.68% higher YTD.
- *Operating revenue* is 2.22% higher than budgeted for the month and 2.65% higher YTD.
- *Pumping Operations* is 18.5% lower than budget for the month and 13.71% lower than budget YTD.
- *Water Treatment operations* is 9.74% under budget for the month and 7.37% under budget YTD.
- *Transmission and Distribution operations* is 32.01% under than budget for the month and 28.82% under budget YTD.
- *Total Operating Expense* is 22.39% under budget for the month and 19.56% lower than budget YTD.
- *Net Operating Revenue* - \$620,612

**a. Approval of Payables**

Disbursements made from the General Ledger Fund for checks number 47492 through 47614 totaling \$605,403.92, salary direct deposits totaling \$227,409.84, payroll taxes totaling \$86,871.30, and other electronic payments totaling \$323,914.70 for a total of \$1,243,599.76 were presented to the Board for approval.

**COMMISSIONER BARTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE PAYABLES AS LISTED. COMMISSIONER REDISKE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## 5. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

**EPA New MCL Level** – The EPA announced the new PFAS level, and it is what we expected it to be at 4 ppt. In the past, EPA targeted the two compounds PFOS & PFOA at a combined 70 ppt and was a healthy advisory level. The MCL now considers six different compounds, PFOS & PFOA, at 4 ppt, which is different than the state level of 10 ppt and 15 ppt. The other four compounds have a hybrid approach where three have a limit of 10 ppt, and the fourth with a limit of 2,000 ppt. The Hazard Index approach considers a sort of weighted average where each of the four could be below the individual level, but if combined and if they go over the MCL, then they all fail. The District doesn't have to worry about those at this point as we don't see any meaningful manner in our water and show up where PFOS and PFOA are found.

This new level doesn't have an impact on our budget as we were already prepared for new MLC level of 4 ppt. The EPA has extended the compliance timeline to five years, compared to the original three years they initially stated. General Manager Meyer shared he is confident in the current strategy and suggests staying the course, proactively addressing any supply chain issues, and ensuring we finish on time. Supply timelines for GAC filter vessels have already been adjusted from 28 weeks to 32-34 weeks.

We haven't received any calls regarding the announcement of the new MCL level. We have information regarding the new MCL level on the District website. If someone calls in, they can speak with the customer service agent, and if they are unable to answer their questions, they will be transferred to General Manager Meyer.

**Dupont Settlement** - A few different agencies have raised concerns or objections to the judge, which resulted in a delay in the legal process. However, the matter has been resolved, and they are now accepting claims. The deadline for submitting claims is June 17, 2024. We are currently collaborating with our lawyers to provide the necessary information through the online submission process and ensure that it is submitted before the deadline.

Tyco is proposing a settlement of around \$700 million from the firefighting foam perspective and is similarly structured as Dupont and 3M. We are working with the District attorney from Marten Law to advise the District if we qualify for a settlement with Tyco. This will depend on how the settlement is structured. General Manager Meyer will keep the Board updated.

**Ponders GAC Media Replacement**—The media replacement for the Ponders GAC system is still scheduled. Staff have done additional sampling and are awaiting the results. These results will determine whether the waste needs to go to Idaho or Arizona.

In order to use the media in each vessel, we change some valves. It goes through the first vessel and then flows right into the second vessel. We replace the media in the first vessel, and then the second vessel becomes the first one, and then it goes into the new media. This will use up all of the media's lifespan rather than replacing it too early or late.

**DSHS Western State Hospital** – We are still coordinating with DSHS on the conditional assessment. The DOE is still reviewing the water rights change application from DSHS. The District's water rights attorney is reviewing the documents being submitted by DSHS and their

consultants. Based on documentation being provided in terms of how much water has been historically used, the full maximum of the claim right now is 1,035 acre-feet per year. DOE should have their response back by June 2024.

DSHS did receive funding in the governor's budget of about \$4.5 million to drill a replacement well for the one on campus that has PFAS. This is all positive news.

Replacement wells at Oakbrook O-2 and Hipkins I-3 scoping for the engineering of the wells, and they are currently being finalized and should be under contract soon.

## **6. OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE REPORT**

Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Manager Dean shared that they have started the valve maintenance program in March; so far 250 valves have been exercised, located, and brought up to grade. Flushing season will be starting soon and will follow the valve maintenance pattern to make sure those valves are ready to go.

The Hipkins Road project is going well, and they have laid just over 6,000 feet. The contractor is conducting pressure tests and service installations, and lateral ties are scheduled to begin on April 15, 2024. This portion of the project should be completed in the next three weeks. Then they will move to the smaller portion of the project on 104th & Idlewild. Project should be completed by end of June, beginning of July.

96th & Front St. was completed at the end of March 2024. We worked with the city on the last phase of the asphalt paving and came to an agreement.

Pape & Sons completed the emergency water main relocation due to a Sound Transit project at Ardmore & Whitman.

### **a. Conditional Acceptance of Completion for the Completion of Spanaway WTME Extension H Project - Ceccanti.**

**COMMISSIONER REDISKE MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE CONDITIONAL ACCEPTANCE OF COMPLETION FOR THE COMPLETION OF SPANAWAY WTME EXTENSION H PROJECT - CECCANTI. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BARTON. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **b. Conditional Acceptance of Completion for the Completion of Ardmore Dr & Whitman Intersection Water Main Relocation – Pape & Sons.**

**COMMISSIONER REDISKE MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE CONDITIONAL ACCEPTANCE OF COMPLETION FOR THE COMPLETION OF ARDMORE DR & WHITMAN INTERSECTION WATER MAIN RELOCATION – PAPE & SONS. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BARTON. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **9. ENGINEERING REPORT**

General Manager Meyer shared we are averaging 11 mgd, and of that, 5 mgd is to the wholesale partners. All of the mechanical issues have been fixed, and we should be good for the summer season.

For complete details, please see the attached report.

**a. Approval of K-3 Well Drilling Contract**

The K-3 Well project (Lake St.) was awarded to Holt Services. This is a grant-funded project funded by the EPA. The well will be around 600 ft deep. No PFAS has been detected at this well site, and the other two wells have been proven to have a good production history. The bid did come in above the engineer's estimate of \$461K; the bid came in at \$665K before tax. The price is higher due to the additional federal requirements and limited competition. The price is still within the grant amount. General Manager Meyer recommends approval of the contract with Holt Services for the K-3 Well.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE K-3 WELL DRILLING CONTRACT TO HOLT SERVICES BY COMMISSIONER REDISKE. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BARTON. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**10. IT MANAGER'S REPORT**

There were no cybersecurity issues.

**a. Surplus and Disposal Approval**

Seeking approval to sell or dispose of storage lockers and to sell the Hydra Stop Valve Insertion Equipment for \$40K.

Items:

6 Storage Lockers (2 banks of 3) & Hydra Stop Valve Insertion Equipment (A Contractor has made a tentative offer to purchase at \$40,000).

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONER APPROVAL THE SURPLUS/DISPOSAL OF THE ITEMS LISTED.**

**11. HR MANAGER'S REPORT**

General Manager Meyer shared an update on the recruitment of the Engineering Manager. The ad has been advertised in two new locations, governmentjobs.com and bcwater.com, we have had staff come from these sites. Commissioner Rediske asked if it is a pay challenge or not enough people challenge. The challenge is that there are not enough qualified candidates, we are competitive in the salary range. HR Manager Levo has also started the salary comp study, which occurs every 3-5 years.

**12. OTHER BUSINESS**

a. The Board acknowledged the wage increase this month.

b. Commissioner Barton provided a brief update on the WASWD.

Commissioner Barton shared that the government relations committee is not doing much due to being between sessions. He shared that he has heard that some people think the EPA should have contaminant criteria for solid waste.

He attended a job fair at the Showare Center and had several young technicians at the booth. Their job fair booth has received a sponsor, and they are excited to go to many more job fairs to get the word out about water industry jobs.

Commissioner Barton shared that the WSWD Board voted for Randy Black to receive a lifetime membership with WASWD at the spring conference. He emphasized that there are numerous individuals, like Randy, who have dedicated their lives to this industry and their commitment and professionalism deserve special recognition. As they approach retirement, their invaluable contributions should be celebrated.

c. Our next Commissioner's meeting is May 16, 2024, at 3:30 PM.

### 13. PUBLIC COMMENT

Norm Conner spoke about his concerns regarding the District's cross connection program and the lack of communication from staff on his concerns. He shared he wanted to make sure the Commissioners were aware of his concerns, and they shared they were aware and would have staff follow up with him on the properties in question. Staff and the Commissioners also encouraged Mr. Conner to reach out and set up a follow-up meeting with staff to discuss his concerns in more detail.

### 14. ADJOURN

Vice President Rediske adjourned the meeting at 4:36 PM.

## LAKWOOD WATER DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BY:

  
ITS PRESIDENT

BY:

  
ITS VICE PRESIDENT

BY:

  
ITS SECRETARY

BY:

  
DISTRICT SECRETARY (DATE)