

Special Hearing for Purposed Changes to Rate Structure in Rules and Regulations

December 15, 2003

Attendance: The following Directors were present constituting a quorum: Andy Sharp, Mark Upton, Pam Ping. Also present were Gabriele Benson, Frank Novak, Carl Pender, Linda Mootsey, Gary Clements, Tom Adams, Tom Payne, and Gary Grenzke.

The special hearing was called to order By Andy Sharp at 7:03.

The purpose of this Special Hearing was to change the rate structure in the Rules and Regulations.

After much discussion the consensus from the Board was as follows:

- 1) The Base Rate will be lowered from \$52.00 per month to \$45.00. The System Improvement Fee will stay the same.
- 2) The 0 to 3000 gallon usage charge will be changed to 30 cents per 100 gallons instead of 10 cents per 100 gallons. The 3000 and up usage charge rates would remain the same.

Comments from the Public:

- 1) Gary Clements-Likes the new Base Rate and is in agreement that the 3000 and up usage charges should remain the same.
- 2) Linda Mootsey- What was the rational behind lowering the base?
- 3) Tom Payne-Doesn't feel the rates should be changed, keep them as is.

Discussion followed about changes to be made to 6A & 6B in the Rules and Regulations.

There were no further comments and the special hearing was closed at 7:22.

Regular Meeting Opened at 7:22

Due to the outcome of the Special Hearing, Mark Upton, made the **motion** that 6A in the Rules and Regs be changed from \$52.00 to reflect the new base rate of \$45.00, and 6B (usage charge 0 to 3000) be changed from \$0.10 per 100 gallons to \$0.30 per 100 gallons. This to go into effect January 1, 2004 and be reflected in the February Bill for January usage. Pam Ping **seconded** the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Insurance Issues: Gary Grenzke, from Insurance Associates of Estes, the PSWD insurance provider, gave a brief presentation of new insurance policies and charges. Also informed us that we could pay the workman's 2004 comp policy Jan 1st, so as not to interfere with the close of 2003 books.

New Customer Issues:

- 1) Gary Clements concerned about electronic data from previous Secretary Jim Wendell. Mr. Wendell turned in his resignation from the Board of Directors after last months meeting. Another concern, how is the low interest loan the water district has being paid for? Lastly, Mr. Clements thanked the Board and STAFF for all the work being done on the various projects the Water District is involved in.

2) Tom Adams wanted to know how to become a Board Member.

Update on Drought Mitigation Plan:

1) PER/RFP Frank Novak discussed what had been done to obtain bids for the Environmental Report or ER. Out of 7 names given to him by the USDA, 4 were available to bid. Of the 4, McLaughlin Water Engineers were the low bidders. Andy Sharp recapped the RFP of Phase 1, so that the rest of the Board Members were clear on what it entails. There was some discussion on the need to clarify McLaughlin's bid. Mark Upton requested a ballpark figure on Phase 2. It was decided that whoever is awarded the ER proposal, they will need to be notified quickly. And the environmental agencies will need to be contacted as soon as possible.

After much discussion, it was agreed upon, that because of McLaughlin's prior employment with the Water District and because they offered the lowest bid, that they should be awarded the bid.

Motion was made by Mark Upton to accept McLaughlin's proposal as written with caveats of change that 3rd party expenses be billed at cost. Pam Ping **seconded** the motion. **Unanimously approved.**

Frank Novak was asked to contact McLaughlin ASAP. Much discussion then followed on McLaughlin's time frame.

It was decided that a RFP for the reservoir could be decided upon at a later meeting.

Infiltration Gallery

1) Andy Sharp asked Frank Novak to try and have the specs for the Water Plant improvement ready for submittal to the State by the January 28th meeting. Much discussion followed on planning, timing, design of the infiltration gallery, size of pipe and type of pumps. Carl Pender will co-ordinate with Frank Novak about size of pipes to meet fire-flow and daily usage.

2) Donna Davis-Andy Sharp reported that he had filed an extension of the \$8,800.00 grant with Donna Davis. Pam Ping reported that she had spoken with Donna Davis RE the 56K grant. It was made to help us through the drought and cannot be used for past water use.

Reports: See reports attached to minutes.

MOTION: Pam Ping moved that we accept the 2004 proposal for Clifton Gunderson to do the audit for the Dec 31, 2003 Fiscal Year end. Mark Upton **seconded** it.

Unanimously approved!

Approval of Minutes-

Due to the resignation of Jim Wendell at the November meeting, the October and November minutes are not ready for review. Mark will contact Jim to acquire either a draft of the minutes or the source material.

Pam Ping moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:40.

**Respectively submitted by
Gabriele Benson, admin office clerk**