

REGULAR/PUBLIC MEETING
Of The
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Of
DESCHUTES VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
February 12, 2024

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Deschutes Valley Water District was called to order by Chairman Kathy Marston (KM) at 7:01 P.M. Other commissioners present were Jo Guiney (JoG), Lee Baggett (LB), Tom Jaca (TJ) and Dana Oppenlander (DO). Guests present were Stephen Shuback, Steve Hart, Jeremy Adair, Seth Cotlon, Linda Dupont, Mark Underwood, Bonn Kula, Drew Carpenter, Aaron Anderson, Dave Rybel, Scott Surgeon, Shawn Chapman and Isaac Logan.

KM asked for public comment. Joel Gehrett (JG) informed the public that each person speaking would get 3 minutes for comments and that the board does not respond to public comments. Introductions were made by the board and the public.

Steve Hart addressed the board. He is a long-time DVWD customer with 3 accounts and recently was charged past due fees for being a couple of days late which the office did reverse. He stated the back of the district's monthly statement does not reflect what is being done regarding past due accounts. He feels office employees are unhappy and wants the office to be friendly again.

No other public comment was made.

JoG moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept as presented. Seconded by LB. Motion carried.

Jeremy Adair from Local 125 spoke to the Board about Union Grievance 23-5, where management performed bargaining unit work down at Opal Springs. The Union would like to secure training for additional workers at Opal Springs for staffing issues and keep management roles and bargaining unit work separate. He acknowledges that cross training is happening. Moving forward, the Union would like to have signed that management won't do bargaining work.

JoG doesn't feel like any aspect of the contract was wronged. Jeremy feels a mistake was made and that there had been time to train another employee to perform the work. KM asked if there is anything in the contract that specifically states that management can't do the work. Jeremy said no, the contract doesn't specify this, but it is bargaining work. KM said she won't sign anything that takes rights away from management. JG stated that he doesn't want to do work at Opal Springs but he has the right and needs the ability to do the work. Jeremy said he needs to agree to disagree. Bonn Kula said he feels the 3 week notice given to Joel was enough time to train someone and that when Gary Lytle had been hurt, Aaron Anderson had worked at Opal Springs. JoG asked what Joel did wrong. Bonn stated that JG worked 2 days at Opal Springs when all employees were on vacation. JoG gave kudos to Joel for wanting to help out. Jeremy reiterated the unions perspective that the District should "exhaust all efforts before management does work".

JG opened the floor for additional comments. No comments, and non-board attendees were asked to leave the room until after executive session.

Executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations was called to order at 7:46 P.M.

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:47 P.M.

JG brought up the 2024 – 2026 biannual budget schedule. April 8th the District needs to appoint 3 new budget committee members and the budget committee meeting will be May 13th after the regular board meeting.

Joel Gehrett (JG) gave the following report to the board:

- The District received an OSHA fine in the amount of \$100.00.
- Opal Springs is remodeling an office.
- Looking ahead, would like to hire a couple of employees for the crews.
- Promoting Aaron Anderson to Construction Foreman.

TJ moved to accept the financial statements, pay the Hydro and General Fund bills as presented and approve next month's payroll obligations. Seconded by LB. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

Secretary, Dana Oppenlander