

REGULAR/PUBLIC MEETING
Of The
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Of
DESCHUTES VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
November 13, 2023

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Deschutes Valley Water District was called to order by Chairman Kathy Marston (KM) at 7:00 P.M. Other commissioners present were Jo Guiney (JoG), Dana Oppenlander (DO) and Tom Jaca (TJ).

KM asked for public comment. No public in attendance.

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

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

- Showed the board pictures of Ed Pugh's huge pumpkins.
- District received SAIF dividend of \$ 4,006.00.
- Showed pictures of the bridge repair at Opal Springs.
- Oregon Conservation Society tested the spring at Opal Springs to see how old the water is, the test is free and results will be in several months.
- Confined space training for 7 employees' on December 6th and 7th.
- Brightwood is asking DVWD to eliminate a line and move it to Canal Street so they can extend plant 4.
- The Fire Marshall is requiring a fire hydrant bollard to be installed at Sagebrook Development. This is not a requirement of DVWD, navigating to see where this goes
- Sagebrook, Boro and Parkplace each had a 1st meter sign up.
- 42 new services for this year with 7 being installed in October, compared to 150 several years ago.
- Due to cyber security, EPA is asking the District to switch to a .gov website. JG asked for the board's opinion. KM feels this makes it a bigger target on your back.
- AWWA is sponsoring a utility management conference in Portland, JG would like to attend. The Board agreed.
- The District had 2 positive bacteria tests, one at Juniper Butte pump house and one at Round Butte pump house. JG is trying to figure out how to avoid this in the future, seems to happen in the fall when the water slows down.
- District's health insurance premium is going up 13.8% effective January 1, 2024.

JG explained the MERP self-insurance plan is getting complicated for Johnson Analytics to manage. Johnson Analytics has notified the District that they will need to change how they administer the MERP plan.

JG informed the Board that with the downstream smolt study, 18 fish went down the bypass turbine and half of these fish died. US Fish and Wildlife called once they received this data. If the District doesn't meet the standards set, they could shut down the bypass turbine. JG explained that the turbine will only be running for four more years.

JG discussed the \$250,000.00 equipment budget. When the budget was proposed, a Vac-Trailer was budgeted for in the amount of \$70,000.00 plus a Skid Steer and Pickup. The crews don't want a Vac-Trailer, they would like a small Vac-Truck. Do to the valve exerciser

a small Vac-Truck will be used quite a bit. JG has found a small 2018 Vac-Truck, same make and model of our current Vac-Truck, for \$216,000.00 and a Skid Steer for \$73,000.00. With the changes to the budget, the equipment line item will be over budget by anticipated \$119,000.00. TJ moved to purchase the 2018 Vac-Truck for \$216,000.00 and the Skid Steer for \$73,000.00. Seconded by DO. Motion carried.

JG stated the disposal of surplus equipment will be tabled until a later date.

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 8:32 P.M.

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:37 P.M.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 P.M.

Secretary, Dana Oppenlander