

Lake Whatcom Water and Sewer District
Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
November 24, 2015

Board President Leslie Mc Roberts called the Regular Session to order at 8:00 a.m. Other District representatives present included Commissioners Todd Citron, Ian Millar, Laura Weide and Bruce R. Ford, General Manager Patrick Sorensen, District Engineer Bill Hunter, consulting engineer Melanie Mankamyer, legal counsel Robert Carmichael, Finance Manager Debi Denton and Recording Secretary Lyn Edwards. There were no members of the public present.

- Consent Agenda

- Action Taken

- Weide moved, Citron seconded, approval of:**

- **Accounts Payable Vouchers totaling \$138,537.11**
 - **Payroll for Pay Period # 23(10/24/2015 through 11/6/2015) totaling \$38,929.25**
 - **Payroll Benefits for Pay Period #23 totaling \$37,537.45**
 - **Payroll for Pay Period #24 (11/7/2015 through 11/20/2015) totaling \$41,433.72**
 - **Payroll Benefits for Pay Period #24 totaling \$38,004.74**
 - **Minutes for the November 9, 2015 Meeting**

- Motion passed.**

- Draft 2016 Budget

Staff presented the draft 2016 Budget for the Board's consideration. An in-depth discussion followed. Further consideration of the Budget will take place at the December 9, 2015 meeting.

- Reservoir Seismic Vulnerability Assessment – Engineering Agreement

Hunter reported that a scope of work has been developed for the Reservoir Seismic Vulnerability Assessment of the District's five welded steel reservoirs. Work will be completed on a time and materials basis not to exceed \$35,018.00. The Board discussed the Reservoir Seismic Vulnerability Assessment Project.

- Action Taken

- Weide moved, Ford seconded, to authorize the General Manager to execute an Architectural/Engineering Agreement with BHC Consultants for the Reservoir Seismic Vulnerability Assessment for a not-to-exceed fee of \$35,018.00. Motion passed.**

- WRIA 1 (Water Resources Inventory Area 1) Water Caucus Discussion

District legal counsel Bob Carmichael gave a detailed report on the history of the Water Resources Inventory process which is a state-wide program that was initiated by the Washington State Department of Ecology about ten years ago. There are 32 water resource inventory areas throughout the state; Whatcom County was designated as "Area 1".

Sorensen reminded the Board that at the November 9, 2015 meeting, staff talked about pending changes that are proposed within the WRIA #1 Planning Unit, the Salmon Recovery Board and other water planning functions in Whatcom County. The County is proposing these changes through a new Interlocal Agreement between the original partners (City of Bellingham, Whatcom County, Tribes, Small Cities and others). Water Districts are not included in this Agreement; however the District has the opportunity to comment on the proposed Agreement by December 8, 2015. The Board discussed the proposed new WRIA #1 Interlocal Agreement and directed the General Manager to work with District legal counsel on a letter commenting on the proposed WRIA #1 Agreement on behalf of the Whatcom Water District's Caucus. Costs for preparing the

letter will be shared by the District and other members of the Caucus including Birch Bay Water and Sewer District.

- North Shore Road Sewer Extension Report

Melanie Mankamyer from Wilson Engineering summarized a report regarding septic tank usage in the area of North Shore that is located beyond the District's current sewage interceptor. Discussion followed.

- Division 22 Reservoir Updated Cost Estimate

Hunter explained that the Pre-Design Report from Engineering Consultants Gray and Osborne was presented to the Board last spring. At that time the Board selected a steel reservoir rather than a concrete one. As a part of the scope of work for the design of the new Reservoir, the Board expressed a desire to re-visit their decision to build a welded steel reservoir.

In their November 20, 2015 memo, Gray and Osborne, Inc. present new information including a longer life-cycle cost analysis that indicates concrete eventually has a savings over steel, but not until 50 years after it is constructed. The advantages of welded steel include material flexibility during an earthquake, easier damage assessment and repairs, minimal annualized life-cycle costs savings (\$4,000/year for 75-year analysis), newer construction methods (welded internal roof seams) and technology (cathodic protection) that help mitigate corrosion rates. The Board discussed the presented information and re-confirmed their decision to build a welded steel reservoir at Division 22 in Sudden Valley.

- Sewer Smoke Testing Project – Final Acceptance

Hunter reported that this project finishes a multi-year effort to smoke test all of the District's sewer mains. The contractor, SFE Global has completed the smoke testing for the projected 2015 Sewer System Rehab Project. Approximately 83,000 feet of sewer mains on the North Shore and in Sudden Valley were tested. There were several minor problems found including defective cleanout caps, a loose manhole lid assembly, and 11 residences that failed to show any smoke from roof vents at all. There was also one home found in the North Shore area with a rainwater downspout connected to the sanitary sewer. SFE Global completed the project at the original contract amount of \$35,783.30 (including sales tax).

Action Taken

Ford moved, Millar seconded, to accept the 2015 Sewer System Rehab project performed by SFE Global as complete. Motion passed.

- Other Business

Commissioner Resignation – Position 4

Commissioner Mc Roberts announced that she will be resigning from the District's Board of Commissioners effective January 27, 2016.

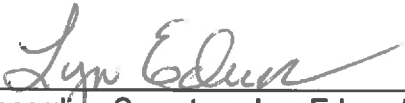
- Manager's Report

Sorensen reported that the November 30th Lake Whatcom Policy Group meeting has been cancelled.

- Executive Session Per RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) Collective Bargaining Agreement – 30 Minutes


Mc Roberts recessed the Regular Session to Executive Session at 10:35 a.m. The purpose of the Executive Session was to discuss the Collective Bargaining Agreement. It was estimated that the Executive Session would take about 30 Minutes. Mc Roberts recessed the Executive Session and reconvened the Regular Session at 11:00 a.m.

With no further business, Mc Roberts adjourned the Regular Session at 11:00 a.m.


Recording Secretary, Lyn Edwards

1-13-2016
Date Minutes Approved


Leslie Mc Roberts


Todd Citron


John W. Millar


Laura Weide


Bruce R. Ford

