

***Willamette River Water Coalition
Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 31, 2007***

WRWC Board Members or Alternates present:

Richard Burke – WRWC Chair, Tualatin Valley Water District Commission
Tom Woodruff – Tigard City Council
Ed Truax – Tualatin City Council
Dave Grant – Sherwood City Council

WRWC Member Staff present:

Todd Heidgerken – Tualatin Valley Water District
Brenda Bateman – Tualatin Valley Water District
Dennis Koellermeier – City of Tigard
Ross Schultz – City of Sherwood
Craig Sheldon – City of Sherwood
Mike McKillip – City of Tualatin

WRWC Staff present:

Amanda Rich - Western Advocates Incorporated
Kelly Ross – Western Advocates Incorporated

Guests present:

Mark Knudson – Carollo Engineers
Clark Balfour – WRWC Counsel, Cable Huston Benedict, et. al.

Members of the Public present:

Kathy Newcomb – Citizens for Safe Water
Bob Newcomb – Citizens for Safe Water

I. Call to Order

Chair Richard Burke called the board of the Willamette River Water Coalition to order at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, January 31, 2007 at the Sherwood City Hall City Council Chambers at 22560 SW Pine Street, Sherwood, OR 97140.

II. Review and Approval of Minutes

The board reviewed the minutes from the November 29, 2006 meeting. **Tom Woodruff moved approval of the minutes. Ed Truax seconded the motion. Motion was approved.**

III. TVWD Water Supply Improvements Program – Mark Knudson, Carollo Engineers

Mark Knudson of Carollo Engineers provided an update on the TVWD Water Supply Improvements Program. (See slides of presentation attached to minutes.) TVWD plans to build a new finished water transmission line from the Willamette River Water Treatment Plant to the TVWD service area and a new reservoir with a capacity of about 20 MG in or near the TVWD service area. Mark described the analysis of options for building those two new

components. The preferred option for building the pipeline is along a BPA right of way. The alternative follows existing roads and would be more costly and more disruptive to the public. The difficulty with the BPA alignment is working out an easement agreement with BPA. Carollo also identified a preferred location for the new reservoir. Mark noted that this analysis is only preliminary and intended to guide the further analysis of options. There are a number of cost variables that make it difficult to predict actual cost, but they are able to identify a range of cost. It was noted that even the most costly alternative under consideration is still less expensive for the district patrons than continuing to lease water from the City of Portland.

IV. *Executive Session*

Chair Burke called an executive session at 7:10 pm under ORS 192.660 (2) (h) for the purposes of discussing matters with legal counsel regarding litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

V. *Reconvene Regular Meeting*

Chair Burke adjourned the Executive Session and the board reconvened in regular meeting at 7:34 pm.

VI. *Canby Utility Board Withdrawal*

Amanda Rich informed the board that Canby Utility Board had submitted a letter of resignation to the WRWC on January 24, 2007. Amanda indicated that she and members of the WRWC had discussed the Canby's possible withdrawal with Dirk Borges at length prior to the CUB final decision. Despite those conversations, the CUB ultimately decided that membership in WRWC was no longer in their best financial interests and they will be pursuing another path to secure Willamette River water rights. Canby will maintain possession of their

VII. *Permit Extension Update*

Todd Heidgerken said he hoped WRWC would receive a proposed final order (PFO) from Water Resources Department within the next three to four weeks.

VIII. *Adoption of Public Information Policy*

The board discussed adoptions of the following public information policy guidelines:

- *The main purpose of any WRWC public information activity is to preserve the value of the WRWC Willamette River water right.*
- *Any information or materials created under a WRWC public information project will be available for use by all members.*
- *WRWC will not contact member's retail customers with any public information unless specifically requested to do so by the member.*
- *WRWC public information will take a regional approach to water supply issues.*
- *WRWC public information efforts will respond to misinformation in the press.*
- *WRWC will maintain the website as part of its public information efforts.*
- *WRWC will follow all applicable laws and regulations when undertaking public information projects.*

This policy governs WRWC participation in public information projects and was drawn from staff discussion with members and a discussion at the March 2006 WRWC Board meeting.

Tom Woodruff moved adoption of the policy. Ed Truax seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

IX. Review of Draft Budget for 2007-2008

Amanda reviewed a draft budget for 2007-2008. Changes from 2006-2007 include extra money for public information because member agencies had indicated that was a priority. Miscellaneous expense went by \$5000 to cover the costs of a separate WRWC audit. The other major change is the withdrawal of Canby Utility.

The board noted that the dues increase that resulted from the increased budget and the Canby withdrawal would be difficult to take to their councils and boards. They noticed that our spending was down for this fiscal year (2006-2007) and suggested that staff make a conservative estimate of the predicted ending fund balance at the end of this fiscal year, then deduct that amount from the budget amount used to allocate WRWC dues. Amanda said she would do that and bring a new draft to the next board meeting for their review.

X. Climate Change

The board reviewed a letter from Tom Long, President of Citizens for Safe Water, that had been sent to Phil Ward, Director of the Water Resources Department on November 6, 2006 requesting WRD to undertake a study of the effect of climate change on the Willamette River. The board also reviewed Director Ward's response of November 15, 2006 in which he indicated that WRD did not have the funding available to undertake such a study, but that the department was requesting funding from the 2007 Legislative Assembly for a Water Supply and Conservation Initiative aimed at studying Oregon's future water needs and predicted supply.

The board heard public comment from Kathy Newcomb of Citizens for Safe Water. She noted that the flow in the Willamette is unpredictable and unnatural because it relies on released from Army Corp dams. She said it would be in the best interests of the WRWC to participate in and support at study of climate change impacts on the Willamette so that we can find out if the water will even be there in the future.

Amanda Rich noted that the Regional Water Supply Consortium would be studying climate change impacts on Portland Municipal Water Suppliers and suggested that we support their efforts.

After discussion, the Chair Burke directed staff to prepare a letter from WRWC supporting the study of climate change effects on the Willamette River.

XI. Staff Report

a. Financial Update:

The board reviewed the financial report ending December 31, 2006. All members have paid dues and WRWC has expended \$38,421 out of a \$172,200 budget in the first six months of this fiscal year.

b. WRWC Audit

TVWD is covering costs of separate audit for WRWC this year. In the future we will pay for our own audit.

XII. Announcements

There were no announcements.

XIII. Next Meeting

The board agreed to meet again on February 28, 2007.

XIV. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.