

Approved June 30, 2008

***Willamette River Water Coalition
Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 30, 2008***

WRWC Board Members or Alternates present:

Richard Burke – WRWC Chair, TVWD Board of Commissioners
Tom Woodruff – WRWC Vice-Chair, Tigard City Council
Ed Truax – Tualatin City Council
Lee Weislogel – Sherwood City Council

WRWC Member Staff present:

Dennis Koellermeier – City of Tigard
Cheryl Welch – Tualatin Valley Water District
Mike McKillip – City of Tualatin
Craig Sheldon – City of Sherwood

WRWC Staff present:

Amanda Rich - Western Advocates Incorporated

Guests & Members of the Public present:

Kurt Kristensen – Citizens for Safe Water
Joanne Delmonico – Families for Safe Water

I. Call to Order

Chair Richard Burke called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm 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 minutes from March 6, 2008.

Lee Weislogel moved approval of the minutes. Ed Truax seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Richard Burke abstained from the vote because he was not present at the last meeting. Motion was approved.

III. Update on Willamette Water Right

Amanda reported that although we had hoped to have an approved final order on our permit amendment by this meeting, there were additional review steps necessary before a final order could be issued. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) is reviewing the proposed permit amendment for compliance with fish screen requirements. Staff has provided ODFW with the documentation of the type of fish screen in place at the Willamette Water Treatment Plant. We expect to have a final permit amendment by the next meeting.

IV. Possible Amendments to IGA & Bylaws

Amanda reviewed a preliminary hand-edited draft of the IGA. She explained that the withdrawal of Canby and Gladstone required changes to the IGA. In addition, the IGA

references pending water right applications held by both TVWD and the City of Tigard. Tigard and TVWD need to decide what they want to do with those pending applications and the IGA needs to be updated accordingly.

Lee Weislogel noted that the address listed for the City of Sherwood needed to be updated.

The board appointed a subcommittee of legal counsel, the executive director, a representative from Tigard and a representative from TVWD to meet and discuss possible changes to the IGA. Chair Burke asked that an IGA update be placed on the agenda at each board meeting until the re-drafting process was complete.

V. *Member Updates*

Dennis Koellermeier reported that there were few Willamette River related activities going on with Tigard right now, although the Willamette was presented as a possible water supply option in a video the city recently prepared to educate the public about Tigard's future water needs. Tigard is still working on an agreement to purchase water from Lake Oswego and hopes to have that complete by mid-July. The city is also still participating in the Joint Water Commission (JWC) under a one year grace period granted by the JWC while they finalize their agreement with Lake Oswego.

Ed Truax reported that the City of Tualatin will award a bid for an aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) project at their next council meeting. The city has also started discussions with Portland City Commissioner Randy Leonard regarding rate increases under Tualatin's current contract to purchase water from Portland. The most recent increase was 16%.

Craig Sheldon reported that next Tuesday, May 6, 2008, Sherwood would approve the contract to begin construction on their new 4 million gallon reservoir project. Construction is expected to begin by June 1. They are on track to begin the bid process for the Sherwood portion of the Willamette pipeline in January of 2009. Finally, they are still negotiating with the City of Wilsonville on the shared segments of the pipeline and are getting close to agreement.

Richard Burke reported that plans are proceeding on schedule for TVWD to participate in the JWC/Hagg Lake project.

VI. *Staff Report*

a. *Financial Report*

Amanda presented the financial report for the period ending February 29, 2008. She noted that WRWC is on track to have a solid ending fund balance at the end of the fiscal year.

VII. *Public Comment*

Kurt Kristensen commented that he is sort of resigned to the fact that WRWC is determined to push through something that is a significant health hazard to the people of the Willamette Valley. He believes there is no will on the part of Metro or local city councils to restrict growth in this area. As a result, WRWC is aiding an abetting growth by having the unenviable

task of providing water for a growth that will have to happen because we don't have the will to limit growth to our available water. Kristensen noted that Professor Kurt Chapman at PSU just issued a very alarming report on the condition of the water in the Clackamas River. Kristensen feels the report pointed out flaws in the way U.S. water providers are examining and reporting on the safety of water to consumers. He said that water is examined according to EPA standards that are not based on health and medical evaluations. Kristensen said the PSU study found the presence of a "soup" of minute concentrations of hundreds of pollutants in the Clackamas River. Kristensen said that if you look at the numbers from previous studies of the Willamette, he thinks there could be an even worse problem there.

Mr. Kristensen further commented that he feels, as a teacher, that what WRWC is doing is unethical. He said WRWC is pushing a solution on the future of this area and ignoring sustainability issues. He noted that Metro and other local governments are also at fault. He pointed out that the snow cover in the Cascades has dropped 50%.

Mr. Kristensen then asked how much time he had left and Chair Burke granted him a few more minutes.

Mr. Kristensen continued his comments by saying there is no way the WRWC has the expertise to become an operating company as was suggested by the previous minutes. He said TVWD is shifting ownership in the Willamette River Water Treatment Plant at the same time they are under an initiative process that would prevent them from doing that. He feels that in defiance of the public will, WRWC is moving under the radar to accomplish what they have already determined.

Mr. Kristensen asked that the WRWC not gang up with the City of Sherwood to help them out of their mess. He said Sherwood has come to the end of its credit line and must go to a vote for a bond to build their project. He feels the vote in 2005 to authorize the exploration of the Willamette as a source was not a mandate. He said the Political Action Committee formed to raise funds to support the 2005 initiative raised all its money from commercial sources and there may be complaints filed in connection with some of the donations to that PAC.

Mr. Kristensen closed by saying the circumstances indicate that it is not time to speed up – instead, it is time to slow down and look at the broader picture and explore other options. He feels WRWC has not discussed the use of grey water. The Willamette is suitable for grey water purposes, but not drinking water unless the mixing zones are banned.

Burke thanked Mr. Kristensen for his comments and asked if there were any questions from the Board. There were none.

VIII. *Next Meeting*

The Board discussed and set the next meeting on Monday, June 30, 2008.

IX. *Adjournment*

Chair Burke adjourned the meeting at 7:15.