

Hurricane City Water Board
Meeting Minutes
January 31, 2023

Present: Ken Richins, Mac J Hall, John Slack, Lea Thompson, Dayton Hall, Kelby Iverson, Angie Tripp, and Councilman David Hirschi phone

Item #1 Call to Order, Prayer

Mac Hall called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Lea Thompson offered the prayer.

Item #2 Review of Minutes of November 29, 2022

Mac Hall asked for a motion to approve the minutes from November 29, 2022. John Slack motion to approve. Lea Thompson second the motion. Motion passed.

Item #3 Report on irrigation meter project

Ken Richins talked about the bid opening for the irrigation project the bid awarded to Feller Construction. The city felt comfortable about awarding them the bid for the projects they have done in the past. Ken said right now we are having material issues because of copper and the economy it is making it hard to get the supplies needed for the project. Scholzen's said it could be two months before we can get the material. We will keep everyone updated on what's going on.

Mac Hall asked how much of the town are we looking at putting irrigation metering in. Ken said the whole town will have a secondary metering system. We will be able to use ¾ inch meters and won't interfere with any of the flow.

John Slack asked if you have a 1-inch connection and you put in a ¾ inch will it interfere. Ken explained it won't interfere with the flow at all.

Item #4 Irrigation expansion project update

Mac Hall reported that the power went out when we were doing our meeting today. Mac said they have completed everything for NRCS to get the project going. They are proposing to replace all excising canal lines with new lines this will be all new system. Their report should be ready to submit by the middle of next month. There is money that needs to be spent this year, so they are thinking of starting with the ponds and pump station first.

John Slack asked will this run through the city or NRCS since it's a county project? Mac said it will go through the county which consists of four projects. Mac stated this is a Washington County project so the county will disperse the funds.

Kelby Iverson asked about the interstream flow issue? Mac Hall said there is a meeting scheduled in St George tomorrow to see how the flow issues are going to work.

Mac Hall said they are looking at two winters to put the pipe systems in. They are looking at this Fall to put half the pipe in and the rest next year. Still have some issues with the 920 W street with the drainage and irrigation that hasn't been resolved. The drainage part is shy of 5 million dollars Ken suggested the city investigate a grant to help with this. The city has indicated that they are wanting to move forward with this project.

Kelby Iverson asked Ken how we are doing gathering water. Ken explained that we are doing good with it there has been some questions on individuals not being able to find their certificates.

Item #5 Report on impact fee study

Ken Richins said we have finally got the data into Zions Bank said that Paige Chapman the city accountant has been in contact with them and sounds like things are going ahead. This is updating the culinary and making a secondary impact fee. Hopefully next meeting we will have more information to discuss.

Item #6 Dixie Spring Well update

Ken Richins explained last time we discussed the hole was off a little bit and the drilling company was going to take measures to fix it. They used a column that made it straighter since they were 3 ft out of specs. Ken showed a diagram that shows how the well looks. The pump will set just above the dog leg where the hole is out a little which would not interfere at all.

Lea Thompson asked what is the dept? Ken said it is 800 ft is the depth of the well. The water table is at 250 ft. They are going to start developing the well soon they are going to get a test pump to see what size and kind we are going to need. We are hoping to get 1000 gallons per minutes as we do with our west well.

John Slack asked if the water table drops with it being straight and where it plumps, we can bring it down further correct. Ken explained yes, we would be able to do that.

Item #7 Discussion and possible recommendation to City Council on the new WCWCD Conservation water rate fees.

Ken Richins explained that this was talked about in our last meeting briefly. This is conservation rate they are trying to get the city to adopt Ken would like the water board to recommended to adopt or not since this is on the council agenda.

Dayton Hall gave a brief discussion on how the city got here. There is current agreement between the cities and district. The cities get together and decide how to distribute the water around if they can't decide the district will allocate the remaining water to the cities. The district said last year they had meeting discussing the issues with the drought.

District wanted to do an amended to the Regional Water Supply Agreement Zach with the district has request that one individual from each city attend the water work group meetings. Ken Richins attended several of the meeting and asked Dayton Hall to attend those meeting as well.

Dayton explained three main things the district is proposing. One is that the district wants the cities to come up with drought contentions plan in place. Second the district would like the cities not to acquire their own water. Hurricane City would like to be able to develop their own water. Every city must agree to the pooling agreement for it to pass.

Third one is they want to add a new surcharge to the agreement right now 1.75 surcharge fee on all meters. The district would like to add a new surcharge to the agreement called an "excess water surcharge" to all meters that go over a certain amount of water usage and the amount would be set by the district. The district is asking cities to pass the surcharge fee which has been passed by the district and is now going to city council for recommendation.

Ken Richins presented a power point that the district presented at their current meeting and gave a brief discussion.

The ones that are above the 70% is the ones that will be affected more with the new surcharge fee. Existing customers will not be affected as those that are newly coming into the system as of January 2023. Right now, it's only on the culinary water since we are not metering secondary water right now. John Slack asked how is going to affect agriculture. Ken Richins stated that as of right now this will not affect any agricultural which was discussed in a current meeting.

Stephen Nelson stated his concerns that the city will lose control if they go ahead with this. He is not in favor of current proposal since it doesn't show who is all going to be impacted. The one thing we need to look at is trying to get those high users to become more conservative.

Dayton Hall gave a brief discussion on how it will work if the cities adopt the new surcharge fee. John Slack asked so the city will collect the fee and it will go to the district? Ken explained yes and the city would have to apply to the district to get that money back.

David Hirschi asked if we don't agree as a city to adopt this plan will we be pulled out of the pooling agreement? Dayton Hall stated that the city is part of the agreement so it would have to be voted on to take a city out of the pooling agreement. Dayton Hall gave a brief discussion on how that would work.

Please see the attachment that Dayton Hall presented to the city council which explains how the water board voted on concerning the possible adoption of excess water use surcharge proposed by WCWCD.

Item #8 Report on Water System

Ken Richins report that our system is doing good with the rain and snow fall we are setting good.

Item #9 New Business

Ken Richins wanted to let the board know that Chase Stout has given his two weeks' notice, he got an offer from Virgin City. He is going to be missed as he brings a lot to the city. He is an exceptionally good operator. Ken said we have the best crew, and they do great working together.

Stephen Nelson talked about items being discussed at planning commission on the rebate on the landscape removal issues. This will go to city council Thursday. Stephen talked about another project they are working on is doing a study on housing and commercial on how much their water usage is being used land uses within our city.

Ken Richins wanted to let the board know the next well the city is hoping to drill is Gould's Wash. Ken is going to get with Stephen to get a permit for this. Alpha is doing the engineering plan. The Sky Ranch Well would be the next one on the list.

Lea Thompson had questions about the leaks at dixie springs have we been able to find funding to help with the replacement of those lines? Ken said we have put in with the district and is hoping that this becomes a priority to get those lines replaced.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm