

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING

GOVERNING BODY
BROOKS COMMUNITY SERVICE DISTRICT
3:56 PM, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2020
SILVERTON CONFERENCE ROOM
MARION COUNTY COURTHOUSE SQUARE

MEETING OPENED: Commissioner Kevin Cameron opened the meeting and noted the following attendance:

ATTENDANCE: Commissioner Kevin Cameron, Commissioner Sam Brentano
Scott Norris - Office of Legal Counsel, Dennis Mansfield - Public Works,
Brian May - Public Works, Matt Knudsen - Public Works, Stephanie
Rosentrater - Public Works, Brian Nicholas - Public Works, Thomas
Kissinger - Public Works, Terry Beilke – Brooks Community Service District
Advisory Committee, Kathy Rogers

ACTION: **MOTION:** Commissioner Cameron made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2019 Regular Meeting and Budget Hearing. Commissioner Brentano seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous

SEWER UPDATE: Matt reported that the sewer use and regulation ordinance has been in place since 1991 and has not been updated since then. At the time it was written, the focus was more on forming the district and getting users signed up and hooked up. There was not much background knowledge or experience with a Septic Tank Effluent Pumping System (STEP system). Almost thirty years later, there has been a lot of knowledge built up and experience gained with the system. Due to this, the District will be requesting a work session with the Governing Body to go over updates and changes that need to be made to the ordinance.

Commissioner Brentano wanted to know if there was a possibility of I&I getting into the system in Brooks, like there is in Fargo. Matt explained that the system is pressurized, meaning nothing can get in unless somebody connects their downspout to the system before the tank.

Matt reported that the District received a letter from the DEQ regarding our permit for discharging to the Willamette River. The permit expires in November, but the District will be submitting their renewal application in March for another five year permit. District staff have heard from other counties/jurisdictions that sometimes the DEQ is slow to respond to permit renewals, so they are unsure what the timeline for the new permit will be.

Commissioner Brentano wanted to know what materials we are discharging into the Willamette. Matt explained that it is very clean, treated wastewater. In many cases, our water is cleaner than water being discharged from large treatment plants. DEQ sometimes brings new members out to look at the Brooks system as a good example. Commissioner Brentano asked if DEQ could add new requirements at any point in time. Matt explained that they could. For example, DEQ could ask the District to change the location that the samples are collected from.

The Commissioners wanted to know how Covanta is connected to our system. Matt explained that their discharge water (from their cooling tower) ties in to the District's system after the District's sampling port. Covanta is doing their own testing and has their own permit with DEQ. Brian May can request Covanta's sampling results.

Terry Beilke asked about the temperature of the water being discharge from Covanta because water above a certain temperature is considered a pollutant. Matt explained that this is part of their DEQ permit, ensuring that it is cool enough by the time mixes with the District's treated discharge water and gets to the river.

Matt reported that the District is still facing high turnover with wastewater operators. The industry is competitive and so he thinks we'll continue to see this issue, though he is happy with the people that the District has hired. Commissioner Brentano stated that once HR is back to fully-staffed, it would be great to have them review some of those key positions that the County has a hard time filling to see if there's a way to make it more attractive to applicants.

WATER UPDATE:

Dennis reported on the new pump and meter for the water system in Brooks. The District is continuing to monitor usage between Brooks customers, Chemeketa, and the Fire District. It is about 9 months into the one-year agreed upon tracking period. The District is seeing that the Brooks customers are using 53% of the water, while Chemeketa and the Fire District are utilizing 47% of the water. This information will be used to determine how much Chemeketa will owe the District for the loan it incurred to replace meters and the main pump. The District is still determining how the Brooks water customers will pay for their portion of the loan. They are also waiting on the Brooks-Hopmire Economic Develop Plan to see what long-term water solutions are recommended. Hopefully there will be an update on this by the time of the next regular meeting. The District is also working on updating their agreement with Chemeketa. The current system puts the District's Wastewater Operator as the responsible party, but Chemeketa owns the water and the well, which puts everybody in a peculiar situation.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Terry Beilke state that he would begin attempting to recruit new members to the Advisory Committee.

NEXT MEETING:

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for June 24, 2020 at 2:00 PM, in the Silverton Conference Room, Marion County Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Salem, Oregon.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the governing body, the meeting was adjourned.

Chair, Governing Body
Brooks Community Service District