

Shoshone Municipal Water Joint Powers Board
Board Proceedings
Monday, April 13, 2020

A regular meeting of the Shoshone Municipal Water Joint Powers Board was held at its Water Treatment Plant, April 13, 2020.

PRESENT: Bryan Lee*, Craig Sorenson*, Don Richards*, Jim Mentock,
Jim Hillberry*, J.R. Gonzales*, and Roy Holm*

ALSO PRESENT: Craig Barsness, Dave Egan, Dexter Woodis*, and Susanne Swearingen

* By phone call/Zoom app

Public Hearing – SMP Emergency Power & Boiler Upgrade project

Chairman Mentock called the public hearing to order at 9:30 a.m.

There was no public comment.

Chairman Mentock closed the public hearing at 9:59 a.m.

Chairman Mentock called the regular meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes

Chairman Mentock asked for approval of the minutes of the March 9, 2020 board meeting. Bryan Lee made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2020 meeting as printed. Second by J.R. Gonzales. AYE: Board Members: Lee, Sorenson, Richards, Mentock, Gonzales, and Holm. NAY: none. Motion carried.

(Don Richards left the meeting at 10:05 a.m.)

Bills

Chairman Mentock asked for approval of the April 13, 2020 bills list totaling \$72,882.16. There was brief discussion regarding the bills. Roy Holm made a motion to approve the bills as listed. Second by Bryan Lee. AYE: Board Members: Lee, Sorenson, Mentock, Gonzales, and Holm. NAY: none. Motion carried.

Public Comments

Chairman Mentock asked for public comments. There were no public comments.

Update of the SLIB SRF loan application (with principal forgiveness)

- The Manager reported that the SLIB SRF loan application was submitted on March 10th.
- Current projection is that we will be granted about 19% principal forgiveness, which works out to repayment forgiveness of approximately \$244,000.00 of the total loan principal.
- The Manager will attend the SLIB meeting on June 4th in Cheyenne.
- Any money returned/unused by other projects could potentially mean more principal forgiveness for us/additional funds available.

SMP Coronavirus operational response

- The Manager reported that SMP is still implementing measures described in a recent email to the board.
- The Manager reviewed those measures, including letters sent to our entities, reassuring them about water quality; press releases; employees on 12 hours shifts, only essential travel; all water test shipments must be shipped, not delivered by us; employee vacations cancelled; and, one worker per vehicle.
- The Manager is refreshing his plant operational skills in the event he will be needed to operate.
- Employees have been authorized to work on continuing education from home, as conferences and training opportunities have been cancelled way into the summer. Employees who do not feel well will stay home.

WAM-JPIC health insurance board ballot

- The Manager presented WAM-JPIC's ballot for the three open positions for their Board of Directors.
- The board briefly discussed the nominees.

(Jim Hillberry joined the meeting at 10:14 a.m.)

Bryan Lee made a motion to cast our votes for Kelly Millar (Town Seat – three-year term), Judi Just (At Large – three-year term), and Michele Richlin (At Large – three-year term). Second by Craig Sorenson. AYE: Board Members: Lee, Sorenson, Mentock, Hillberry, Gonzales, and Holm. NAY: none. Motion carried.

Chief Operator's Report

- The Chief Plant Operator gave an overview of the Monthly Production Summary report.
- Usage is down 13% from last March. Cool temperatures and COVID social distancing measures have lowered water usage. Usage is flat from February.
- Chemical costs are the same. Operators are working twelve-hour days with very little overtime; social distancing is going well with our personnel. We are keeping our chemical supply as maxed as possible in the event of delivery issues.
- Brett Trudo and his wife welcomed their second child last week.

Chief Pipeline Operator's Report

- The Chief Pipeline Operator reported that the lagoon that has been drying for the last year is nearly completely dried. The new bobcat has helped with the drying as he is able to turn the sediment. He hopes to be hauling sludge to the landfill by late April.
- The pipeline is running well. Cathodic test station reading is currently taking place, in addition to other spring-time work.
- The new FAA lights for the tanks in Byron and Frannie have been ordered.
- A bypass is being installed around the Cody valve rather than replacing the Cody valve, using money budgeted for the valve's replacement.

Manager's Report

(Don Richards returned to the meeting at 10:27 a.m.)

- WYO-STAR interest for March is not yet posted. February's WYO-STAR I interest was 1.710%; WYO-STAR II was 2.4680%.
- Water use figures for March were down 13.95% over last year. Early last March, we had 6 days of sub-zero temperatures. For the fiscal year, we are down 1.6%.
- The salary survey was emailed out last Thursday. The results will be presented at the May board meeting.
- The Manager described problems with a lost check to the Water Research Foundation (WRF) where both the original check and the replacement check were deposited. A "stop payment" was put on the original check, but it was still deposited. We are working with our bank and WRF to resolve this problem.
- The annual utility BBQ usually held in May has been postponed until fall due to COVID-19.
- The May board meeting may also be conducted virtually, as this one/the April meeting was.

Other Business

There was no other business to report.

Adjourn

At 10:32 a.m., Craig Sorenson made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Second by Don Richards. AYE: Board Members: Lee, Sorenson, Richards, Mentock, Hillberry, Gonzales, and Holm. NAY: none. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Chairman

Attest: _____
Secretary