

Shoshone Municipal Water Joint Powers Board  
Board Proceedings  
Monday, June 8, 2020, 10:00 a.m.

A regular meeting of the Shoshone Municipal Water Joint Powers Board was held at its Water Treatment Plant, June 8, 2020.

PRESENT: Bryan Lee, Craig Sorenson, Don Richards (by phone), Jim Mentock,  
Jim Hillberry, J.R. Gonzales, and Roy Holm

ABSENT: None

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

Chairman Mentock called the budget hearing to order at 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Mentock closed the budget hearing at 10:03 a.m.

Chairman Mentock called the regular meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

### **Minutes**

Chairman Mentock asked for approval of the minutes of the May 11, 2020 board meeting. Craig Sorenson requested the minutes be amended; the "Bureau of Reclamation water service contracts" section, bullet point #2, shall now read: "There was brief discussion regarding the contracts and history. We need to make sure that the new Water Service Contracts contain wording that assures Cody, Powell, Byron, Lovell and Deaver, that their water rights revert back to them in the unlikely event that their association with Shoshone Municipal Pipeline ends."

Craig Sorenson made a motion to approve the amended minutes of the May 11, 2020 meeting. Second by J.R. Gonzales. AYE: Board Members: Lee, Sorenson, Richards, Mentock, Hillberry, Gonzales, and Holm. NAY: none. Motion carried.

### **Bills**

Chairman Mentock asked for approval of the June 8, 2020 bills list totaling \$124,066.30. There was brief discussion regarding the bills. Bryan Lee made a motion to approve the bills as listed. Second by Jim Hillberry. AYE: Board Members: Lee, Sorenson, Richards, Mentock, Hillberry, Gonzales, and Holm. NAY: none. Motion carried.

### **Public Comments**

Chairman Mentock asked for public comments. There were no public comments. He also introduced Tony Rutherford, the new manager of NRWD.

### **Update on the SLIB SRF loan application (with principal forgiveness)**

- The Manager attended the SLIB SRF approval meeting, held virtually, on Thursday, June 4th.
- The loan has been approved for the full amount with approximately \$250,000 principal forgiveness (18.7%).
- Additional paperwork is due by August 3rd and then we will enter the engineering phase of the project.

### **SMP Coronavirus operational response**

- The Manager reported there had been no illness among the staff, not even seasonal flu/colds.
- We are still not permitting plant tours, visitors, or contractors, except on an emergency basis.
- All previously reported restrictions are still in place, though vacations are beginning to be allowed.
- Depending on the continuing spread of COVID-19, vacations and restrictions might be subject to change.

### **Bureau of Reclamation water service contracts with the Bureau, Lovell, Cody, and Shoshone Municipal Pipeline**

- The Manager reviewed the Cody and Lovell water service contracts to be renewed.
- The contracts are basically two-year extensions, in anticipation of renewing these two, as well as Byron and Powell, in 2022, likely for a 40-year term.

- The contracts should be complete in the next few days.
- There was brief discussion of water rights, state/federal issues, and SMP's actual water usage vs. its allotted amounts.

### **Salary Survey**

- The Manager presented the compiled results of the salary survey, which includes both wages and benefits.
- The survey does not include our data in the averages as we are comparing ourselves to the survey data.

### **Proposed FY-2021 budget**

The Manager reviewed the proposed budget, noting minor changes from the preliminary budget presented in March.

Craig Sorenson made a motion to approve the proposed FY-2021 budget as presented. Second by Jim Hillberry. AYE: Board Members: Lee, Sorenson, Richards, Mentock, Hillberry, Gonzales, and Holm. NAY: none. Motion carried.

### **Executive session – personnel**

At 11:03 a.m., Bryan Lee made a motion to go into executive session according to state statute 16-4-405 regarding a personnel matter. Second by J.R. Gonzales. AYE: Board Members: Lee, Sorenson, Richards, Mentock, Hillberry, Gonzales, and Holm. NAY: none. Motion carried.

(Tony Rutherford, Dave Egan, Dexter Woodis, and Susanne Swearingen left the meeting at 11:03 a.m.)

At 11:31, the board returned to the regular session.

(Tony Rutherford, Dave Egan, Dexter Woodis, and Susanne Swearingen returned to the meeting at 11:31 a.m.)

Bryan Lee made a motion to table any action on wage brackets until the July meeting. Second by Craig Sorenson. AYE: Board Members: Lee, Sorenson, Richards, 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 and there was brief discussion regarding the report.
- We had a good May – production was up 17.73% over last May.
- Overtime in May was due to the Byron and Frannie tank vents installations, Memorial Day holiday, and the lagoon cleaning and changeover.
- Raw water turbidity has started to come up. Staff began 12 hour shifts two weeks ahead of our normal summer schedule.
- SOC testing, done twice yearly, came back with no issues.
- We have had no problem with our chemical supply chains. Personnel has completed significant amounts of continuing education online in lieu of the regular spring conference attendance.

### **Chief Pipeline Operator's Report**

- The Chief Pipeline Operator reported that the pipeline is running smoothly.
- Roy Harper, our summer laborer, has begun working for us two days a week. He began vault maintenance this week.
- The tank lights and vents are completed.
- Lagoon #2's sludge has been taken to the landfill and the lagoon placed back into service. Lagoon #3 is starting to dry.
- GIS mapping is going very well. The raw water pipeline is done. He is hoping to complete the area from Road 2AB to the raw water line and also to show this to the board at the July board meeting.

### **Manager's Report**

- WYO-STAR interest for May is not posted. April's interest for WYO-STAR I was 0.9861%, and WYO-STAR II was 2.2217%.

- Water use figures for May were up 18.2% over last May. We ended the fiscal year down 0.5%.
- The Manager asked the board if they wanted him to send out his evaluation forms. The board's consensus was to skip this year since it has not been quite a year since his last one.

**Other Business**

There was no other business to report.

**Adjourn**

At 11:44 a.m., Craig Sorenson made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Second by J.R. Gonzales. AYE: Board Members: Lee, Sorenson, Richards, Mentock, Hillberry, Gonzales, and Holm. NAY: none. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary