

WHATCOM COUNTY WATER DISTRICT NO. 13
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING JULY 12, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Hybrid Special meeting July 12, 2023, at 6:00 pm meeting was held via Zoom and in-person at the East Whatcom Regional Resource Center. Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by President Robert Vandenhaak.

Commissioners present were Anthony Au, Rebecca Cayen, Richard Whitson, Talitha Shiroma, and Robert Vandenhaak. Staff present were Carson Cothren and Cheryl Thompson. John Markus from Gray & Osborne Engineering was present via Zoom.

Sprague Valley Lift Station: Pump issues

John sent an email regarding the Sprague Valley lift station pump issues. There were issues with the flanges and the suction pipes when it was rebuilt in 2015. At that time, the issue was believed to be resolved. John thinks that this could be a vacuum leak in the pump that pumps influent to the headworks, which would cause the motor to not start. John suggests troubleshooting for a vacuum issue.

RW/RC a motion was made and seconded to approve purchasing a new pump as a backup for the Sprague Valley lift station Motion carried 5-0.

Generator Bids/Renting one for the winter at Sprague Valley

AA/RW motion was made and seconded to approve the purchase of a new 60 Kw generator for the Wastewater Treatment Plant/Office at Sprague Valley from Valley Plumbing for \$58,125.00, plus tax. Motion carried 5-0.

Since the lead time for a new generator is more than a year, Carson will call Birch Equipment and United Rentals to find out the cost of renting one for the winter.

Electrical Upgrade & Mobile Generator for Well #1

A 40 Kw mobile generator will be required to run the well in case of a power outage. Perhaps the mobile generator could be a backup for the winter at Sprague Valley. More discussion at the July 25, 2023, regular meeting.

Extreme Heat Law

On July 23, 2023, the Extreme Heat Law will go into effect. If there is a National Weather Service excessive heat warning, excessive heat watch or a heat advisory in effect, utility companies must turn on services to customers who have had their services turned off due to non-payment should the customer request it. Due to limited staffing, it might be best for the district to not do shut offs in the summer months. Cheryl will look at the current resolution and create a new resolution for the summer months around shut offs for non-payment.

Cheryl's request for up to 32 hours per week, if needed, through the end of the year

RW/RC a motion was made and seconded to approve Cheryl's request for up to 32 hours per week, if needed, through the end of the year. Motion carried 5-0.

Vacation/Sick coverage for employees

Carson will talk with Nick and Cheryl will talk with other districts. Further discussion at the July 25, 2023, regular meeting.

Water Meter Tampering Account 10126-Update

Cheryl called and spoke with the ratepayer, who said he had found and fixed the leak. He met with Cheryl at the office, and a leak adjustment credit form was filled out, along with setting up a \$100/month payment plan. Cheryl informed him that payment assistance was available through the Opportunity Council. He was also informed that the meter setter will need to be replaced and there will be further charges associated with the repair. He agreed to pay the additional charges. Carson will check to see if the leak has been fixed by looking at the speed of the water meter.

Fencing Update

Carson will order the fencing material.

Security Cameras

The security system has been ordered.

Heat Pump Install Update

Caz Construction is waiving the deposit requirement for the District. Cheryl will call to see when the project can get on their schedule.

Carson WWTP Training Classes

RW/RC a motion was made and seconded to approve payment for Carson's WWTP Training classes. Motion carried 5-0.

CONCLUDE

There being no further business Robert Vandenhaak concluded the meeting at 6:52 pm. These Minutes were presented and approved at a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners on 8/22/23.

APPROVED: Rebecca Cayen DATE: 8/22/23

[Signature] 8/22/23

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