Westside Water Association Annual Membership Meeting

Date: May 25, 2017 Location: Vashon Havurat

Board members attending: Pat Call, Amy Cole, Jennifer Pratt, Judy Olson

Total association members needed to achieve a quorum: 58

Association members in attendance: 33

Association members represented by proxy: 50

Total association members represented: **83** quorum is achieved

Meeting called to order at 7:09 pm

President Pat Call introduced the board, and thanked Bob Jones and Theo Eicher for their board service.

The minutes of the Annual Meeting on May 25, 2016 were reviewed. The motion to approve as written was moved, seconded and carried by unanimous vote.

Treasurer Judy Olson delivered a report on the association's financial position. In the past year, thanks to the rate increase approved last summer, we were able to improve our cash position, pay off the Anderson well 2 loan early, and create separate bank accounts to better align our accounting with the financial goals the board has articulated. An independent Financial Review was recently completed by Mary Margaret Briggs. This report reviewed status and referenced recommendations made to the Board at the last independent financial review, performed in 2015 by Jan Stephens.

Pat Call elaborated upon the banking strategy, and delivered reports on the CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) schedule and proposed budget for the coming year, specifying the new Board strategy of applying automatic annual rate increases based on an annual inflation rate as reflected in federal census data.

- A member suggested that our accounting include the actual costs from year to year, so that we can verify that regular rate increases are in line with increased costs.
- A member expressed concern over regular rate increases to those on fixed incomes.

Secretary Amy Cole delivered a report on the Standard Operating Procedures project. This involved digitizing all available meeting minutes from the Association's paper records going back to 1928; reviewing all records for policy decisions taken by past boards; certifying policies still in effect, and creating a single document (the SOP) documenting these policies. Moving forward, the SOP document shall be updated by the Secretary following each Board meeting, serving as a single and comprehensive reference to the Association's board operations for Board and Association members.

Pat Call directed members to visit the new website at www.westsidewater.org.

He then delivered an update on the performance of the Anderson 2 well, and a general well health report. Questions from members included the definition of a well point, and whether wells can be expected to degrade over time.

System Manager Doug Dolstad delivered an update on the Cedarhurst remediation work being performed by the County and its impact on the Association's main in that area.

Vice President Jennifer Pratt delivered an update on the Association's charitable giving to El Porvenir, an organization that works to deliver clean water to rural communities in Nicaragua. This is a voluntary opt-in

program for Association members. Any member with an interest in contributing may contact Doug Dolstad or any board member. A member asked about what percentage of the membership contributes to this cause. Jennifer will research and report this figure.

Doug Dolstad delivered a manager's report on the state of the system. He asked that any members with a spring on their property let Doug know if they notice any changes to its flow. This is a helpful clue to gauging the state of the aquifer. He also emphasized the importance of keeping any wells or springs separated from WWA sources, as failure to keep them separate is a major cause of cross-connection which has the potential to contaminate WWA lines. Any members with such a water source on their property should contact Doug for help isolating this system from WWA mains. Member questions: Do the A1 and A2 wells better protect us from earthquake damage? (not really). Do we have a map of hydrants in the district? Do they work? (Yes) What is the status of possible selling more water shares? (although we have improved the quality of our water with the new A2 well, we are still not producing enough water to serve all the subscribed connections in the system we have.)

Pat described the Board's efforts and desire to convert the accounting program we use from Quicken to Quickbooks, a true double entry accounting system. However, no one on the current Board has accounting expertise sufficient to ensure a clean transition, and we are requesting help from the membership in this conversion project. Support was voiced for the Board to hire someone to manage this transition.

Pat reported on Board discussions to purchase a generator of sufficient size and power to support A2 in the event of a power failure. Investigation has shown that such a generator would cost on the order of \$10K to install. Because this is a fairly large sum, the Board wished to open discussion on this purchase to the membership for thoughts or concerns. The upshot of the discussion was that the membership did not express a strong opinion and were comfortable allowing the board to make this decision. Past President Bob Jones encouraged the Board to consider how to fund this purchase sooner rather than later.

Pat introduced Jeff Thurlow, a candidate for departing board member Theo Eicher's seat; and reintroduced Secretary Amy Cole, up for re-election. This slate of candidates was unanimously elected to the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM