

City of Lafayette
Water Resources Committee
January 7, 2020
Lafayette City Hall

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Harper called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. **FLAG SALUTE:** Chairman Harper led the flag salute.

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Chris Harper, Doug Cook, Richard Olson and Todd Holt

Absent: George Larsen

Staff: Preston Polasek, City Administrator, and
Konrad Dimmitt, Public Works Supervisor

Others: Marie Sproul, Mayor

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Todd Holt moved and Doug Cook seconded the motion to approve as presented the minutes of the September 10, 2019 meeting of the WRC. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

5. **WATER PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION THRU DECEMBER:**

Doug Cook stated that he had spoken to Marie and Konrad about how “loss” is calculated. He plotted our “loss” over time vs joint water system production. It seems there is a high correlation, so that would suggest we have a leak in the transmission line with Dayton. Mayor Sproul suggested that ASR may not be accounted for correctly. Several meters are likely not reading correctly and are not supported anymore by the manufacturer. The project to replace watershed meters will have to be postponed a year to pool enough funding for the intertie project. The cost for this project, listed as project no. 8 on our current Capital Improvement Plan, is estimated to cost \$210,000 next fiscal year.

Members discussed meters slowing down and the impact on “loss.” When meters age, they record less flow. Most of the meters in the City were installed in 2001-02. The outside life for these meters to operate at 85% accuracy or better is 20 years. All the older meters checked over the last few years are running 87-90+% accuracy. Preston mentioned that our master plan for water improvements identifies the replacement of all meters. These replacements are expected to be done over five years, which would start next fiscal year if we have the funding.

6. **NEW WATER METER STANDARDS:**

Staff presented three industry models for meter replacements – one each from Sensus, Consolidated, and Kamstrap. These three models were evaluated against the following criteria: cost, phasing, AMI compatibility, meter box, warranty, use of brass fittings, proprietary restrictions, and meter accuracy. Although not the cheapest cost to replace all of our meters (Sensus-\$400k; Consolidated-\$260k, and Kamstrap-\$230k), Consolidated was superior across the other criteria such as phasing, AMI, brass fittings, and accuracy. After discussing all the criteria, committee members agreed with staff that Consolidated was the clear choice for Lafayette. Konrad demonstrated the workings of the various meters. Chairman Harper asked about the power source. Konrad replied that Consolidated meters have a lithium battery that should last for the 20-year life of the meter. Mayor Sproul asked about software costs, and Preston said that any software costs to implement new meters is built into the estimated costs.

7. **PROJECTS UPDATE:**

Chairman Harper asked about the status of the Blue Bird Water Association's request for assistance. Preston stated that there has been no change in the city's approach and that the association members are discussing options with their multiple attorneys. If they decide they want City assistance, then the decision will go to Council for approval.

The water intertie project status was reviewed and involves two distinct projects – the transmission line through MWL and the Pump Station. The transmission line is shared financially with MWL, and the Pump Station is paid in full by the City. Council awarded the Pump Station project to Haworth, Inc. at their last meeting. The transmission line is anticipated to be awarded in March. The existing transmission line from the pump station to Lafayette Highway is currently unused, and it will be fine for transmission of MWL water through the new pump station. Both projects are on track to be completed by July 2020. In order to award the Pump Station project, other water projects, such as CIP project no. 8, will have to be delayed. Project no. 8 on our CIP comprises mainline meters and vaults, a chlorine booster station, and a dechlorination facility in our watershed.

The next Yamhill County Water Task Force meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 27th and Lafayette will be hosting at our Community Center. Preston mentioned that Commissioner Kula will be organizing periodic water meetings, and the City is grateful to Yamhill County for keeping this regional dialogue on-going. It was Yamhill County's April 2008, *Water Supply Analysis*, that set the stage for the creation of Yamhill Regional Water Authority and our water intertie project with MWL. The County initiated and funded this regional water plan because it was the right thing to do, and we are grateful for their action and leadership to keep the Task Force going.

8. **NEXT MEETING:** April 7, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

9. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Todd Holt moved and Doug Cook seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously (4-0) and the meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

These WRC minutes for January 7, 2020 were approved on October 6, 2020.

CERTIFIED:


Chris Harper, Chair