

WLMAC MEETING NOTES OF AUGUST 28, 2012

Present: Chuck Olmstead, John Cipar, Barry Rosen

Also Attending: John Sonner, Matt Mostoller

Note Taker(s): Barry Rosen

Chairperson: Barry Rosen

Called To Order: The chairperson called the meeting to order on August 28, 2012 at 8:06 PM ET.

New Business:

1. Approval of Minutes:

1.1. July 17, 2012:

1.1.1. Mr. Mostoller asked for a correction of 5.2.1 so that it reflected that the summer water rates were implemented in the past to encourage water conservation. [This was corrected.]

1.1.2. On a motion by Mr. Olmstead, seconded by Mr. Rosen, the minutes were approved as amended.

1.2. July 26, 2012: On a motion by Mr. Olmstead and seconded by Mr. Rosen, the minutes were approved as submitted.

2. Next WLMAC Meeting: The next meeting of the WLMAC is currently scheduled for Tuesday, September 11, 2012 beginning at 8:00 PM ET. The committee was surveyed to determine if this was still a viable date.

2.1. Mr. Cipar will be away on that date but will return on Thursday, September 13.

2.2. As it was not clear whether Ms. Eckhardt and Mr. Malchodi would be able to attend on the scheduled date, Mr. Rosen will send an email survey to the committee in order to determine if the original date or an alternate date is best to achieve maximum attendance. It was noted that both of members were integral to the ongoing discussion on capacity.

3. Summary of AWD Commissioners Meeting of August 27, 2012: Mr. Cipar and Mr. Rosen were present at this meeting.

3.1. The AWD auditor (Maureen Mara) presented some highlights of her audit ending June 30, 2012 to the Board.

3.1.1. Expenses were 10% below forecast for the fiscal year.

3.1.2. Revenue and expense were within about \$6K of each other.

3.1.3. The District has been using the MTBE fund for M & O expenses and has drawn the account balance down to around \$69K. It had previously been using the W.R. Grace account to help offset M & O expenses.

- 3.2. The Board unanimously appointed John Cipar to serve on the WLMAC.
- 3.3. Chris told the Board that the leakage detection survey was complete and it determined that the District lost about 5% to leakage. About 13% of the pumped water was unaccounted for water. The commissioners remarked that they remember when this number was around 20% so there has been substantial improvement. In answer to a question, Chris said that the state goal for loss should not exceed 10% so we're getting better but we are not there. Chris also explained that sensitive listening devices are utilized to detect and isolate the location of any leaks.
- 3.4. Chris provided an update on the filtration pilots in which he indicated that the latest testing still showed that 1,4 dioxane was present in the water and that the system could do nothing to remove it. This was expected. Both pilots demonstrated that the metals (Fe and Mn) could both be successfully removed by the microfiltration and ultrafiltration methods. Both are membrane systems differing in pore size. The other system which we were hoping to pilot may not be possible. The company pulled back all of its pilot plants to refit them with a new type of ceramic filter. Chris said that we may still remain in touch with them for their UV system which can remove other pollutants including 1,4 dioxane. [Ed. Note: UV systems are more effective and efficient (less exposure time required) when turbidity has been reduced.]
- 3.5. Funding Future Debt Service:
 - 3.5.1. Chris announced that he had been told that the AWD would receive the entire \$12M in funding from the SRF rather than just the \$6M that was expected. This seems to be due to the small number of projects that are moving forward this year. Therefore, the District should not have to go to outside bonding and will receive a state SRF rate of 2%.
 - 3.5.2. The Fincom did not agree with the elimination of the winter water rates and only endorsed a debt service fee to be added to water bills.
 - 3.5.3. Barry asked if we could put the debt service fee on the bills as a tax which is permitted and would allow the payers to deduct the fees from both their state and federal taxes. The short answer to this was that it was not that simple and it might not be popular to call it a tax. Mary Bassett also had to research if just water takers would have to pay the tax or if everyone would have to pay.
 - 3.5.4. Matt Mostoller stated that he needed to get PR materials out so they could be to the printers in October.
 - 3.5.5. The commissioners decided to pass the debt service fee beginning on the January 2013 bill when water rates were low and people could get used to the idea. Any thought of a tax would need to wait until after the next District wide meeting anyway.
4. Mr. Sonner asked the committee if there was a distribution list or some way to communicate with the WLMAC. Mr. Mostoller stated that there was no shell. Mr. Rosen explained that we used to have an active email address but that it did not go di-

rectly to the WLMAC. He was not certain to whom it went or if it was still active. Mr. Mostoller was not certain either but he volunteered to discuss this with the IT manager and let us know how to proceed.

5. Discussion of Q and A Session with District Manager: As two of the members were not present and both were actively involved in the meeting and in discussing these capacity issues, it was decided to postpone this agenda item until the next meeting of the WLMAC.

Old Business:

6. Capacity Presentation: Mr. Malchodi was to present and lead this discussion but he unexpectedly was called out-of-town. We will attempt to reschedule this for our next meeting.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Mr. Olmstead and seconded by Mr. Cipar, the committee voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting on August 28, 2012 at 8:58 PM.