

SPOKANE AQUIFER JOINT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 20, 2012

1) CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Directors of the Spokane Aquifer Joint Board (SAJB) met in Regular Session at the Spokane County Water Resources Center, 1004 N. Freya, Spokane, Washington 99202. President Ty Wick was in attendance. A total of 15 attended the meeting, 10 SAJB voting representatives, 1 non-voting member and 4 guests. President Wick announced the planned retirement of Lee Mellish, Liberty Lake Water & Sewer District, in March 2013. President Wick also extended thanks to Rob Lindsay and Reanette Boese for hosting the meeting and welcomed SAJB members.

Consideration of Regular Meeting Minutes

President Wick called for any additions, corrections or deletions to the Minutes of November 14, 2012. Hearing none, the minutes were approved as submitted.

2) FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

President Ty Wick reported for the Treasurer.

SAJB Administration Funds

The SAJB Checking Account balance is \$4,310.25

SAJB Wellhead Implementation Plan (WIP) Funds

The WIP checking balance is \$4,896.57. Spokane County Investment Pool (Implementation) balance is \$57,342.44.

Administration and WIP Bill Summary for December

President Wick presented the Bill Payment Summary for the month of December 2012.

The December Bill Payment Summary totaled \$19,693.42. The December summary detailed SAJB Administration bills of \$0.00 and Wellhead Implementation Bills of \$16,000. The Program Leader Consulting Services including mileage and reimbursements for the month of December amounted to \$3,693.42.

Those present reviewed the summary. Terry Squibb moved to approve the Bill Payment Summary as presented, Gary Lowe seconded the motion. President Wick called for the vote, the motion carried unanimously.

3) OLD BUSINESS

Wellhead Regulatory Process and Wellhead Protection – Lloyd Brewer reported on the 12/17/12 WPPCC meeting and distributed a one page map showing proposed composite wellhead protection areas. The updated groundwater flow model was used to run the following additional wellhead delineations

- average conditions
- maximum pumping conditions at all wells and high flow
- maximum pumping and low tributaries/streams
- one month high tributaries followed by average conditions

A few errors in the model were discovered and reported to the GSI contractor.

Questions on the level of wellhead protection needed with variable flow rates included a discussion of protection for the entire aquifer in relation to stormwater. Member questions included:

- Will increased use of LID (low impact development) and stormwater injection require increased aquifer protection?
- What additional maintenance practices and educational efforts will be protective (e.g., more frequent street cleaning, drain protection, drywell cleanout, maintenance of grassy swales, lower percentage of impervious surface to the size of swales in special protection areas, etc.)?
- What types of buildings and industries will be allowed within special wellhead protection areas?
- What is the science behind high and low risk?

Given the current built environment and land use conditions, Lloyd Brewer asked if SAJB members could agree with wellhead protection areas delineated as “no greater than one year time of travel”. President Wick called for a discussion. The close proximity of wells, each having a one year time of travel, was considered to enhance the overall protective area. Pre-development, building & zoning regulations, CARA and SEPA processes were mentioned as protective tools. Reducing wellhead protection zones to no greater than a one year time of travel was not opposed.

Lloyd will Email the 4th Quarter DOH report and the map to SAJB members.

Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative (IWAC) – President Wick reported that IWAC met on 12/11/2012 at Liberty Lake Sewer & Water District (LLSWD). Progress on forming a legal nonprofit entity is moving ahead. Draft IWAC Bylaws have been prepared by legal counsel Susan Weeks and will be revised at an organizational subcommittee meeting on January 23, 2013. The next IWAC meeting will be held on January 8, 2013, 1:30 pm at LLSWD.

Andy Dunau, Spokane River Forum Executive Director, attended the IWAC meeting and requested input on a draft agenda being developed for the March 26-27, 2013 SRF conference. The conference will include both plenary and break-out sessions.

IWAC representatives requested that the breakout session be organized in topic strands. Potential topics under development include river in-stream flow rule making, wellhead protection, toxics, stormwater, low impact development, integrated management planning, river access & stewardship and the role of university researchers. Input to develop the agenda is being requested from a wide range of interest groups, agencies, municipalities and organizations.

WSU professors, Allyson Beall and Todd Norton will participate in the January IWAC meeting to discuss the Watershed Integrated Systems Dynamics Modeling (WISDM) and Biosphere-relevant Earth Systems Modeling (Bio-Earth) grants which have a four year funding of 4.5 million dollars, as well as a new NSF grant that will be submitted in February.

4) NEW BUSINESS

2013 Budget – A three year profit and loss comparison for 2010 -2012 revealed that expenditures exceeded revenue each year, despite being a balanced budget. An analysis was conducted and identified some contributing factors:

- Contracts with KSPS and WVOLC that were paid across 2 calendar years. (e.g., \$21,000 encumbered under the 2010 budget was actually expended in 2011 but not carried forward as encumbered in the 2011 budget)
- Spokane County Investment Pool retained earnings covered the expenditures each year
- Assessment and interest revenues were reduced due to the declining economy and low interest rates
- Reserve Fund was included in the Budget Expenditures by Committee

President Wick opened the discussion to trim expenditures. Discussion centered on the major discretionary spending line item, advertising on billboards with the recommendation to skip a year. Some members expressed concern that the billboards had lost some of their appeal and were seldom rotated. Program Manager Hanson proposed an alternate budget suggesting a ten percent cut to the large programs including Program Manager, KSPS, EnviroStars, Emerald Outdoor Signs and a larger cut to WVOLC retaining enough funding to support the AmeriCorps interns who teach aquifer lessons to students. It was noted that WVOLC recently received additional funds from Spokane County which could help offset the SAJB reduction.

All budget items were considered. Questions were raised about KSPS and the 2013 end of the Spokane Public Schools District #81 contract. What, if any, implications might this have on KSPS's ability to teach the aquifer lessons in schools. Following considered and thoughtful discussion President Wick called for a motion. Bob Ashcraft moved that the 2013 budget be approved with KSPS, EnviroStars, and Program Manager funded at the 2012 levels; billboards skipped for 2013 and \$5,000 available if WVOLC applies for funding. The motion was seconded by Terry Squibb. President Wick called for a vote and the 2013 budget was approved as modified.

2013 Draft Resolutions – The draft resolutions were available to members as part of the budget deliberations. The Website technical assistance resolution was discussed and Task 6 – Private members Only Section, was deleted. It may be reconsidered in the 2014 budget. The draft resolutions for Program Manager, Anne Francis Web Design, EnviroStars will be revised to reflect the budget decisions and presented along with the KSPS resolution for approval in January 2013.

WELLHEAD PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION PLAN – Program Manager Tonilee Hanson provided background and data for the 2013 budget discussion as requested by members including: education & awareness - give away materials; training and technical assistance needed for more fully utilizing the website; and the revised version of the on-line coloring book now entitled, “We Love Water” and starring a little yellow duck.

5) OPEN FORUM –

6) GUEST SPEAKER – None

7) ADJOURN

There being no further business this 20th day of December, 2012, President Wick adjourned the meeting at 2:55 PM.

President Ty Wick

Secretary Todd Henry