

SPOKANE AQUIFER JOINT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 14, 2012

1) CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Directors of the Spokane Aquifer Joint Board (SAJB) met in Regular Session at Pasadena Park Irrigation District No. 17, 9227 E. Upriver Drive, Spokane, Washington on November 14, 2012. President Ty Wick was in attendance. A total of 15 attended the meeting, 10 SAJB voting representatives, 1 non-voting member and 4 guests.

Consideration of Regular Meeting Minutes

President Wick called for any additions, corrections or comments to the Minutes of October 25, 2012. Reanette Boese requested that #4 New Business (page 3, paragraph one, sentence one) be amended by deleting the words "sewer connections" from the County rebate information. The minutes were approved as amended.

2) FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

President Ty Wick reported for the Treasurer.

SAJB Administration Funds

The SAJB Checking Account balance is \$4,311.75

SAJB Wellhead Implementation Plan (WIP) Funds

The WIP checking balance is \$23,859.13. Spokane County Investment Pool (Implementation) balance is \$57,292.29.

Administration and WIP Bill Summary for October

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

The November Bill Payment Summary totaled \$16,857.86. The November summary detailed SAJB Administration bills of \$0.00 and Wellhead Implementation Bills of \$14,805.36. The Program Leader Consulting Services including mileage and reimbursements for the month of November amounted to \$2,052.50.

Those present reviewed the summary. Scott Inch moved to approve the Bill Payment Summary as presented, Jim Lahde seconded the motion. President Wick called for the vote, the motion carried unanimously.

3) OLD BUSINESS

Wellhead Regulatory Process and Wellhead Protection – Doug Greenlund reported that the November 19, 2012 Wellhead Protection meeting agenda was e-mailed to everyone. Doug gave a brief overview of the issues to be discussed including: 1 or 2 year time of travel; 10% or 20% stormwater contribution; percentage of impervious surfaces; and parcel boundaries – wellhead protection vs. what the model shows.

Discussion brought up several issues, some of which are summarized below:

- Current development and existing impervious surfaces already exceed 20% of the area within the proposed times of travel; which leaves no ability for continued growth.
- Seasonal changes to capture zones are not distributed equally within parcel boundaries.
- What happens if parcels are split? Developers can apply for exemptions, if they can prove they will not impact water quality.
- Drilling a new well and adding transmission mains, is a million dollar expense. Even if it were possible to find an undeveloped one acre parcel there is no guarantee that the new location would yield a high production well.
- Idaho's Wellhead Protection Program includes the entire aquifer. Given the information from the updated Groundwater Flow modeling, maybe Idaho's "whole aquifer" approach is better than just focusing on wellhead protection?

Two questions were identified for continued discussion at the December meeting.

1. What wellhead protection requirements can realistically get through city councils? Nearly the entire City of Spokane Valley is located over special wellhead protection areas.
2. Does Idaho have an identified list of "Dos and Don'ts" for aquifer protection?

Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative (IWAC) – President Wick reported that IWAC met on 11/13/2012 at Liberty Lake Sewer & Water District (LLSWD). Progress on forming a legal nonprofit entity is moving very slowly due to continued ID constitutional concerns from the lawyer for the City of Post Falls and HARSB. The next IWAC meeting will be held on December 11, 2012, 1:30 pm at LLSWD.

Department of Ecology In-stream flow rule-making appears to be moving forward and the ID purveyors are concerned over the impact such rule-making will have on water rights, possibly pitting one state against the other. Depending on the group and their interests, the minimum flow numbers range from 450cfs to 1315cfs. The science behind the numbers is primarily based on fish needs placed at 600cfs but there is disagreement about the validity of the research conclusions. Ty Wick spoke with Rusty Post, Watershed Lead for Ecology's Eastern WA office. Rusty agreed that rule-making is moving forward and is looking for local support. Ecology thinks that the in-stream flow rule puts WA in a better place to negotiate with ID. Rusty suggested that Ty and Guy Gregory have a further conversation. Funding for the rule-making is uncertain. Earlier this year it was reported that the funds would be taken from the watershed budgets. This decision was highly unpopular.

Members present expressed support for the ID purveyor concerns and opined that local support may be lacking. Governor Gregoire put a moratorium on rule-making in 2010 which has been extended. It is unclear what the newly elected governor will do and Ecology is already behind the stated timeline.

SAJB Meeting Date Change Reminder - December 20, 2012 – Members are reminded that the December meeting will be held on the third Thursday of the month due to the Christmas holiday.

Spokane Emergency Management Comprehensive Planning Process - Gerry Bozarth, Spokane Emergency Management Project Manager, gave a presentation to SAJB in response to questions raised at our October meeting. Gerry covered the following points:

- Participating in the disaster mitigation plan is useful if you have facilities that need pre-disaster mitigation.
- Spokane County does not have to have a disaster to access funds. All counties in the State of WA are eligible to apply for funds if any one county has a disaster.
- Estimated time involvement is 24 to 40 hours over the next year with one mandatory meeting. The work won't start until spring and the contractor hired will assist participants in the process of writing and submitting the plan and supporting documents.
- Special purpose districts can sign on the disaster mitigation plan as long as they have "taxing authority".

SAJB members that are irrigation districts have "taxing authority" but water districts charge a fee for services and do not have the ability to tax property without voter's approval. This distinction made it unclear whether or not water districts were eligible to participate in the plan. Gerry will get clarification for the contractors at Tetra Tech.

Follow-up Note: On 11/16/2012, Rob Flanner, Hazard Mitigation Program Manager for Tetra Tech, responded to the question of "Local Government Taxing Authority"

From: Flaner, Rob [mailto:Rob.Flaner@tetrattech.com]
Sent: Friday, November 16, 2012 8:57 AM
To: Bozarth, Gerry
Subject: RE: VM regarding the Water District meeting.

If it is a pay for service based entity, and they receive none of their funding from tax authorization, they are considered "private non-profits" or profit seeking entities. These entities are not "local governments" as defined by the law. Therefore, they are not required to be covered under the plan.

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This information confirms that irrigation districts are eligible and water districts are not eligible to participate in the DMA plan. Gerry expressed an interest in having as much irrigation district participation as possible. He can be contacted at 509-477-7613 or gbozarth@spokanecounty.org.

4) NEW BUSINESS

Spokane County Water Resources Education Center Project - Reanette Boese reviewed two potential projects which Spokane County would like SAJB to consider.

1. A contest for water cycle or water process videos by kids or classrooms. The winning videos would be played at the Water Resource Center and could also be on the SAJB website.
2. An interactive display of how water gets delivered to houses and schools - perhaps with a component of how the used water gets transported away and cleaned as well.

Discussion of possible ideas considered starting with existing artwork or static displays and moving to more interactive displays at a future date.

Few members have seen the new Education Center. To better understand the possibilities of the space and the context of the existing displays, Reanette suggested that the December SAJB meeting be held at the Spokane County Water Resources Center.

Follow-up note: Reanette checked the event calendar and reserved the space for SAJB. The December SAJB meeting will be held at SCWRF – Education Center located at 1004 N. Freya, Spokane, WA 99202

2013 Budget – 2012 Actuals to Date - A spread sheet detailing the 2012 budget and actual expenditures to date was provided. The spread sheet also included the 2011 actuals as a point of reference for past expenditures. This information will be used to shape the 2013 budget discussion.

5) WELLHEAD PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION PLAN – Program Manager Tonilee Hanson reviewed November WIP actions and events.

Centennial Trail Signs – 4 of the 5 Centennial Trail signs have been installed. Sign #1 near the state line will be installed when weather permits.

2013 Budget Options –

Education & Awareness Give Away Materials – Prices for give-away items were researched. Cassel Productions, a local company, has fulfilled such orders in previous years and has existing art. The costs are as follows:

- Pencils = \$0.14/each
- Reusable shopping bags \$1.87 each. One issue is the material for the bags may be petroleum based. Further research is needed to ensure the bags SAJB purchases are appropriately eco-friendly.
- Aqua Duck stickers 2"x 2" = \$0.35 each

Website – Purveyor Service Area searchable map - The current Purveyor Service Area map on the website is a pdf of a Spokane county map adopted in July 1999. Many service area boundaries have changed and it would be preferable to have a searchable "Google" type map. Reanette Boese spoke with Rob Lindsay and Mike Hermanson about updating the map using the boundaries represented in the Potential contaminant source Inventory GIS map. Funding for this project could come for the existing County PCSI resolution. The GIS map can be converted to a KZM file that will interface with Google. The only additional cost to complete a map upgrade in 2013 will be web designer time to install the interface into the SAJB website. Estimates for this work will be prepared for the December meeting.

Bill Rickard requested the addition of a disclaimer to the map. The service area boundary does not guarantee that water service infrastructure is in place in undeveloped areas. The disclaimer would include language that tells the viewer to check with the water utility prior to building to determine whether or not water service is available or what the cost would be to hook up service.

Aqua Duck & EnviroStars Proposed Billboard: A new billboard featuring Aqua Duck educating the public to look for the EnviroStars logo is proposed. Given the concept and costs were accepted in October, varying artistic renditions Aqua Duck were presented including using an AD performer? The members agreed that the image of AD in the group shot below is preferable. It will be shown to Emerald Outdoor as a model for the billboard artwork.



Coloring Book – I Am a Fish & This Is My Wish –PM Hanson spoke with the artist, Allison Dunlap, after the October meeting to discuss options based on member feedback. Allison agreed to develop some alternate titles and was willing to replace the fish with a duck modeled after a little yellow rubber duck. Alternate titles offered for consideration were:

- Thirsty to Help! Things Kids Can Do to Help Save Water
- Aqua-Facts: Aquifer Facts for you. Kids can help too!
- We love Water: Things you can do to be Water Wise



The 3rd title above and the duck concept were approved.

6) OPEN FORUM –

7) GUEST SPEAKER – None

8) ADJOURN

There being no further business this 14th day of November, 2012, President Wick adjourned the meeting.

President Ty Wick

Secretary Todd Henry