

SPOKANE AQUIFER JOINT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 23, 2014

1) CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Directors of the Spokane Aquifer Joint Board (SAJB) met in Regular Session at Spokane County Water District No. 3, 1225 N. Yardley Street, Spokane, Washington 99212. President Ty Wick was in attendance. A total of 13 attended the meeting; including 10 SAJB voting representatives, one non-voting member, Program Manager Hanson and one guest. The sign-in sheet of SAJB members and guests present is available upon request.

Consideration of Regular Meeting Minutes

President Wick called for any additions, corrections or deletions to the Minutes of December 19, 2013. 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 balance for January 2014 is \$2,175.96

SAJB Wellhead Implementation Plan (WIP) Funds

The WIP checking balance is \$17,610.09 Spokane County Investment Pool (Implementation) balance is \$57,839.01.

Administration and WIP Bill Summary for January

President Wick presented the Bill Payment Summary for the month of January 2014.

The January Bill Payment Summary totaled \$3,390.55. The January summary detailed SAJB Administration bills of \$0.00 and Wellhead Implementation Bills of \$3,390.55. The Program Leader Consulting Services including mileage and reimbursements for the month of January amounted to \$3390.55.

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

3) OLD BUSINESS

Wellhead Regulatory Process and Wellhead Protection – President Wick reported that the WPPCC was scheduled to meet on January 27, 2014 but has been moved to February 3, 2014 due to an important hearing at the City of Liberty Lake.

Jeremy Jenkins, Liberty Lake Sewer & Water District (LLSWD) described the proposed development, Lakemore Village, where the developers plan to construct as many as 700 wells for individual closed loop geothermal heating systems. Each of the 700 "bore holes" would consist of a six-inch diameter casing (removed later) drilled to approximately 450 feet deep with U-shaped polyethylene tubing inserted into the hole that circulates food-grade antifreeze. SAJB members discussed concerns with the large number of wells, the sanitary seal for each of the 700 wells and long term maintenance as properties change ownership. Additional concerns expressed included the potential for contamination within the LLSWD wellhead one year time of travel and the increase in aquifer temperature that 700 geothermal wells could induce. President Wick will attend the hearing in support of LLSWD and aquifer protection.

Lloyd Brewer opened discussion of the Wellhead Protection Policy Coordinating Committee and the 2012 revised one year capture zones. Discussion revealed different interpretations of how the reduced capture areas would be applied regarding the bi-annual potential contaminant source inventory (PCSI). Lloyd expressed the idea that the revised one year capture zone would modify the businesses receiving PCSI notification to just those inside of special wellhead protection areas. President Wick spoke for many of the members who thought that the PCSI notifications would continue to be mailed to the area identified by each purveyor for their wellhead protection area and that the smaller one year time of travel would be subject to an enhanced regulatory process including modeling where appropriate. Ed Parry from the Department of Health, Drinking Water Division, expressed a concern that reduction of the PCSI notifications might not meet the regulatory obligation for water districts. It was agreed that the 2014 PCSI notifications and map will continue using the established inventory zones. Lloyd invited everyone to attend the WHPPCC on February 3, 2014 to continue the discussion.

Instream Flow & Water Rights – President Wick described the recent decision from the Washington State Supreme Court regarding Swinomish Indian Tribal Community v. Ecology, holding that Ecology exceeded its authority to use the "overriding considerations of public interest" (OCPI) exception to grant reservations for future water rights in the Skagit River Basin. The decision invalidated an amended instream flow rule that had been relied upon for the construction of hundreds of homes with exempt wells.

In 2006 the rule was amended to establish finite "reservations" of surface and groundwater for future out-of-stream uses. The reservations provided uninterrupted (year-round) water supplies for new agricultural, residential, commercial/industrial and livestock uses, distributed among 25 sub-basins.

On October 3, 2013, the Washington Supreme Court ruled that Ecology cannot set aside reservations of water through adoption of water management rules where water was previously set aside to support stream flows for fish. Without water reservations, later water uses can be interrupted when dry spells impact the protected stream flows. Ecology found in 2006 that limited reservations would not substantially harm fish populations.

The Swinomish Tribe challenged the establishment of the reservations in 2008 and appealed a Thurston County Superior Court finding in Ecology's favor in 2010.
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/instream-flows/skagitbasin.html>

The Department of Ecology Instream Flow Rulemaking for the Spokane River is going forward seemingly, in response to the State of Idaho's water adjudication process. President Wick quoted a WWUC legal counsel who said that instream flow rules **do impact** existing water rights. Any changes made to an existing water right after the instream flow rule is in place, will be impacted by the instream flow rule.

The question of exempt wells remains unresolved. Many exempt wells have been allowed in Washington State; which are now junior water right holders (if drilled after the instream flow rule was set). Ecology may expect water purveyors to solve exempt well issues through the use of their inchoate water rights when instream flow rules are not met and the result causes exempt wells to be shut off.

Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative (IWAC) – IWAC met on January 14, 2014 to discuss reclaimed water reuse. Dave Moss and Ben Brattebo, Spokane County Utilities presented information about the Spokane County Water Reclamation Facility, studies for potential land application of reclaimed water and the next phase of restoring Saltese Flats wetlands. Ken Windram, Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board, described the water reuse farm and poplar groves that are supported seasonally by reclaimed water. HARSB is participating in a Biofuels pilot project. Mike Neher, City of Post Falls and Liberty Lake described their preparations for future reuse if it becomes seasonally necessary to stop discharging reclaimed water into the Spokane River to meet DO TMDL requirements for phosphorus. Presentation and IWAC minutes can be accessed on the SAJB website at <http://www.spokaneaquifer.org/iwac-meeting-11414/>.

On February 11th IWAC will discuss instream flow with presentations by Speed Fitzhugh and Patrick Maher of Avista and Guy Gregory of Ecology. On March 11th the Idaho CAMP (Comprehensive Aquifer Management Planning) group will meet with IWAC to view a presentation on a potential regional future water supply demand model.

2015 Aquifer Atlas Update –A planning meeting was held on January 21, 2014 at LLSWD. Discussions continue on what to keep, what to delete and what is the pertinent new content in 2015. Early thinking is that the 2015 atlas will focus on stormwater, instream flows, contaminants of concern, citizen stewardship and possibly creating a storyline throughout the atlas sharing tribal culture and history.

GSI Water Solutions, Inc. Inputs for Modeling John Porcello is requesting a decision regarding the duration of time needed for simulating the summer season i.e., three months or shorter? After some discussion the Board decided that a three month summer season was appropriate. President Wick will assist John in collecting the data that John Porcello needs to move forward with the study. Several SAJB members identified by John in the scope of work as potential participants in the modeling process have declined.

4) NEW BUSINESS

SAJB Resolution 2014-01 Anne Francis Web Design was presented for consideration by the Board. Scott Inch moved to approve Resolution 2014-01 and Bob Ashcraft seconded the motion. President Wick called for a vote and Resolution 2014-01 passed unanimously.

SAJB Resolution 2014-02 KSPS Public Television was presented for consideration by the Board. Jim Lahde moved to approve Resolution 2014-02 and Terry Squibb seconded the motion. President Wick called for a vote and Resolution 2014-02 passed unanimously.

2014 Potential Contaminant Source Inventory - Reanette Boese has collected information from all sources except the City of Spokane which is in process. The next steps are to 1) compare the new and old data to find duplicates 2) make a GIS coverage map of the new locations to determine in which water district they reside and 3) make lists for each district to fact check.

5) WELLHEAD PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION PLAN – Program Manager Tonilee Hanson reviewed the following:

AWWA Award – The SAJB Application Report for the AWWA Exemplary Source Water Protection Award application was submitted on January 14, 2014. Receipt was acknowledged on 1/15/14, by Linda Moody CMP, AWWA, Sr. VTS Coordinator located at 6666 W. Quincy Avenue, Denver, CO 80235. Notification of award recipients will occur in late March. The awards will be presented at the AWWA Annual Conference, June 8-11, 2014 at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center in Boston, Mass.

AWWA Source Water Protection Award Past Recipients

Year	Small System	Medium System	Large System
2013	Brandon Fire District #1, Vermont NEWWA, A Section of AWWA	Reading Area Water Authority Pennsylvania, Penn. Section	New York City Dept. of Environmental Protection, NY New York Section
2012	City of DeSoto, Iowa Iowa Section	City of Sacramento Dept. of Utilities, California California/ Nevada Section	Portland Water District, Maine NEWWA, A Section of AWWA
2011	City of Clare, Michigan	Crystal Falls Township, Michigan	City of Wilmington, Del.
2010	Remsen, Iowa Municipal Utilities	Seelyville, Indiana Water Works	Massachusetts Water Resources Authority Boston, Mass.

2014 Education and Awareness Events - Photos of the completed events can be found at <http://www.spokaneaquifer.org/category/photo-galleries/>. Aqua Duck appeared at Otis Elementary and will be participating in many upcoming events.

- 1/14/14 Otis Elementary Science Night
- 1/28/14 Sunrise Elementary Science Showcase
- 2/5/14 Longfellow Elementary Science Night
- 2/6/14 Progress Elementary Science Fair
- 2/11/14 Holmes Elementary Science Night
- 2/21/14 Ponderosa Elementary
- 4/26-27/14 St. Aloysius Parish Caring for Creation
- 6/2-11/14 Mead School District 5th Grade Environmental Camp

EnviroStars Small Business Proactive Assistance – Twenty-one is the 2014 goal for new business certifications: Jaremko Nissan was certified at the 5 star level for both auto service and auto body and painting. The goal for EnviroStars Certification Renewals is 20. Maid Naturally cleaning services and products originally certified in 2010 and is the first to recertify in 2014. One of their new goals is to provide the SAJB brochure, "Hazardous Chemicals in the Household" to all of their 250 customers.

The EnviroStars waste website for residents and businesses is being designed to promote waste and toxics reduction in the Spokane River and SVRP Aquifer by making it simple to find waste management and disposal facts, vendors, regulations and incentives. To date focus groups for Contaminants of Concern, Pre-treatment and solid waste have provided valuable resources and data moving the project forward.

Website Statistics for www.Spokaneaquifer.org Website statistics for December 15, 2013 through January 14, 2014, documented 1,318 visits. Visitors looked at 5,847 pages. The average number of page visits increased from 4.32 in December to 4.44 in January. Returning visitors increased from 19.07% in December to 25.72% in January.

A power point with additional details on the items covered is available at <http://www.spokaneaquifer.org/sajb-meeting-12314/>

6) ADJOURN

There being no further business this 23rd day of January, 2014, President Wick adjourned the meeting at 3:27 PM.

President Ty Wick

Secretary Todd Henry