



SPOKANE AQUIFER JOINT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 24, 2015

Officers: President Ty Wick, VP Jeremy Jenkins, Secretary Todd Henry, Treasurer Neal Skaufel

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 18 attended the meeting; including 10 SAJB voting representatives, 2 SAJB alternate voting representatives 1 non-voting member, Program Manager Hanson and 4 guests. The sign-in sheet of SAJB members and guests is available upon request.

Consideration of Regular Meeting Minutes

President Wick called for any additions, corrections or deletions to the Minutes of May 28, 2015. Hearing none, the Minutes for May were approved as submitted.

2) FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

President Ty Wick reported for the Treasurer.

Two invoices for outstanding 2015 second half assessments were distributed.

SAJB Administration Funds

The SAJB checking balance for September 2015 is \$4,269.01

SAJB Wellhead Implementation Plan (WIP) Funds

The WIP checking balance is \$61,175.03 Spokane County Investment Pool (Implementation) balance is \$58,561.67.

Administration and WIP Bill Summary for June, July, August and September

President Wick presented the Bill Payment Summary for the months of June, July, August and September of 2015.

The June Bill Payment Summary totaled \$9,986.00. The June summary detailed SAJB Administration bills of \$0.00 and Wellhead Implementation Bills of \$6,468.75. The Program Manager Consulting Services including mileage and reimbursements for the month of June amounted to \$3,517.25.

The July Bill Payment Summary totaled \$23,699.94. The July summary detailed SAJB Administration bills of \$0.00 and Wellhead Implementation Bills of \$22,437.54. The

Program Manager Consulting Services including mileage and reimbursements for the month of July amounted to \$1,262.40.

The August Bill Payment Summary totaled \$3,677.18. The August summary detailed SAJB Administration bills of \$264.00 and Wellhead Implementation Bills of \$1,240. The Program Manager Consulting Services including mileage and reimbursements for the month of August amounted to \$2,173.18

The September Bill Payment Summary totaled \$5,122.57. The September summary detailed SAJB Administration bills of \$00.00 and Wellhead Implementation Bills of \$1,180.00. The Program Manager Consulting Services including mileage and reimbursements for the month of September amounted to \$3,942.57

Those present reviewed the summaries. Jeremy Jenkins moved to ratify the actions of the SAJB Executive Board regarding bill payments for June, July and August and approve the September Bill Payment Summary as presented. Scott Inch 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 wellhead protection proposal continues to move through Spokane city's review process.

Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative (IWAC) – September 8, 2015 Chris Meyers, water rights attorney at Givens Pursley presented bi-state agreement options and reinforced the advantages to cooperation vs. litigation.

IWAC meets monthly, the second Tuesday at 1:30 pm. SAJB members are encouraged to participate in this bi-state collaboration. IWAC agendas, minutes and documents are available at <http://www.spokaneaquifer.org/category/iwac/iwac-agendas-minutes/>.

GSI Water Solutions, Inc. Historical Analysis Scope - "Technical Approach, Scope of Work, and Cost Estimate for Conducting a Phased Analysis of the Causes of Historical Changes to Seasonal Low Flows in the Spokane River. President Wick reported that John Porcello began the study in September and is making progress. Porcello will be discussing storm water questions with the city of Spokane and may contact other SAJB water systems in the search for historic data.

City of Spokane Valley Comprehensive Plan – Henry Allen, COSV, reported that the Comprehensive Plan is still a working document. Data from water purveyors is not requested at this time.

2015 Aquifer Atlas Update – The 2015 Aquifer Atlas was printed in late June. PM Hanson delivered atlases to all public water providers for distribution to their customers. A digital flip book version of the atlas is available at <http://www.spokaneaquifer.org/2015-aquifer-atlas/2015AquiferAtlas.html>.

4) NEW BUSINESS

Aquifer Level Monitoring and Reporting – Customer calls were received this summer expressing concern over the drought, aquifer levels and the apparent lack of drought measures by purveyors. Do we know what impact the drought has had on aquifer levels across the region? Depending on location, purveyors informally reported aquifer level changes ranging from: minus two (2) feet, no change and plus four (4) feet. SVRP Aquifer levels were not significantly impacted by one year of drought. The greatest drought effect was seen in the Spokane River. Historically, 2015 was not the worst impact on the river due to Avista's FERC relicensing that increased the required release from 300 cfs to 500 cfs from the Post Falls Dam. This has resulted in lowering Coeur d'Alene Lake levels by 1 foot 4 inches.

What will happen to aquifer levels if this warming trend becomes the new normal? Water Quality data is regularly collected by all purveyors. SCWD3 has four (4) non-production wells that could be used for water level monitoring and Spokane County Water Resources has a series of eleven (11) monitoring wells in place. Rob Lindsey shared a map showing aquifer level graphs of data the County has collected quarterly from 1999 to present. Idaho purveyors are also interested in sharing data. President Wick recommended that SAJB, Spokane County and IWAC create a systematic aquifer level monitoring effort monthly or even weekly during the 2016 summer months. The aquifer level data could be displayed on the SAJB and IWAC websites along with conservation measures.

Regional Conservation Program - Seattle, Tacoma and Everett formed the website www.savingwater.org. The website promotes the wise use of water by providing tips using photos, videos and short informational articles. The SAJB website currently has a conservation page with many tips but it may need to be updated with video and displayed more visibly on the home page. Stacey Selcho, Spokane County Conservation District, started an informal group called the Water Conservation Coalition this spring. PM Hanson, Kristen Zimmer City of Spokane and Toni Taylor Spokane County, WSU Master Gardeners and other groups have attended the meetings. The group added a "Drought" table to the Green Zone at the recent Interstate Fair.

Rob Lindsay requested input from SAJB purveyors on current conservation measures to help inform his participation in Spokane Public Radio & CityCable 5's public health forum "SPR Talks: Our Water, Our Future." The panel, moderated by Steve Jackson, also included: Guy Gregory, Rachel Osborn, Rick Romero and Jon Snyder and discussed the question, "What does the current Washington State drought mean for our communities now and in the future?"

SAJB Meeting Schedule – Due to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays the regularly scheduled meeting dates need to be changed. November 19 & December 17 were proposed, however John Porcello will be ready by December to present an update on the GSI work but the suggested dates do not work for his schedule. Jim Lahde moved that the November and December meetings be combined into one meeting to be

held on Thursday, December 3rd, 2015. Scott Inch seconded the motion. President Wick called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

World Water Day - March 22, 2016. Could this event be an opportunity for SAJB's education and awareness initiative to promote water conservation and aquifer protection? This will be the same week as the 2016 Spokane River Forum Conference. Suggestions and ideas are welcomed. PM Hanson will prepare a few implementation ideas as part of the 2016 budget discussion.

5) WELLHEAD PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION PLAN –

Program Manager Hanson's report can be viewed or downloaded at

<http://www.spokaneaquifer.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/2015.09.24-SAJB-PM-Report.pdf>

3rd Quarter Budget Report – Detailed expenditures and activities to date were provided and can be downloaded at http://www.spokaneaquifer.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/2015_SAJB-WIP-Budget-3rd-QTR-Report-9.24.15.pdf

2015 Scheduled Education and Awareness Events

- 9/25/15 – Valleyfest “Hearts of Gold” Parade
- 9/26/15 – Valleyfest at Mirabeau Meadows
- 10/3/15 – Upriver Scrub
- 10/24/15 Fall Leaf Festival – Finch Arboretum

Pro-Active Business Assistance & Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

- EnviroStars Waste Directory Media Campaign Results
- EnviroStars Business Renewals & Certifications

SAJB Website – Website statistics showed continued summer use of “Find My Water Provider” Google analytics details can be found in PM Hanson's report. Analysis of the “**search requests**” revealed some items that are not currently address on the website. For example: account information, billing, pay bills, late fee; career, jobs, employment; water rates, cost of water; water pressure, outages; backflow, backflow assembly; water quality, annual report; fluoride, water treatment; find water main; and add a water line. These items will be added to the frequently asked questions and included in the search categories

KSPS Update – Kristen Zimmer reported that 39 of the 50 “Aquifer in a Cup” Workshops have been completed. Kristen presented a new student activity, “Water Moves” which involved students in science, technology engineering and math (STEM) activities to collaboratively design water movement systems. Ms. Zimmer has been hired full-time by the City of Spokane for water stewardship and stormwater education outreach. She will complete the remaining contracted services and train a workshop leader replacement.

6) OPEN FORUM

Scott Inch, Moab Irrigation District, announced the Service Truck Rodeo will be held on March 9, 2016.

Todd Henry, Vera Water and Power, informed members that a new development project is planning to use open loop geothermal wells for cooling. The wells are not in wellhead capture zones and the development company is not yet a Vera customer.

7) GUEST SPEAKER**8) ADJOURN**

There being no further business this 24th day of September, 2015, President Wick adjourned the meeting at 2:43 PM.

President Ty Wick

Secretary Todd Henry