



SPOKANE AQUIFER JOINT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 19, 2020

SAJB Officers:

President Jeremy Jenkins, VP Shane Sheppard, Secretary Todd Henry, Treasurer Doug Greenlund

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Directors of the Spokane Aquifer Joint Board (SAJB) met in Regular Session via Zoom. A total of 20 attended the meeting including 11 SAJB voting representatives. Terry Squibb General Manager of both Carnhope & Hutchinson Irrigation Districts gave his proxy of 2 votes to Rick Neal. Others in attendance included 1 SAJB alternate voting representatives, 0 non-voting members, Program Manager Hanson and 8 guests. The sign-in sheet of SAJB members and guests is available upon request. The meeting was called to order at 1:35 pm.

Consideration of Regular Meeting Minutes

President Jeremy Jenkins called for any additions, corrections or deletions to the Minutes of October 22, 2020. Doug Greenlund moved to approve the October minutes and Bruce Davidson seconded the motion. President Jenkins called for a vote and the motion carried unanimously.

2. FINANCAL REPORT

Treasurer Doug Greenlund presented the November Financial Report

The **November Bill Payment Summary** totaled \$5,654.06 as detailed in WIP check numbers 2512-2414. The November summary detailed Wellhead Implementation Bills of \$2,413.75. Program Manager Consulting Services including mileage and reimbursements for the month of November amounted to \$3,240.31.

Those present reviewed the bill payment summaries for November. Bruce Davidson moved to approve the November 2020 Bill Payment Summary as presented. Rick Neal seconded the motion. President Jenkins called for a vote and the motion carried unanimously.

3. OLD BUSINESS

Wellhead Implementation Plan (WIP) Update – President Jenkins reviewed the WIP and identified needed updates in the individual members contingency plans, revised intertie agreements, and capture zones for new wells.

All water systems are required by the federal government to complete an Emergency Risk Analysis and Response Plan by June of 2021. Those plans can be added to the SAJB WIP as an update to the existing contingency plans.

In 2012, John Porcello, GSI Water solutions, rebuilt the wellhead protection capture zones model and extended it into Idaho. Reanette Boese reported that she uses all of the updated capture areas for the Potential Contaminants Source Inventory (PCSI).

President Jenkins stated that an addendum to the 2000 WIP is needed to include the updated GSI MicroFEM® model, capture zones, new interties, individual member's Emergency Response plans and other minor changes. The WIP update may require additional work by GSI. PM Tonilee shared that the current 2021 draft budget has unallocated funds that could be used to hire GSI to complete needed modeling.

A question was raised about Spokane County's Aquifer Protection Area (APA) ordinance and fees which will sunset in 2026. Rob Lindsay shared that there have been no discussions about updating or increasing the APA funding. The only significant change in the use of APA funds at the county was to fund a robust education program. Rob will work with SAJB to review the RCW and identify how APA funds are being used.

President Jenkins mentioned that Ecology and DOH may make changes to the UIC rule which could also trigger updates in the WIP. President Jenkins suggested that a subcommittee be formed in 2021 to parse out the needed updates and develop the WIP addendum.

Find My Water Provider Map – The Service Area Map needs updating in both ID and WA. Reanette Boese has been working with WA purveyors to confirm service areas. Some boundaries between Whitworth Water District and Spokane County Water District #3 have changed and need to be verified. Beryl Fredrickson, City of Spokane, is part of the emergency response team and offered to assist with maps for Spokane County. The main need for updating is in Kootenai County. President Jenkins will contact Idaho water purveyors. John Beecham, Post Falls Water Department, is interested in assisting the Idaho water purveyor service area map update.

NEW SAJB Fire Hydrant PSA is now publicly available on You Tube, SAJB and IWAC websites. Please feel free to post the video on your websites.

[Backflow Protection & Cross Connection Control Web page.](#) PM Tonilee shared the overall content and demonstrated the Backflow Tester post which has links to IWAC and SAJB purveyor lists of approved and certified testers. She asked members to send any additional resources they would like to see added.

Backflow Symposium – BiJay Adams and Shane Sheppard asked members if they were interested in holding a Backflow Symposium. The purpose would be to share and discuss backflow practices, policies, enforcement strategies and look for opportunities to align practices as a region. BiJay offered to host the symposium. Discussion will be carried forward into 2021.

Backflow Protection & Cross Connection Control

How Backflow Can Happen
Backflow prevention is required by state and federal law to keep drinking water safe. Backflow devices must be tested annually.

Home Backflow Protection
Find out why backflow installation and maintenance is important to the safety of your home and everyone's drinking water.

Fire Hydrant Backflow Protection
Fire Hydrants are being locked to protect our drinking water from backflow contamination.

What is Backflow? How does it happen?
Backflow prevention is required by state and federal law to keep drinking water safe. Backflow devices must be tested annually.

Liberty Lake Sewer & Water District - Backflow Testing
Property installed and maintained backflow devices protect your home and the public water supply.

SRC4 - Spokane Regional Cross Connection Control Chapter
Since 1986 water purveyors, city and county plumbing officials, and backflow assembly

Backflow Assembly Testers
Locate Certified Backflow Testers approved annually by Idaho and Washington Water providers. ID and WA regulations are also linked here.

FYI: Sheri Miller, DOH, sent the following administrative code statement, link, and short summary statement.

To protect health, state drinking water rules require public water systems to develop and implement Cross-Connection Control programs. Washington Administrative Code 246-290-490 states that all community water systems must develop and implement cross connection control programs to protect the public water system from contamination via cross-connections. The purveyor's responsibility for cross connection control begins at the water supply source, includes all the public water treatment, storage, and distribution facilities, and ends at the point of delivery to the consumer, which begins at the downstream end of the service connection or water meter located on the public right of way or utility-held easement. There are minimum requirements listed in WAC 246-290-490 that a purveyor must include in a program and certain high hazards where the state requires a backflow prevention device be installed. The rules allow a water system to determine level of risk and establish a more stringent program, if necessary, through its local operating rules.

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/DrinkingWater/WaterSystemDesignandPlanning/CrossConnectionControlBackflowPrevention>

To protect your drinking water from becoming contaminated via cross-connections, Washington Administrative Code 246-290-490 requires public water systems develop and implement Cross-Connection Control (Backflow) programs.

2021 DRAFT Budget – PM Tonilee Hanson reviewed three funding proposals by Blue Sky Marketing. Options 2 and 3 included increased funding to focus on video ads. Members discussed the options and there is interest in promoting the IWAC and SAJB backflow videos. One change for 2021 would be to remove the EnviroCertified initiative. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, businesses certifications have been suspended since March of 2020 and are not likely to resume until summer of 2021. EnviroCertified could be replaced with a backflow media campaign that would run during the seasonal spring sprinkler system turn-on in April and fall blow-out in October. Tonilee will work with Ada Hargrove to develop a revised funding proposal before the December 17th SAJB meeting.

In the draft 2021 budget, the Spokane River Forum (SRF), funding of \$10,000 was allocated between Business Assistance \$2,500, Water Conservation \$5,000 and Contaminant Disposal \$2,500 in response to comments made at the October budget review.

The Science Fair Extravaganza website maintenance for 2021 is included in the Education Committee budget.

Licensing for the Adobe Suite software will need to be added to the 2021 budget.

President Jenkins reminded the group that a new Aqua Duck costume is needed. It has had over 9 years of hard use. Tonilee will get an estimate for the cost of replacing the costume.

4. NEW BUSINESS

Next Meeting December 17, 2020 will be held via Zoom.

5. WELLHEAD PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION PLAN - Program Manager's Report

The new [Spokane Kootenai Waste & Recycle Directory](#) soft launch is scheduled for 11/20/20. On 11/23/20 the EnviroCertified Steering Committee and the Recycling Task Force will do a final review of the live site. A media campaign will begin on 12/2/20.

SAJB Website Google Analytics – A recent update removed google analytics for www.spokaneaquifer.org. All data was permanently lost from October 8th to November 15th. Fortunately, the Science Fair Extravaganza analytics do not appear to have been impacted.

Education & Awareness / Media Campaign – Virtual Science Fair Extravaganza

experienced a 75% overall increase in visitors from 10/21 to 11/15. Booths for the Spokane Valley Fire Department and Whitworth University Science Methods Pre-service Teachers will be added this year.

Page	10/1-10/21	10/1- 11/15	%
Home page	740	1456	97%
Booth Directory	11	18	64%
Aqua Duck Total pageviews	52	65	25%
Build Your Own Aquifer Total pageviews	48	95	98%
Inspiring Artisit Total pageviews	30	61	103%
Master Composters Total pageviews	80	100	25%
Meet the Scientists Total pageviews	18	22	22%
National Weather Service Total pgvws	87	110	26%
Conservation District Total pageviews	65	82	28%
County Solid Waste Total pageviews	32	46	44%
Water Resource Center Total pageviews	46	84	83%
Envirokids Total pageviews	10	24	140%
Clean Air Agency Total pageviews	8	43	438%
Water Wise Total pageviews	33	40	21%
What is an Aquifer Total pageviews	36	73	103%
Total Website Pageviews	1543	2700	75%

6. UPDATES

Attorney Joe Carroll sent notice of a Bureau of Reclamation grant for watershed work. Spokane County WRIA 55 watershed planning was funded by this grant several years ago. Rob Lindsay and Mike Hermanson will review the grant application to see if it could support the continued WRIA work being done by the county. Rob shared that the modeling was done by Earth Effects and he hopes to train county personnel to work with the model and eliminate the need for a consulting firm to maintain the model. To be considered are the range of possible activities and/or a role for IWAC in the watershed work.

7. ADJOURN

There being no further business this 19th day of November 2020, President Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 2:49 PM.

President, Jeremy Jenkins

Vice President, Shane Sheppard