



# SPOKANE AQUIFER JOINT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 23, 2021

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 23 attended the meeting including 10 SAJB voting representatives and one proxy. Rick Neal gave his proxy to Kelly Williquette. Others in attendance included 1 non-voting member, 1 voting alternate, Program Manager Hanson, and 10 guests. The sign-in sheet of SAJB members and guests is available upon request. The meeting was called to order at 1:40 pm. Everyone introduced themselves.

### Consideration of Regular Meeting Minutes

President Jeremy Jenkins called for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the Minutes of May 27, 2021. BiJay Adams moved to approve the May minutes and Doug Greenlund seconded the motion. President Jenkins called for a vote and the motion carried unanimously (11 ayes and 0 nays).

## 2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer Doug Greenlund presented the Bill Payment Summaries for May, June, July, August, and September. May financials were approved in May but check #2538 had to be returned because it was not signed. Check #2538 was voided by Blue Sky Marketing and returned to Treasurer Greenlund. Check #2543 was issued as a replacement.

### SAJB Wellhead Implementation Plan (WIP) Funds

The SAJB checking balance for September, 2021 is \$76,233.46

The Spokane County Investment Pool (WIP) balance is \$47,424.32

### Administration and WIP Bill Payment Summary

The **June Bill Payment Summary** totaled \$9,716.89 paid with checks numbered 2544-2547. The June summary detailed SAJB Administration bills of \$0.00 and Wellhead Implementation Bills of \$6,330.75. The Program Manager Consulting Services including mileage and reimbursements for the month of June amounted to \$3,386.14.

The **July Bill Payment Summary** totaled \$5,784.71 paid with checks numbered 2548-2550. The July summary detailed SAJB Administration bills of \$0.00 and Wellhead Implementation Bills of \$4,648.75. The Program Manager Consulting Services including mileage and reimbursements for the month of July amounted to \$1,135.96.

The **August Bill Payment Summary** totaled \$6,719.19 paid with checks numbered 2551-2553. The August summary detailed SAJB Administration bills of \$2,810.00 paid with check # 1029 and Wellhead Implementation Bills of \$1,390.75. The Program Manager Consulting

Services including mileage and reimbursements for the month of August amounted to \$2,518.44.

The **September Bill Payment Summary** totaled \$38,067.03 paid with checks numbered 2554-2558. The September summary detailed SAJB Administration bills of \$336.00 paid with check # 1030 and Wellhead Implementation Bills of \$33,615.25. The Program Manager Consulting Services including mileage and reimbursements for the month of September amounted to \$4,115.78.

Those present reviewed the bill payment summaries. Todd Henry moved to ratify the bills as paid in June, July, and August and approve the September Bill Payment Summary as presented. Shane Sheppard seconded the motion. President Jenkins called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously (11 ayes and 0 nays).

Treasurer Greenlund reported that all SAJB members have paid their dues except for the second half of the assessment for Spokane Business and Industrial Park. Cale Hawkinson requested that Treasurer Greenlund email the invoice to him. Treasurer Greenlund commented that in October he will send an invoice for \$2,500 to IWAC for PM Hanson's administrative support. In years past the invoice was sent later in the year which was too close to the end of the fiscal year.

### 3. OLD BUSINESS

**2021 Find My Water Provider Map Update** – Reanette Boese thanked Terry Pickel, CDA Water Department Director and Anna Moody IDEQ for their support in locating phone numbers for the Idaho Water Systems. Reanette asked all SAJB members to double check their map contact information. PM Hanson noted that many more Idaho water systems were added to the map in this update. A disclaimer is placed on the website that the service area (ACI in Idaho) does not guarantee that a purveyor has the infrastructure in place to serve every location.

### Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative Irrigation and Landscape Design Update

Terry Pickel, IWAC President, and BiJay Adams, IWAC VP, described the efficient irrigation and landscape design presentation given to date and one on October 6, 2021. Terry is working with the North Idaho Builders Association and the Planning Commission to impact green space requirements. BiJay shared that the intention is to present to as many city council members as possible and new SAJB members if there is an interest.



Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative  
Webinars and Presentations  
Terry Pickel & BiJay Adams



- IWAC Roadshow CDA and LL
- SAJB
- IRWA Annual Fall Conference
- Technical Advisory Workshop - CDA
- PNWS-AWWA Section Conference (cancelled)
- IESS Annual Service Truck Rodeo
- Spokane River Forum Conf. 2017, 2019, and 2020 H2O Breakfast
- Our Gem Speaker Series
- North Idaho Building Contractors Association
- IWRA-WA (October 6)

**Coordinated Water System Plan Update** – Mike Hermanson, Water Resources Manager Spokane County Environmental Services, shared that the Water Utilities Coordination Committee (WUCC) met on August 31, 2021. Approaches to the CWSP update included a streamlined administrative update or a full-scale update. The WUCC decided to move forward with initiating an update. County Commissioners will be approached for funding from the American Rescue Plan (ARP). A process for distributing ARP funds has not yet been established. If funding is not available from ARP, the WUCC will determine the best way to move forward with at least a limited update. Tim Murrell, Whitworth Water district is the new WUCC chairperson.

**Re-establishing SAJB Sub-committees** – President Jenkins shared that sub-committees will be reconvened to move forward with:

- 1) **The Ty Wick Defender of the Aquifer Award** - PM Hanson reported that the Spokane River Forum will hold a Spring 2022 Conference and the first winner(s) of the Ty Wick Defender of the Aquifer Award will be announced and honored at the Conference. Developing the nomination form, process, promotion, plaque, and prize need to be completed by the end of December and nominations received by the end of February. Promotion and prize funding will need to be included in the 2022 budget planning starting in October.
- 2) **Decommissioned Gravel Pits** – Dan Kegley and John Porcello, GSI Water Solutions, discussed a possible approach to an “Aggregate Quarry Risk Evaluation.” Members were sent the approach document prior to the meeting. Discussion included regulatory authority, zoning, legal impacts, education, and the potential scope. John Porcello showed a map of wellhead capture zones in relation to the inactive quarries. Given that the SVRP aquifer is a highly permeable, fast flowing, sole source aquifer it will be important to fully evaluate the risks and identify possible action steps to protect the aquifer. SAJB members gave their approval to GSI Water solutions to move forward with a scope and budget for the study. GSI would like the subcommittee to help define the scope.
- 3) **Updating the Wellhead Implementation Plan** – There was no discussion of this sub-committee.

**Aquifer Atlas Redesign Update** – President Jenkins shared that work on the Aquifer Atlas resumed in July. Work on the update will include a request to water purveyors for actual pumping data for the past 10 years. Composite graphs will be developed to show the increase in summer water use in relationship to regional temperatures and population increases. The updated atlas will likely be published in 2022. One of the messages in the Atlas will be to dispel the perception that the aquifer is infinite and make the case for efficient water use.

**City of Spokane – Fluoride Update** – Doug Greenlund reported that the city of Spokane and the Arcora Foundation reached an agreement in which the city will accept \$600,000 from Arcora to conduct a fluoridation study and will not have to re-pay the money if the city decides not to fluoridate. A request for qualifications (RFQ) is being prepared and a company to conduct an engineering design study that would identify operation and maintenance issues for the 8 city wells. The study is estimated to take one year and will begin in January of 2022. Terry Pickel shared that the way fluoride dosing is calculated is based on, the unlikely measure of, air temperature. He expressed challenges from many years of operating a system that required fluoridation. Concerns were raised about the amount of irrigation water that would be fluoridated. It was estimated that only 0.5 % of the fluoride injected would be consumed. Reanette Boese wondered if fluoridation could occur only in the winter months. Sheri Miller, DOH confirmed that there is precedent around the United States to stop fluoridation during the irrigation season.

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

**SAJB officially welcomes Jason Beesley**, Modern Electric Water Company, Water Superintendent and **Jason Cushman**, North Spokane Irrigation District #8, General Manager.

**First National Source Water Protection Week** - 9/26/21-10/2/21- PM Hanson encouraged everyone to get the word out to their customers about the first National Source Water Protection Week. Graphics and draft promotional materials, prepared by AWWA, were sent to all SAJB and IWAC members. The draft materials can be tailored to mention our sole source aquifer.

**Outdoor Water Conservation Website** –The Spokane River Forum is developing an outdoor water conservation website. The website audience is residential homeowners. The message is to reduce water waste, save water outdoors, and save money. The purpose is to help residents quickly locate answers to their questions regarding design, installation, and maintenance of landscape and irrigation systems. Top priorities are: 1. Detect and repair leaks 2. Managing sprinkler timers seasonally, and 3. Repair and retrofit sprinkler systems. SRF requested feedback from SAJB members on the questions: Do you agree with the target audience? Do we have the right categories? Which are the highest priorities? Should the website respond to specific customer questions or simply be a Clearing House of water conservation resources? SAJB members agreed with the intended audience, purpose, and top 3 priorities. They preferred a site that is responsive to customer questions rather than a clearing house of resources. Jason Beesley suggested that SAJB members send the top 5 frequently asked questions that they receive from their customers. PM Hanson will follow-up and send a request to all members to share their top customer questions about outdoor water conservation.

**SAJB Meeting Dates** – Members reviewed their calendars and approved the proposed meeting dates of November 18, 2021, and December 16, 2021. These new dates are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month instead of the regularly scheduled 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month to accommodate the Thanksgiving, Hannukah, and Christmas holidays. The next meeting will be on October 28, 2021.

**5. WELLHEAD PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION PLAN** - Program Manager’s Report

**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Budget Report** - The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter report was sent to members to review prior to the meeting. PM Hanson pointed out that Aquifer folders were not included in the approved budget but were approved by the members in April to support the Aquifer Workshops. Unspent funds were identified to cover this unbudgeted item and are detailed in the Actions section of the report. PM Hanson estimates that there will be additional unspent funds which will be detailed in the 2022 budget discussion starting in October.

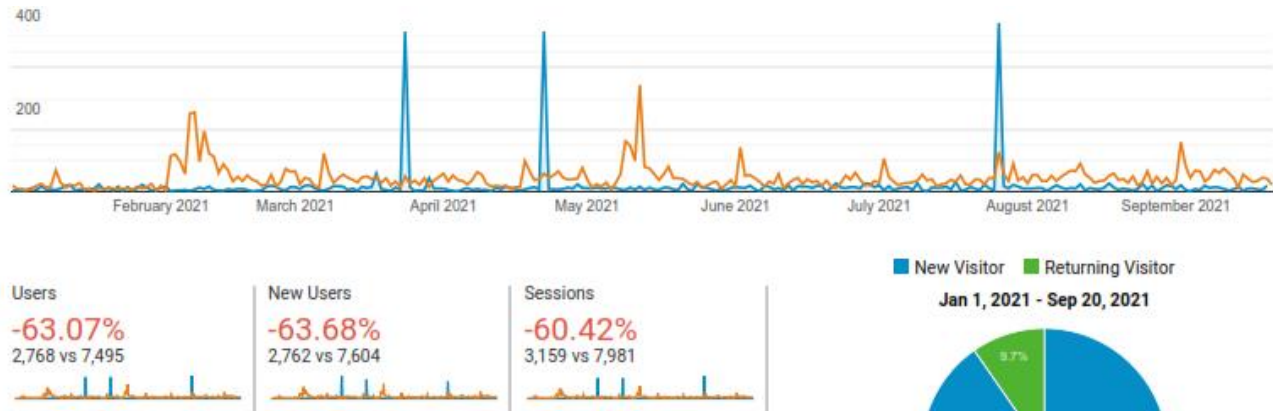
**Education & Awareness – KSPS Public Television** reported that from February 1 to August 31, 2021, 295/675 spots were aired in prime time on the main channel 7.1 and 169/315 spots were aired on PBS Kids 24/7 Channel 7.4 Children’s Programming. In September and October, backflow protection spots will run. One new spot is contracted, and members were asked if they had specific content they would like to see aired. It was decided that the new spot will be a tribute to Ty Wick, SAJB’s President from 1995-2017. The spot will announce the Ty Wick Defender of the Aquifer Award and call for nominations. Elizabeth Lancaster has completed 46 of the 60 contracted Aquifer in a Cup workshops. Fifteen are scheduled and 3 are pending. If all are conducted, things could change due to Covid mandates, 64/60 workshops will be completed.

**Education and Awareness - Blue Sky Marketing** Media Campaign Analytics

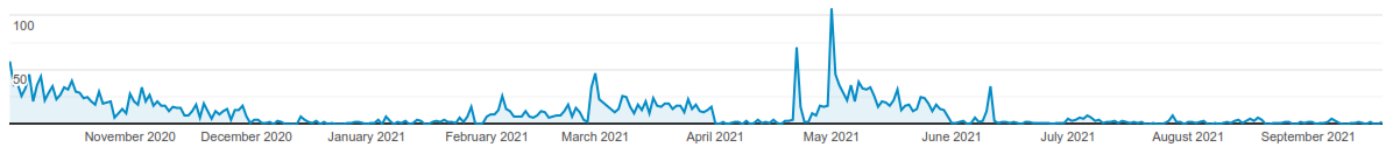
| 2020                             |
|----------------------------------|
| SAJB Teachers: March, April, May |
| Teachers Science Fair: Oct-Nov   |
| EnviroCertified: Feb – Sept      |
| Water Conservation: June – Sept  |

| 2021                                      |
|---|
| Teachers Science Fair: Feb, Mar, May, Oct |
| Water Conservation: June-Aug              |
| Home Backflow Video: July                 |
| Sprinkler Backflow Video: April and Sept  |

**EnviroCertified** was promoted for 8 months in 2020 and not promoted in 2021. The Google Analytics chart below shows a 63% decrease in the number of visitors to the EnviroCertified website in 2021.



**SAJB Science Fair Extravaganza** had 3,177 users from 10/20 to 9/21. The chart below shows that the increased website traffic corresponded with the media campaigns.



The media campaign was effective with 6,697 pageviews for Water Conservation.

| SAJB Website Page Community Resources        | Pageviews |
|--|-----------|
| Water Conservation Resources                 | 5,158     |
| Efficient Irrigation                         | 613       |
| Backflow                                     | 476       |
| backflow-protection-cross-control-connection | 450       |
| Total Water Conservation                     | 6,697     |



**6. OPEN FORUM** – Todd Henry shared that he is participating in the city of Spokane Valley Street Sustainability Committee reviewing pavement management and funding tax base options. A utility tax was being considered but not on water.

**7. ADJOURN** There being no further business this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September 2021, President Jeremy Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 3:05 PM.

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President, Jeremy Jenkins

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VP, Shane Sheppard