



SPOKANE AQUIFER JOINT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 28, 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 in-person at Spokane County Water District #3, 1225 N. Yardley Road, Spokane, WA 99212 and via Zoom. A total of seventeen (17) attended the meeting including eight (8) SAJB voting representatives. Carnhope, Hutchinson, Model, and Vera managers gave their proxy to SAJB President Jeremy Jenkins. Others in attendance included zero (0) non-voting members, one (1) voting alternate, Program Manager Hanson, and seven (7) 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 September 23, 2021. Scott Inch moved to approve the September minutes and Doug Greenlund seconded the motion. President Jenkins called for a vote and the motion carried unanimously.

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer Doug Greenlund presented the Bill Payment Summary for October.

Administration and WIP Bill Payment Summary

The **October Bill Payment Summary** totaled \$6,951.75 paid with checks numbered 2559-2561. The October summary detailed SAJB Administration bills of 0.00 and Wellhead Implementation Bills of \$1,776.50. The Program Manager Consulting Services including mileage and reimbursements for the month of October amounted to \$5,175.25.

Those present reviewed the bill payment summaries. Tim Murrell moved to approve the October Bill Payment Summary as presented. Scott Inch seconded the motion. President Jenkins called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously.

SAJB Wellhead Implementation Plan (WIP) Funds

The SAJB Administrative checking balance for October, 2021 is \$3,593.09

The SAJB WIP checking balance for October, 2021 is \$72,781.71

The Spokane County Investment Pool (WIP) balance is \$47,452.54.

Treasurer Greenlund reported that all SAJB members have paid their dues and IWAC paid \$2,500.00 for PM Hanson's 2021 administrative support.

3. OLD BUSINESS

Re-establishing SAJB Sub-committees – President Jenkins shared that sub-committees are being reconvened.

The **Ty Wick Defender of the Aquifer Award Sub-Committee** met on 10/21/21 via Zoom. Present were Chair Kelly Williquette, Shane Sheppard, BiJay Adams, Jeremy Jenkins, Todd Henry, Bryan St. Clair, Terry Pickel, and Dawn Bayman. The group reviewed the [Ty Wick Award](#) website pages. The pages are not yet published for the public and are password protected. The password is tywick1. The group suggested edits to the [nomination form](#) which have been finalized by Anne Francis Web Design. Nominations will be due by 2/15/22 so the winner(s) can be acknowledged at the spring Spokane River Forum Conference. KSPS will develop a spot to air December 1, 2021, through February 15, 2022. Award prizes and plaques were discussed. The Award committee agreed that a plaque of the SVRP aquifer would be given. A plaque style was selected. The plaque sample, shown to the right, is of Lake Coeur d'Alene. Kelly will work with a wood designer to get cost estimates. Five to ten plaques will be purchased, and a name plate will be added with each year's winner.



Historic and New Sub-Committees President Jenkins reviewed past records and identified the following list of historic sub-committees: Proactive Business Assistance, Potential Contaminant Source Inventory, Household Contaminant Disposal, Education & Awareness, Website, Emergency Planning, Wellhead Protection Area, and Conservation. New subcommittees include Awards – Ty Wick Defender of the Aquifer, Education & Awareness, Media Campaigns, Website, Wellhead and Aquifer Protection – Gravel Pits, PCSI-Business-Household. SAJB members discussed ideas for consolidating the subcommittees for education and awareness, media campaigns and the website.

2022 Aquifer Atlas Redesign – PM Hanson shared 10 years of total monthly pumping data and annual connection numbers have been requested from CDA, Post Falls, EGAID, CID, LLSWD, Spokane, and Whitworth to update the Water Use and Future Water Use (pages 15-16). Many thanks to Whitworth and CDA for sending their data. VP Shane Sheppard encouraged purveyors to send any data they have even if it is not a full 10 years. Composite graphs will be developed to show the increase in summer water use in relationship to regional temperatures and population increases. Aquifer Protection – Home (pages 25-26) will include primarily outdoor water conservation ideas.

4. NEW BUSINESS

Future Water Conservation Media Campaign – Past IWAC President, Dan Kegley, shared that IWAC is exploring ideas for a water conservation media campaign that would be fun or edgy and get more people engaged. IWAC is interested in pooling resources with

SAJB, cities across the aquifer, and Spokane County to develop an organized and consistent set of messages that would support purveyor's six-year water efficiency goals. Kristen Zimmer shared Denver Water's billboards and media at the last IWAC meeting and encouraged us to learn from other regions. Tim Murrell, formerly from Colorado, reported that Denver Water is a leader in water conservation. Much of Colorado has no replacement water supply making conservation essential. Reanette Boese shared that the Spokane Public Works will give Parks and Recreation \$250,000 every year for the next ten years to invest in new irrigation and water usage strategies. The Spokane City Council passed a Sustainability Action Plan that aligns water conservation with protecting adequate flow in the Spokane River. The goal would be to work together to design regional messages that reach the largest possible audience.

2022 DRAFT Budget with October actuals was reviewed.

New Items for Budget Consideration

•Ty Wick Defender of the Aquifer Award estimated	\$2,500
o Media Promotion	
o Award Plaques purchased in bulk	
•2022 Aquifer Atlas	\$6,000
o Graphic Designer (Cost shared by multiple agencies our part \$1,500)	
o Printing \$4,500 (In 2015 SAJB spent \$10,000 on printing)	
•Aggregate Quarry Risk Evaluation	
o Task 1 - Document Potential Hazards to Drinking Water	\$15,100
o Task 2 - Identify Regulatory Jurisdiction & potential strategies	\$11,650
o Task 3 - Document and Present Potential Risks & alternatives	\$25,850

GSI Water Solutions, provided a scope of work (SOW) for an "Aggregate Quarry Risk Evaluation." Summarized below are members comments, questions, and next steps.

- In 2015, SAJB commissioned a study by GSI on historic river flows and the impact of wells near the river. What have we done with that information? What will we do with the risk assessment?
- Would anyone else such as Spokane Valley or Spokane County help pay for the study? Is SAJB responsible for paying for all of it?
- It looks like Task 2 does not have a summary report and only by purchasing Task 3 would SAJB get the jurisdictional and regulatory information or potential strategies. How will we know if it is worth doing Task 3 without a summary of the Task 2 results?
- Is SAJB better off getting a lawyer now to start sending letters. We don't know if zoning or other regulatory permits may have been violated. If zoning doesn't change, what good is a study? A letter from an attorney may get more discussion and action.
- The city of Spokane Valley did not adopt Spokane county's Critical Area Ordinance which regulates the depth of mining over the aquifer. Additional quarries are planned. Jurisdiction is unclear between Commerce, Ecology, Shoreline Management, Critical Area Ordinance, Aquifer Protection Area, and municipal building permits.
- What are SAJB's suggestions for possible solutions?
- This is a crucial issue. SAJB could 1)outline problems, identify potential solutions, and lobby local governments to implement stricter land use permitting and zoning regulations or 2)hire GSI to assist in starting the process with SOW Task 1 and then decide how we want to proceed. This issue has the potential to impact all purveyors now and in the future.
- SAJB needs to act now and commit funding toward a solution. SAJB could survey members using the SOW task language and identify 5-10 priority areas.

Next Steps:

1. Doug Greenlund will forward, to Tracy Band and Brenda Smits, the background documents received from Ecology, SWP at Office of Drinking Water, and the city of Spokane Valley.
2. Brenda Smits, DOH has contacts at Commerce who can be asked for help as needed.
3. A sub-committee was formed and will meet November 3, 2021, from 2:30 – 4:00 pm at CID and via Zoom. They will review the SOW, develop a member survey, and give feedback to GSI in time to make updates before the SAJB meeting on 11/18/21. Subcommittee members are Tim Murrell, Doug Greenlund, Shane Sheppard, Scott inch, Dan Kegley, Jeremy Jenkins, Reanette Boese, Norm Semanko and Tonilee Hanson.
4. Norm Semanko, Attorney for CID and Trentwood, offered pro bono services to review the SOW, and reports generated by GSI.

The next two SAJB meetings will be held on **November 18, 2021**, and **December 16, 2021**.

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

2021 Media Campaign – The 2021 media campaign runs through the end of October. Blue Sky Marketing will prepare a year end summary of the results. Program Manager Hanson will share a comprehensive review of the media results and the website Google analytics at the meeting on November 18, 2021.

Spokane River Forum Outdoor Water Conservation Website is making progress. Thanks to Kristen Zimmer for meeting with Tonilee on 10/25/21 to review and comment on the development to date. There will be several more paper versions before SRF moves to a web-based prototype. Resources have been compiled for the DIY and DIFM pathways listed below.

Audience: Residential Homeowners

Focus: Reduce outdoor water waste, save water.

Purpose: Help residents quickly locate answers to their questions.

SRF needs real customer questions.

Name: Needs a catchy name. i.e., Water Saving Nerds, Lawn Watering Nerds, Water Right.
Please send Tonilee any suggestions.

Navigation Contents will include: (What else might make it more useful?)

About

- FAQ
- Contact

Two pathways: **DIY** (How do I...?) or **DIFM** (Do it for me...Who can help me?)

- Detect and repair leaks
- Managing sprinkler timers seasonally
- Repair and retrofit sprinkler systems

Resources by Agency, Purveyor, or Municipality

- Website Water Conservation Links
- Rebates
- State and National Water Conservation Programs

Media (Free for use by everyone)

- Short How-to Videos (e.g., "Why do I have brown spots in my lawn")
- Digital Ads and Social Media Posts

Search

6. OPEN FORUM – Doug Greenlund requested information from anyone using an online chlorine analyzer. The city of Spokane is interested in replacing old aqua chlorometric analyzers if there is something better. Please send Doug an email with the name of which on-line analyzer you are using and whether or not you would recommend it.

7. ADJOURN There being no further business this 28th day of October 2021, President Jeremy Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 2:55 PM.

President, Jeremy Jenkins

VP, Shane Sheppard