



SPOKANE AQUIFER JOINT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 26, 2024

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 and in person at Spokane County Water District #3. A total of twenty-four (24) attended the meeting including: thirteen (13) SAJB voting representatives, two (2) voting alternates, one (1) non-voting representative, Program Manager Hanson, and eight (8) guests. The sign-in sheet for SAJB members and guests is available upon request. In person (19) and via Zoom (5). The meeting was called to order at 1:34 pm. President Jenkins welcomed everyone and asked them to introduce themselves.

Consideration of Regular Meeting Minutes

President Jeremy Jenkins called for additions, corrections, or deletions to the Minutes of May 23, 2024. Shane Sheppard moved to approve the May meeting minutes Terry Squibb seconded the motion. President Jenkins called for discussion. Rob Lindsay expressed congratulations to Tonilee Hanson for the DOH Lifetime Achievement Award presented at the May meeting. President Jenkins called for the vote and the motion was approved unanimously.

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Administration and WIP Bill Payment Summary

Treasurer Greenlund presented the Bill Payment Summaries for June, July, and August. Bills were paid during the construction season recess. Treasurer Greenlund asked the members to ratify payments for:

- June 2024 WIP checks # 2701-2706 totaling \$25,145.79.
- July 2024 WIP checks # 2708-2709 and Administration check #1042 totaling \$9,171.70.
- August 2024 WIP checks #2710-2712 and Administration check #1043 totaling \$9,000.97.

September 2024 Bill Payments totaled \$21,012.30. The September summary detailed SAJB Administration bills of \$0.00. The Wellhead Implementation Program (WIP) bills were paid with checks #2713-2718. Education and Awareness bills were \$12,500.00. Program Manager Consulting Services, mileage, and reimbursements amounted to \$4,815.95. Potential Contaminant Source Inventory bills of \$3,696.35.

The Spokane County Investment Pool balance is \$50,268.11. The Washington Trust WIP bank account balance as of September 1, 2024, is \$94,953.83 The Washington Trust Administrative bank account balance is \$2,905.87.

Those present reviewed the Bill Payment summaries. Scott Inch moved to ratify the June - August Bill Payments and approve the September Bill Payment summary. Kelly Williquette seconded the motion. President Jenkins called for discussion and the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer Greenlund reported that he will resign as SAJB Treasurer in December 2025. SAJB has 15 months to find a new Treasurer. SAJB members expressed appreciation for all that Treasurer Greenlund has done as Treasurer and that he is giving generous notice for finding a Treasurer for 2026.

3. OLD BUSINESS

MODFLOW Ground Water Model Update with Climate Change Analysis – President Jenkins shared that the Source Water Grant Coordinator left DOH and SAJB has not received a final contract. Deborah Johnson is assisting SAJB in completing the grant contract process. GSI Water Solutions Hydrogeologists John Porcello and Walt Burt attended the meeting in person. John provided an update of the project and estimated that data gathering for the updated MODFLOW model will continue into spring of 2025. The last SAJB wellhead protection area update was in 2012 with the MicroFem model. Please provide John with data for new wells and for projected new wells so the capture zones for protecting wellheads can be included in the updated model. The City of Spokane is engaged in emergency planning response scenarios to be able to deliver safe drinking water if a well were impacted by contaminants.

IWAC – Aquifer Model Update and 9/10/24 Class – IWAC provided a class on Aquifer Modeling and Water Quality on 9/10/24. Huge thanks to presenters John Porcello GSI Water Solutions, Seth Oliver Idaho Department of Environmental Quality and Amy Sumner Spokane County Water Resources Manager. Here are links to the Zoom recordings of each class session. The videos capture the presentations but please understand there are a few glitchy moments.

Aquifer Modeling Session 1 - John Porcello <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0KQUUPhwhnc>

Aquifer Modeling Session 2 - Seth Oliver <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y7KCGqCYSxc>

Aquifer Water Quality Session 3 - Amy Sumner <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HvskUv2DTPA>

Program Manager Position – Interviews and Next Steps - President Jenkins reported that the Interview Team, Shane Sheppard, Todd Henry, Doug Greenlund, Kelly Williquette, Reanette Boese and himself, interviewed three candidates on September 20, 2024. The team is unanimously recommending Meagan Hayes for the position of Program Manager. President Jenkins shared comments from Meagan's reference from when she was a consultant for the city of Cle Elum. She has extensive background in community involvement. Meagan is employed as a comprehensive planner at the Department of Ecology Shoreline program. Before applying for the position, Meagan confirmed with Ecology that there was not a conflict of interest. She has a flexible schedule and works four days a week. Members considered draft Resolution 2024-06 a personal services agreement with Meagan Hayes as SAJB Program Manager. Discussion followed. Doug Greenlund made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-06. Bruce Davidson seconded the motion. President Jenkins called for any additional discussion and the vote. The thirteen voting members unanimously approved SAJB Resolution 2024-06.

4. NEW BUSINESS

UIC Discussion – Reanette Boese opened the discussion of UICs, Underground Injection Control.

EPA regulates the construction, operation, permitting, and closure of injection wells used to place fluids underground for storage or disposal. In Washington State the Department of Ecology requires that all injection wells must either receive a program rule authorization or a state discharge permit in order to operate. Reanette includes UICs in the annual PCSI database. Engineers are required to contact Water Districts to get approval in locating new UICs. Water Districts can approve or deny any UIC that could potentially impact water quality in production wells but in many cases the water providers are being informed after the UIC is already installed. PM Hanson will invite Brian Johnson from the Water Quality Program to the October SAJB meeting to better understand the options and create a uniform response statement. Cory Olson, City of Spokane Valley, will check with city engineers on the UIC notification requirements and send the information to PM Hanson.

Spokane River Forum New Executive Director - Happy Avery shared her background in education, environment, and non-profit organizations. She expressed her enthusiasm for and interest in continuing the important collaboration between the Spokane River Forum and SAJB on initiatives like H2O Conferences, the Waste Directory, Outdoor Watering Nerds, and the EnviroCertified Program.

Alternate Meeting Dates for Holidays – Members agreed on the following dates for SAJB meetings to avoid conflicts with the holidays. The November meeting will be held on 11/21/24 and the December meeting will be on 12/12/24.

5. WELLHEAD PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION PLAN – Program Manager Hanson’s Report

October **Education and Awareness** events are 10/9/24 – Mullan Road Elementary Science Night and 10/19/24 – Fall Leaf Festival at Finch Arboretum. 2024 is a **PCSI letter and map year**. In August 2,436 letters and inserts were mailed to businesses whose practices or products have the potential to contaminate source water. In September 33 letters, inserts and links to the 2024 SAJB PCSI map were mailed to First Responders, Agencies, City and County Planning Departments. The First Responder PCSI map was updated <https://www.spokaneaquifer.org/the-aquifer/potential-contaminant-sources/>.

Proactive Business Assistance – The EnviroCertified program results for 2024 are shown in the table below. Certifications have exceeded 2023 results and 2024 goals thanks to increasing the number of Pollution Prevention Assistance Specialists at the Spokane Regional Health District. New Certifications and food rescue recognitions include the major event centers in Spokane.



	2023 Results	2024 Results	2024 Goals
Food Rescue Recognitions	5	24	15
Check-in Visits	29	5	20
Renewals	13	12	15
New Certifications	2	14	6



Levy Restaurants
– One Spokane
Stadium



Levy Restaurants
– Spokane Arena

Six (6) Event Centers
5 Stars EnviroCertified
&
Food Rescue Recognized



Levy Restaurants
– Spokane
Convention
Center



Levy Restaurants
– The Podium



Levy Restaurants- First
Interstate Center
for the Arts



Spokane Indians
Baseball Team

Water Conservation – The Outdoor Watering Nerds Media Campaign ran April through September in collaboration with the Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative (IWAC).

September analytics are not yet available but the overall campaign results from April – August are shown below.

Google Analytics April 15, 2023 – August 31, 2024	
Page Views	13,411
Users on Targeted Pages	7,004
Total Nerds Website Users	10,660
Event Count (Internal & external link clicks, downloads, and scrolling).	40,562



Facebook, Instagram, Display Ads and Retargeting 4/1/2024 – 8/31/2024		
	Impressions	1,606,560
	Static Ads Reach	241,479
	Clicks	9,580
	Video Thru Plays	32,646

6. OPEN FORUM

Jeremy Jenkins shared that radioactive material from Hanford is expected to be transported through Spokane on the way to Utah sometime in 2025. This route was selected when the State of Oregon and Tribal nations refused to allow transportation through their territory. The City of Spokane Mayor, Lisa Brown, has protested the route through Spokane. Given the SVRP aquifer is a sole source aquifer for over 600,000 residents in WA and ID, SAJB will need to stay aware of this issue and determine what response might be needed.

Rob Lindsay, Spokane County Environmental Programs, shared that he is retiring in November. Ben Brattabo is managing water reclamation and Amy Sumner is the Water Resources Manager. SAJB members expressed appreciation for all that Rob has done to protect water quality and wished him the best in retirement.

Doug Greenlund reminded everyone that the lead and copper service line inventories are due October 16th and that the process and forms are time consuming so, "Start early."

Todd Henry shared that Vera Water and Power had an inspection from EPA which is similar to visits by DOH. All paperwork such as Standard Operating Procedures need to be in order.

7. ADJOURN

There being no further business on this 26th day of September 2024. President Jeremy Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 2:58 pm.

President, Jeremy Jenkins

Secretary, Todd Henry