

WATER DISTRICT NO. 19
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
Tuesday, March 30, 2010

SPECIAL MEETING
2:00 PM

A special meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Water District 19 was held at the District Office. The purpose of this meeting was to meet with Steve Hirshey and Larry Stockton of King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks. The Vashon Beachcomber and Vashon Loop had been notified in advance of the meeting. Those in attendance representing the District were President **Steve Haworth**, Commissioners **Richard Bard** and **Bob Powell**, General Manager **Jeff Lakin**, Operations Lead **Armin Wahanik** and Office Administrator **Melody Snyder**. Visitors in attendance were Aaron Laing, Dave Schweinler, Martin Koenig, Frank and Deirdre Petree, Frank Jackson, Jim Garrison, Carla DeCrona, Tag Gornall, Richard Britz, Dave Barden, James Hauser, Michael Lynch and Leslie Brown, Editor Vashon Beachcomber.

Meeting was called to order @ 2:00 PM

1. BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION

- The purpose of the special meeting was to begin a joint planning process with Steve Hirshey and Larry Stockton of King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks – **Commissioner Haworth** began the meeting by giving the audience a brief scene setting from his perspective concerning District history on the moratorium, peak supply and water rights issues. Other subjects discussed include conservation efforts, the transfer of 35 gpm from our existing well site to Morgan Hill and the Beall Well, expected to come online sometime this summer, the possibility of temporarily lifting the moratorium and releasing 20 – 30 units in 2011, projections of future population growth based on the Puget Sound Regional Projections. The District is pursing reasonable, balanced and responsible measures to meet the needs of district customers.

Mr. Hirshey thanked the Water District for their efforts and described the role that King County DNR plays with regard to planning for Water District 19 and the joint planning process. There are concerns about the District 14 year moratorium and the District comprehensive plan did not contain a plan to remove the moratorium. There are five to six areas we should investigate; Watershed planning, capital improvements, interties with other districts, other storage options, funding water source enhancement, condemnation of other class B and smaller Class A water systems, being willing to look outside the District boundaries, stressing efficiency of use. Measures taken in San Juan County were discussed as well as generic rainwater harvesting. Mr. Hirshey will work with the District and report back to the King County council. **Commissioner Haworth** commented that while he supports the used of cisterns for irrigation, they aren't presently cost effective as a retrofit and **Commissioner Bard** commented that desalination is too expensive.

Mr. Hirshey referenced the study that **Commissioner Powell** wrote in 2007.

Commissioner Powell stated that he wrote that study as a private citizen and not as a Water District Commissioner. He's had to re-think the problem of how much water a household needs. Parcels that can feasibly be developed were discussed. **Commissioner Haworth** stated that the District is taking responsible direction – which the District is close to being able to promise the King County that we can meet likely projected growth within our boundaries in 5-10 years with what we have in place.

- Public comment period began at 3:00 PM –

Question: Do those numbers mean people will be removed from the waiting list and are we taking steps to make sure the numbers are correct?

Answer: Yes.

Question: How many available water units are currently not being used?

Answer: Approximately 110 and of those 110 we estimate 10 units come online per year and those units are already included in planning calculations.

Aaron Laing, in the interest of full disclosure, stated he is an attorney representing David Schweinler concerning a water connection issue with the District. He stated that he is a resident of King County and has been following the District moratorium since 2003 – he is “wearing two hats today”. He questioned data the District used in our comprehensive plan relating to our July 24, 2004 peak day, stating his research into weather data indicates that the District has manipulated data to report an inflated maximum day. **Commissioner Haworth** refuted the charge of data manipulation. **Commissioner Bard** informed those in attendance that we’ve now moved beyond that five-year period that included 2004.

Mr. Laing also questioned why the district in Resolution 1054 treated the treatment plant as a single source of supply. **Frank Jackson**, former Water District 19 Commissioner during that time, answered that Gray & Osborne, engineers for the District, were the ones that strongly recommended the District take that approach in case the treatment plant were to shut down. The peak day previously used for planning figures was higher because the day in question, July 24th, 2004 was a 90+ degree day with no evidence of a leak. **General Manager Lakin** also stated that water needs to go through the treatment plant before we can deliver the potable water to our customers - we can’t utilize source water from Beall or Ellis Creeks without the treatment plant.

Question for Steve Hirshey: Is there motivation to promote growth on the Island?

Steve Hirshey responded by saying that the county is actually trying to reduce growth in rural areas, which is the thrust of the Growth Management Act (GMA).

In conclusion to the public portion of the meeting, **Commissioner Haworth** reiterated the District’s plan to be balanced and cautious in lifting the moratorium. Mr. Hirshey will author notes from the meeting today and suggest areas for further exploration and forward informally via email to Water District 19 for corroboration to be discussed at the next regular Board Meeting. **Commissioner Powell** suggested a mix of conservation and economic goals to develop a strategy to accommodate projected growth on the Island.

SPECIAL MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:25 PM at which time the Board enter into Executive Session. The public was invited back to the special meeting after Executive Session concluded.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: An Executive Session was entered at 3:30 PM to discuss legal matters with District counsel under the provisions of RCW 42.30.110 (1) No action was taken in the Executive Session.

RETURN TO SPECIAL MEETING: The Board came out of the Executive Session at 4:35 PM.

At this time, **Commissioner Powell** made a Motion to approve having District counsel Loren Dunn respond to the written request of Aaron Laing, representing David and Elizabeth Schweinler to install a connection and meter to commence District water service; **Commissioner Bard** seconded the Motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Commissioner Haworth requested that the Board and staff do research with prior Water District staff and Commissioners, look into insurance issues and check the statute of limitations with the assistance of District counsel.

2. OTHER BUSINESS

- Approve Service Change Agreement with Gordon Kion – Mr. Kion is requesting a Medical hardship permit to provide a temporary single-family residential dwelling for the purpose of providing daily medical care for elderly family members residing on the property. This is in accordance with Resolution # 925. **Commissioner Bard** made a Motion to approve the Service Change Agreement with Gordon Kion; **Commissioner Powell** seconded the Motion. Motion approved unanimously.
- Approval of minutes – **Tuesday, March 9th, 2010** – **Commissioner Bard** made a Motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented; **Commissioner Powell** seconded the Motion. Motion passed unanimously.

3. SIGN APPROVED MINUTES IN BOOK

4. SIGN VOUCHERS

MEETING CONCLUDED @ 4:46 PM