

BIG SKY WATER & SEWER DISTRICT NO. 363
Regular Meeting Minutes – December 19, 2018
WSD Community Room

The Big Sky County Water & Sewer District No. 363 held a regular meeting on Wednesday, December 19, 2018, in the WSD Community Room. President Packy Cronin called the meeting to order with the following board members present: Vice-President Tom Reeves, Secretary Dick Fast and Directors Mike DuCuennois, Brian Wheeler, William Shropshire, and Peter Manka. WSD staff present: Ron Edwards, Terry Smith, Jim Muscat, Grant Burroughs, Peter Bedell, Vince Palafox and Jake Porter.

Others present: Steve Johnson, Big Sky Planning & Zoning, Jon Olsen, Lone Mountain Land; Karen Filipovich, Gallatin River Task Force Consultant; Matt Cope, Auditor with Holmes and Turner CPA's; Scott Buecker, AE2S; and Alex Iskenderian, Lone Mountain Land.

PUBLIC FORUM

President Cronin called the meeting to order at 3:06 pm. There were no comments from the public on non-agenda items. Conflict of interest declarations: Mike DuCuennois is a representative for Yellowstone Club. On the Cascade wells 5 & 6 item, Brian Wheeler is an employee of Big Sky Resort which has an agreement with the District for the use of these wells.

CONSENT AGENDA

Vice President Reeves moved to approve the consent agenda including the regular meeting minutes of November 20, 2018, and the corrections noted by Secretary Fast on the special meeting minutes of November 27, 2018. Secretary Fast seconded the motion. Motion unanimously passed.

2017-2018 AUDIT REPORT

Matt Cope, Holmes & Turner, presented the District's 2017-2018 draft audit report. The District's current financial position is stable. The audit test disclosed no instances of noncompliance, or other matters, requiring reporting under Government Auditing Standards.

Director Shropshire moved to accept the 2017-2018 audit report as prepared. Vice President Reeves seconded the motion. Motion unanimously passed.

CASCADE WELLS 5 & 6

The treatment pilot test for wells 5 and 6 is complete. The final report is in quality review and will be submitted to the District by the end of December, 2018. The board discussed the agreement it has with Big Sky Resort that allows wells 5 & 6 to be pumped into the Middlefork from October 20th to January 20th. Based on the well pump test report from the well engineer, Mark Cunnane, the wells can't sustain high producing rates as earlier thought. As a result, the use of the wells for snowmaking will be limited per Cunnane's recommendations. Jim Muscat noted that the agreement makes no guarantee on the volume of water that is pumped. *The board directed staff to report at the January board meeting on the efficacy of the use of Cascade wells 5 and 6 with regards to Lake Lavinsky. Staff are to look at the natural flow into and out of Lake Lavinsky during the period the agreement stipulates.*

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE

Scott Buecker updated the board on the upgrade and expansion of the wastewater treatment plant project. Buecker's written summary and project timeline was in the board packet. The video of the November 27th information meeting is available on the District's website. Edwards and Buecker presented at the December 12th Resort Tax meeting. The video from that meeting is

also on the District website. Buecker presented two scenarios for project timelines: “rapid” and “relaxed”. The board requested that the Firelight project be removed from Buecker’s phasing timeline outline, and that the draft report should clarify that the pipeline to the river is an emergency use option. Buecker also discussed a financial analysis of the total cost of the plan and affordability for Big Sky residents. Board members would like financing in place before setting construction timelines. The board wants more engineering work to get better cost estimates for Phase 1 of the project to present to District property owners and for Resort Tax District funding support.

Vice President Reeves moved to have the District contact Firelight and West Fork Utilities to explore getting a MOU on acquisition and annexation. Motion seconded by Director Manka. Motion unanimously passed.

DEVELOPMENTS AND SUBDIVISIONS

No comments.

DISTRICT AGREEMENTS

Yellowstone Club/Spanish Peaks: The board discussed Alex Iskenderian’s, Lone Peak Land/CH SP Acquisition LLC, response letter to Susan Swimley’s letter on Spanish Peaks Resort’s 1,000 SFE limit. Director DuCuennois gave a quick summary of the Yellowstone Mountain Club Agreement with respect to Spanish Peaks Resort’s allocated SFE’s. Edwards presented a table of the Spanish Peaks Resort’s SFEs permitted to date. The board discussed how the flow may vary over time, and the impossibility of determining future flow estimates today. The board discussed amending the agreement to protect the District if Spanish Peak’s flow exceeds the flow volume stipulated in the agreement. The board will continue the discussion at the next board meeting after receiving legal input from Susan Swimley. Swimley will be asked to attend the January meeting.

SEWER & WATER PERMITS & CORRESPONDENCE

No comments.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE


There was no general correspondence requiring board action.

NEXT MEETING

The next Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, January 22, 2019, at 8:00 am.

ADJOURNMENT

Secretary Fast moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:30pm. Vice President Reeves seconded the motion. Motion unanimously passed.


Dick Fast, Secretary