

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SEWERAGE COMMISSION - OROVILLE REGION

(Held at the Commission office on June 25, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.)

1. Call to Order ❖

Chairman Taggart called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call ❖

Commissioners present were Commissioners Mastelotto and Salvucci from the Lake Oroville Area Public Utility District, Pittman and Thomson from the City of Oroville, Taggart and Koch from the Thermalito Water and Sewer District. Staff present was Manager Glen Sturdevant, Plant Supervisor Mikah Salsi; Attorney Ryan Jones attended by Zoom.

3. Salute to the Flag ❖

Chairman Taggart led the commissioners and staff in the salute to the flag.

4. Acknowledgment of Visitors ❖

None

5. Board Meeting Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on May 28, 2024❖

Upon motion by Vice-Chair Pittman to approve the minutes of the meeting, and seconded by Commissioner Salvucci, the minutes of the May 28, 2024 regular meeting were unanimously approved.

6. Employee Safety Meeting Minutes held on June 5, 2024❖

Upon motion by Commissioner Salvucci to approve the minutes of the meeting, and seconded by Commissioner Mastelotto, the minutes of the June 5, 2024 regular meeting were unanimously approved.

7. Authorization of Warrants ❖

Commissioner Koch met with Manager Sturdevant and reviewed the warrants earlier, and having found everything to be in order made a motion for their approval. The motion was seconded by Chairman Taggart. Warrants 29006-29049 in the total amount of \$191,927.18, including employee paychecks, commissioner fees and electronic fund transfers, were unanimously approved and ordered paid.

8. Fiscal Reports ❖

Manager Sturdevant stated the fiscal reports for May 2024 were in the packets for review. There were no questions expressed and nothing further to report.

9. Election of Officers ❖

Clerk Sturdevant opened the nominations for Chairperson for fiscal year 2024/2025. Commissioner Pittman was nominated by Commissioner Thomson for the position of Chairperson, which was seconded by Commissioner Taggart. The nominations were closed by Commissioner Taggart. There being no other nominations, Commissioner Pittman was elected Chairperson for fiscal year 2024/2025 by acclamation.

Chairman Taggart opened the nominations for Vice-Chair. Commissioner Pittman nominated Commissioner Mastelotto for the position of Vice-Chair for fiscal year 2024/2025, which was seconded and closed by Commissioner Koch. Commissioner Mastelotto, was elected Vice-Chair for fiscal year 2024/2025 by acclamation.

10. Richman Group Connection Fee Allocation Request ❖

Manager Sturdevant stated that last month we had a representative from the Richman Group attend our meeting, who is not here tonight, and requested that SC-OR consider allocating half of its connection fees for the Lincoln Families Apartments Project to be used in the LOAPUD infrastructure. Chairman Taggart was not at the last meeting, and asked the reasoning behind this request. Manager Sturdevant said that when the Richman Group had originally looked at the project, they didn't realize they would have to upsize the trunk line that comes underneath the railroad track for LOAPUD in order to handle the extra flow that their project would bring. The representative said that they found this out very late in the process, and by that time they were too deep into the project to stop it. Chairman Taggart said that basically what they are asking for is for SC-OR to fund a few more months of their profit margin. Vice-Chair Pittman asked if we had a developer agreement with the Richman Group, to which Manager Sturdevant replied they must enter into an agreement with SC-OR once a Capacity Study has been done to proceed. There was no mitigation from SC-OR in the signed agreement. He said one thing the representative failed to mention last month is that part of the allocation of their money from the state and federal government is to pay local fees. His recommendation would be that this request be denied, though there is no action to be taken on this item tonight.

11. Contract for Filter Relocation by ERS Industrial Services ❖

Manager Sturdevant said that previous Manager Koch had relocated two filters from TWSD, had them retrofitted to SC-OR specifications, and it saved SC-OR approximately \$1.5M. We are trying to do the same thing with two more filters from TWSD. The proposal from ERS for relocation of the filters from TWSD to SC-OR was quoted at a cost not to exceed \$64,000. They will coordinate everything from the truck, to the crane, to disposal of the filter media.

A motion was made by Commissioner Koch to contract with ERS for the filter relocation for a cost not to exceed \$64,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Salvucci, and passed by the following vote: Pittman – Yes, Taggart – Yes, Mastelotto – Yes.

12. Policy 7050 – Calculation and Collection of Sewer Rates and Charges ❖

Manager Sturdevant explained that new policy 7050 is a consolidation of SC-OR policies 7110, 7200, 7250, 7500, 7501 and 7510. These policies encompassed how SC-OR dealt with the collection of sewer rates and charges, and how they were calculated. We had to create a new policy to encompass the new multi-family weighting factor that is going into effect because of the Proposition 218 hearings, so we thought this would be a good time to consolidate all of these policies.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mastelotto to approve the consolidation of SC-OR policies 7110, 7200, 7250, 7500, 7501 and 7510, along with the new method of determining EDU totals, including the new multi-family weighting factors, into one policy No. 7050. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Salvucci, and passed by the following vote: Pittman – Yes, Taggart – Yes, Mastelotto – Yes.

13. Plant Upgrade Prioritization and Strategy Discussion ❖

Manager Sturdevant said we are on the verge of going out to bid for the Plant Upgrade, Phase 1. The way we set this up, because we knew we were getting \$10.3M from the State of California through the federal government for HCD in Butte County, we decided to tailor this project to fit that money. The base package is for a secondary clarifier, which is a capacity upgrade needed to qualify for the grant monies, a new mixed liquor mixing box, the Returned Activated Sludge (RAS) building will get three new pumps, SCADA control, and setting up two filters and rehabilitating them. This will all cost about \$10.5M. We cannot use the monies we are getting through Congressman Doug LaMalfa, so we will have to pay the extra \$2M ourselves. We can consider using the \$2M from LaMalfa for some added alternatives if the board chooses. The bids will be for the base project, and then the added alternatives will have their costs as separate items in the bids, as you see fit to include. The estimate from the engineers is \$14.4M for everything, except for the engineering services contract. This upgrade will give us an additional 10% capacity.

14. Attorney's Report ❖

Attorney Jones said he believes we will need another closed session to consider some updates in the litigation at the July meeting.

He is working on a legal opinion for the wastewater plant upgrade for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund.

He worked with staff on the approved policy consolidation.

15. Manager's Report ❖

Manager Sturdevant said there are no issues to report in the operations and maintenance of the plant.

Influent Pump Station: We have reached substantial completion. There are a few punch-list items being worked on, but it going to be completely done soon.

City of Oroville: He and Supervisor Salsi attended the City's proposition 218 hearing on June 4th. There were no formal protests, however, Mayor Pittman asked him to speak on SC-OR's portion of the increase. He spoke on funding that SC-OR secured over the last seven years, and how seriously we take the fact that it is the communities' money. Vice-Chair Pittman stated that Glen did a great job of explaining to the Council members the purpose of the needed increase for SC-OR.

TWSD: Jayme was very helpful in coming up with policy 7050 and the calculation of the EDU rate. He and Dave (LOAPUD) helped him a lot with the language.

LOAPUD: He and Supervisor Salsi will attend the LOAPUD proposition 218 hearing on July 9th. Again, Dave was very helpful in the EDU calculation policy.

On June 19th we received a call from Theresa Picket of the parks department at the city, who was driving on her own time and saw that the lid on our airbreather had come apart in front of the new Tractor Supply, and there was a hole in the road. One car had already driven into the hole. Theresa pulled over and did traffic control, called our answering service, and then called Glen. She also called Oroville Police Department to take over traffic control. Glen emailed Fred and Brian at the city to commend Theresa for going above and beyond, and that we really appreciate that she did this all on her own time.

Ryan McIntosh from TWSD also went above and beyond. We called him at night and he had no hesitation to come out with a traffic plate to cover the hole. The next day he brought a crew to help do traffic control while we got the hole repaired.

Glen stated that this is another example of how the JPA should work. He just wanted their board members to know that the entities are doing what needs to be done, and SC-OR really appreciates their cooperation.

16. Visitor Comments ❖

None

17. Commissioner and Staff Comments ❖

Commissioner Mastelotto thanked the City of Oroville for alleviating some of their homeless issues at her office. She found out that Elite Security Services is in town and they hired them to patrol their business. Elite patrols businesses at night, and if there are people who shouldn't be at the business they stay until they leave the property.

Vice-Chair Pittman said the city has Flock camera systems throughout the city for a license plate monitoring program. There are between 40-50 cameras around town. They are going to be contacting other agencies and private enterprises in the area to see if they are interested in installing cameras for monitoring. It has been a very successful program. He reported there was a barbeque at Sierra Pacific Industries. They received an OSHA award, and were the only sawmill that received an award.

He had a Zoom meeting with Butte College this morning, who is offering IT training that may be specific to a business' need.

Councilman Webber has a group (Oroville Coalition) that will be touring Pacific Coast Producers (PCP) on July 15th. PCP has gone to robotic sorting. It is really hi-tech. The Oroville Coalition will be having tours of many of the businesses in Oroville (Metal Works, Pre-Zero, Graphics Packaging, to name a few).

Chairman Taggart stated that the new roof looks nice on the SC-OR building.

18. Adjournment ❖

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m. to the regular meeting scheduled for July 23, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



GLEN E. STURDEVANT, CLERK