

**MINUTES  
CASCADE VIEW SERVICE DISTRICT  
ADVISORY & BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**

**October 15, 2003  
5:30-7:00 p.m.**

**Benton County Public Works  
Large Conference Room  
360 SW Avery Avenue  
Corvallis, Oregon 97333**

**Advisory Committee Members:** Tom Gallagher, Lynn Schreiner, Steve Shields

**Budget Committee Members:** Terry Barker

**Absent:** Janet Knoke

**County Staff:** Chris Bielenberg, Facilities & Utilities Manager  
JoAnn Orsulich, Secretary 2

Meeting called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Chair Lynn Schreiner.

**1. Water Conservation Curtailment Restrictions**

Chris Bielenberg discussed the need to implement the water conservation curtailment restrictions this past summer due to the rapid decline in the reservoir water level and the inability of Wells #1 and #2 to recover the loss. He noted his pleasure with the cooperation of the resident customers. The success of the curtailment restrictions was soon obvious at the next meter reading, which showed a substantial decrease in customer usage.

**2. Well Static Levels**

Chris Bielenberg reviewed the Well Static Level Charts for Well #'s 1-4 for period January 2002 through September 2003. The committee discussed the need for the recent

curtailment restrictions. Chris advised that Wells #1 & 4 were running continuously during this time but were unable to successfully pump enough water to recover the water loss in the reservoir. He noted County staff was unable to get accurate static water levels due to the wells continuously running. However during the past 48 hours, County staff was able to turn off Well #1 to get a more accurate static reading and it appears that the static water level is not recovering, as it should. Well #1 will be monitored closely over the next couple of months to determine if any damage has been done as a result of the continual water being pumped out of the aquifer. The results of those readings will be forwarded on to the committee for review.

### **3. Future Well Development/Low Water Impacts**

Chris informed the committee of a relay auto dialer system that potentially would alert the County office immediately of plant problems. It is anticipated that the purchase of this system would help to eliminate a situation similar to the one that occurred this summer season. By enabling County staff to more closely monitor the system, residential customers could be notified much earlier of possible curtailment needs or system failures. It was decided that Lynne Schreiner would investigate the cost to purchase the relay auto dialer system as well as additional continual monitoring systems. The committee would like to make the most prudent purchase that would alleviate the need to upgrade this system in the near future as well as be the most effective and efficient program.

***Motion** by Shields: Purchase a auto dialer monitoring system as researched and by Lynne Schreiner.*

***Second** by Barker*

***Approved** by unanimous decision*

### **4. Problems with Distribution System**

Chris reported that substantial water leaks in irrigation systems of two sites were found and repaired during this past summer season. These sites were recently purchased and repaired by the new property owners. He noted the sites were problem areas in past years so repair of these irrigation systems should help to relieve the high water usage during the irrigation season.

### **5. High Users and Actions Taken to Mitigate**

The committee reviewed the three Water Use Charts included in the packets and discussed the high user readings. It was noted that most of the customer's usage occurs during the summer months, which is as expected. Chris informed the committee that close monitoring of the summer irrigation usage is done at the time of meter readings and County staff is sent to the residence to check meters, which have unusually high readings. When it is determined that there may be a leak on the property, a meeting with the resident is set to assist in determining a possible leak. The resident is allotted a credit for the high water reading over their average use for that time of year once repairs to the

system are completed and water usage returns to a normal level. This action is taken to encourage the property owner to quickly repair the leak and has proven to be successful.

Chris reported that residents who's monthly usage is continually more than target allotment guides for successive monthly usages are contacted and encouraged to use conservation measures. This has also proven to be successful in a couple of residences.

## **6. Upcoming Financial Needs**

Chris presented the fiscal year 2003 GL Status Detail by Cost Center printed on August 22, 2003. The expenditures were review and discussed by the committee. Terry Barker and Tom Gallagher stated concern that the 2003 budget balance exceeded the adopted budget for that year. After much discussion, the committee decided it would be prudent to increase base water fees to better cover potential operating costs.

*Motion by Gallagher: Recommend to the Governing Body a \$5.00 monthly Basic Water Use increase.*

*Second by Shields*

*Approved by unanimous decision*

## **7. Review State Requirements for Frequency of Well Monitoring**

Terry Barker inquired of the need to do such close well monitoring. Chris advised that it was decided to do this for a number of years to obtain accurate well readings and establish a water level pattern. After discussion, it was decided to continue the current monitoring practices until the end of November 2003 to closely monitor the well recovery after this summers water losses in the reservoir then to decrease the well readings to one time per month during the wet season, which normally occurs during September through May and increase the readings to current weekly readings during the irrigation season, which occurs from June through August.

## **8. Proposed Public Meeting**

Terry Barker and Tom Gallagher expressed the desire to hold a public meeting to better educate the Cascade View County Water District residents of public use standards for household and irrigation use of water systems. It was suggested that a guest speaker from a reputable government agency such as the Oregon Water Conservation Department might be contracted to come speak and do a slide show on low water tolerant landscape plants and proven conservation practices used both for residential as well as irrigation use. It was decided that Steve Shields and Chris Bielenberg would meet to coordinate this meeting that is to be scheduled for early spring 2004.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.