

Agenda Item: 7.C.

Thurston County Rural Water Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes  
November 29, 2011

A meeting of the Thurston County Rural Water Advisory Board was held at the NRD field office in Walthill, NE, on Tuesday, November 29, 2011. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Harlan Witte at 7:30 p.m..

QUORUM CALL:

Quorum call was taken. The following members and individuals were in attendance:

Advisory Board Members  
Present

Larry Athey  
Harlan Witte  
Marvin Baker  
Bruce Paeper

Advisory Board Members  
Absent

Others In Attendance

Dick Sklenar, NRD Staff  
Dennis Piper, NRD Staff

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Discussion was called for on the tentative agenda. It was moved by Athey, and seconded by Paeper, that the agenda be adopted.

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 4 - 0.

Voting Yea: Witte, Paeper, Baker, Athey  
Voting Nay: None  
Abstaining: None  
Absent: Bonderson

WATER USAGE REPORT

Figures on water usage for fiscal year 2011 & 2012 were distributed. Due to the painting of the interior of the water tower, spring flushing of the system, and a major leak along Hwy. 93, the percentage of water sold vs. the purchased amount was very low. Recent months have shown better results. There was further discussion.

OPERATIONS & FINANCIAL REPORT

Dick Sklenar provided information on all revenue sources for the system. Revenue on water sales had increased due to the recent change in water rates. One new hookup (A. Albrecht) was installed this year.

The Advisory Board was also told that 2 leaks were discovered in meter pits, and have been repaired. In addition, a couple of 2 inch gate valves had to be replaced because they were malfunctioning. A new area meter was also installed this past summer to help identify the location of undiscovered leaks within a certain geographic area of the distribution system.

It was moved by Witte, and seconded by Baker, that the operations and financial report be accepted.

Voting Yea: Witte, Paeper, Baker, Athey  
Voting Nay: None  
Abstaining: None  
Absent: Bonderson

There was further discussion on adjusting the hookup fee. Board member Paeper felt that an increase was justifiable to meet the rising cost of installing a meter pit. Dick mentioned that in past years, the advisory board wanted to keep the hookup fee low to attract additional customers. Historically, this has had little effect. There was further discussion.

It was moved by Athey, and seconded by Paeper, that the Advisory Board recommends to the District's Board of Directors that the hookup fee for all sizes of meters be increased \$250.00 commencing January 1, 2011.

Voting Yea: Witte, Paeper, Baker, Athey  
Voting Nay: None  
Abstaining: None  
Absent: Bonderson

#### OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Dick Sklenar mentioned that he was contacted by JEO Consulting Group about the possibility of providing rural water service to the Village of Rosalie in Thurston County. The Village currently has a well field that is experiencing higher nitrate levels in the groundwater. Alternatives to resolve a potential problem on the horizon are being explored by the Village. The District's consultant (Bartlett & West Engineers) provided a rough estimate of \$650,000 to provide rural water service, which entails a 10-mile water main extension from the existing rural water distribution system. This information was passed on to the Village consultant.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by acclamation at 8:37p.m.