

SOUTH FORK WATER BOARD
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
September 22, 2021

Board Members Present: Jules Walters, West Linn Mayor, Vice Chair
Rocky Smith, Oregon City Commissioner
Frank O'Donnell, Oregon City Commissioner
Rory Bialostosky, West Linn Councilor

Board Members Excused: Rachel Lyles Smith, Oregon City Mayor, Chair
Bill Relyea, West Linn Councilor

Staff Present: Wyatt Parno, CEO
Christopher Crean, SFWB Legal Counsel

Others Present: Alice Richmond, SFWB Citizens Advisory Board

General Board Meeting

- (1) **Call to Order**
Vice Chair Walters called the meeting of the South Fork Water Board to order at 7:08 pm.
- (2) **Roll Call**
- (3) **Public Comments**
Alice Richmond, SFWB Citizens Advisory Board, said she had spoken before about cybersecurity issues, but had never heard the Board discuss the topic. Cyber-attacks were getting more sophisticated, and she believed the Board should have a public discussion about how to protect the water systems. The impacts of cyber-attacks were worsening, and the issue has become a global problem. She was also concerned about the current water shortage. She asked that water reserves be increased and recommended that water users be educated on water conservation methods.
- (4) **Consent Agenda**
(A) Approval of the Minutes of the May 26, 2021 Board Meeting.
Board Member Smith moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Board Member Bialostosky seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- (5) **Resolution 21-02 SFWB Cybersecurity Policy**
Wyatt Parno, CEO, provided an overview of the security controls used in the Board's operational and information technology systems, which followed industry best practices. He explained that the proposed cybersecurity policy documents the guidelines used to minimize the risk of cyber-attacks and follows the model created by the Special Districts Association for Water Utilities. Adopting the policy will support the Board's eligibility to receive a 10 percent credit on the cost of insurance. The proposed policy had been reviewed by legal counsel and Staff recommended approval.

Board Member Bialostosky moved to approve Resolution 21-02 adopting the SFWB Cybersecurity Policy. Board Member Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

(6) **Business from the Manager**

1) SFWB Chemical Feed Building update

Wyatt Parno, CEO, reported that despite the impacts of COVID, there had been no interruptions and the project was still on schedule. The land use application would be submitted to Oregon City soon. A neighborhood meeting was held on September 8th, where he presented the site plan and shared the Board's commitment to water quality and affordability, as well as the Board's history of being good neighbors. He also answered questions about fencing and roadways at that meeting. Meeting attendees expressed excitement about the landscaping, the improved fencing, and the sidewalk proposed to be located on Swan Avenue. He hoped the bid documents would be completed before the end of the year so that construction could begin in the spring. The current timeline indicates that normal operations would resume in January 2023. He would give a more detailed presentation in the coming calendar year.

2) Summer operations update

Wyatt Parno, CEO, provided updates on the following plant operations that occurred over the summer months:

- The national chlorine shortage that occurred over the summer did not impact South Fork Water because the plant generates its own chlorine on site. He had discussions with and offered support to neighboring jurisdictions, and provided assistance water to a neighbor treatment plant that was concerned about running out of chlorine. Although SFWB did have redundancy in its on-site generation systems, he still reviewed the systems with Staff and prepared a contingency plan, just in case.
- The record high temperatures and drought kept Staff on alert. Timothy Lake reservoir was at low levels and Portland General Electric (PGE) was concerned about releasing water because they were working on some construction projects related to the wildfires. Additionally, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) wanted to make sure water releases coincided with the salmon runs. However, he was able to work with partners to negotiate a release of water and South Fork made it through the summer without any issues.
- He provided information to support Board members if they receive questions from constituents. A few water users had called the cities about the taste and smell of the water. He explained how plant matter in the water is impacted by hot temperatures and low water levels, which changes the way the water tastes and smells, but noted that the water was still safe to drink. West Linn and Oregon City Staff did a great job explaining this to water users.
- South Fork was working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to get reimbursements for ice storm expenses. The process had been going smoothly.

3) Employee retirement and new hire

Wyatt Parno, CEO, noted that he appreciates how the Board cares about employees to support good service to our communities. He reported that Doug Crawford, Lead Maintenance Coordinator, retired after serving the Board for about 15 years. He was being

replaced by Shawn Cates, who recently completed Clackamas Community College's Water and Environmental Technology Program.

Board Member O'Donnell asked if South Fork had sold chemicals or water to other jurisdictions since the last meeting. If so, did South Fork receive any income and how was that recorded?

CEO Parno responded that water was furnished to North Clackamas Water Plant. South Fork had borrowed water from them over the winter and the monetary value of the exchange was currently being discussed. He promised to represent South Fork's water rights and make sure the compensation was fair. He confirmed that no chlorine was provided or sold to any other jurisdiction.

Board Member O'Donnell recommended that Staff monitor construction while the price of building materials is so high.

CEO Parno responded that he agreed with the recommendation. He had already spoken with the design engineer, Lee Odell, three times about costs, and the project is under budget. He also planned to have a follow up discussion with Mr. Odell prior to preparing the bid documents.

Board Member Bialostosky said he did not notice a change in the taste of the water when it got hot. He believed the plant was in good hands with Mr. Parno as the CEO.

(7) **Business from the Board**

Vice Chair Walters reported that the City of West Linn was still working on a plan to upgrade the water pipe underneath Abernathy Bridge while the bridge is getting seismic upgrades. The cost was estimated to be around \$9.6 million and the City was working on a funding strategy.

Board Member Bialostosky said that West Linn and Oregon City would have joint work sessions next week to discuss Oregon Department of Transportation's (ODOT) pedestrian bridge, but he was not sure if the water pipe would be mentioned. During the pipe replacement, West Linn would get its water from the Lake Oswego Tigard intertie, so South Fork Staff should plan for that.

CEO Parno offered to assist in any way possible, especially regarding advocacy and pressing for further funding assistance from ODOT.

Board Member O'Donnell also offered to advocate for the City of West Linn.

CEO Parno noted that he would need a meeting with the Board on October 27th to take care of some housekeeping items. After that meeting, he would be focused on bid documents for the chemical feed building and documentation for the water rights case for the remainder of the year, unless something new came up that needed the Boards attention before the new year.

(8) **Executive Session –Adjourn regular meeting and convene Executive Session if needed.**

- A. To consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(f).

B. To consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(h).

(9) **Reconvene Regular Meeting if needed to take any action necessary as determined in Executive Session.**

Chair Walters adjourned the regular meeting at 7:38 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

By Paula Pinyerd, ABC Transcription Services, LLC.
for Wyatt Parno, SFWB CEO