

**South Fork Water Board
Board Meeting Minutes**

January 14, 2026

Conference Room & Remote Video Conferencing
sfwbor.gov/about-us/board-meetings

CALL TO ORDER

Chair McGriff called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm.

ROLL CALL

Present: Denyse McGriff, Chair, Oregon City Mayor; Rory Bialostosky, Vice Chair, West Linn Mayor; Mike Mitchell, Oregon City Commissioner; Rocky Smith, Oregon City Commissioner; Mary Baumgardner, West Linn Councilor

Excused: Carol Bryck, West Linn Councilor

Staff Present: Wyatt Parno, Chief Executive Officer; Christa Britton, Business Manager; Mark Cage, Operations Manager; Sebastian Diringier, Capital Projects Manager

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve minutes of November 24, 2025 Board Meeting

Board Member Smith moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Vice Chair Bialostosky seconded the motion, which passed 5 to 0. (Ayes: Baumgardner, Smith, Mitchell, Bialostosky, McGriff. Nays: None.)

Chair McGriff recognized CEO Parno for his milestone service to the community, noting his tenure began with the City of Oregon City in 2012 as Finance Director before becoming the CEO of the South Fork Water Board five years ago. A certificate of service was presented in honor of his 13 total years of dedication to Oregon City and West Linn.

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR 2026

Consistent with the annual rotation of officers between the two cities, the Board conducted elections for 2026.

Board Member Baumgardner moved to elect Rory Bialostosky as Chair for 2026. Board Member Smith seconded the motion, which passed 5 to 0. (Ayes: Baumgardner, Smith, Mitchell, Bialostosky, McGriff. Nays: None.)

Board Member Mitchell moved to elect Denyse McGriff as Vice Chair for 2026. Board Member Baumgartner seconded the motion, which passed 5 to 0. (Ayes: Baumgardner, Smith, Mitchell, Bialostosky, McGriff. Nays: None.)

Mayor Bialostosky assumed the Chair position at this time.

APPROVAL OF ENGINEERING CONTRACT FOR WATER QUALITY SYSTEMS BUILDING

CEO Parno reported on the restart of the Water Quality Systems Building project, which had been paused in 2023 due to inflation. The contract reengages the original design team to update the plans and bid documents for an anticipated August bid date. Staff successfully negotiated \$35,000 off the contract cost, with an additional \$15,000 in potential savings identified. Capital Projects Manager Durringer will act as liaison with the consultant to save costs.

Vice Chair McGriff moved to approve the engineering contract with Consor to refresh the design of the Water Quality Systems Building. Board Member Baumgardner seconded the motion.

Ayes: Mitchell, Baumgardner, Smith, McGriff, Bialostosky

Nays: None.

Motion Carried: 5 to 0.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL ADVISOR SERVICES CONTRACT

CEO Parno presented the financial advisor services contract with LRB Public Finance Advisors. The firm will provide support for long-term capital planning, debt strategy, and coordinating with rating agencies. Three competitive proposals were reviewed, and LRB was selected for offering a comprehensive range of services. The contract had been reviewed by legal counsel.

Questions from the Board were addressed.

Board Member Baumgardner moved to approve the financial advisor services contract with LRB Public Finance Advisors. Board Member Mitchell seconded the motion.

Ayes: Smith, Baumgardner, Mitchell, McGriff, Bialostosky

Nays: None.

Motion Carried: 5 to 0.

BUSINESS FROM THE CEO

1. AWWA ACE26 Conference, June 21-24, 2026 in Washington DC

CEO Parno announced details regarding the conference. Staff confirmed rooms are secured and the budget can accommodate four members. Board members were asked to confirm who would attend the conference at the February meeting.

2. Hypochlorite Generation System Update

CEO Parno reported that Operations Manager Cage and his team repaired the aging system cells and the Board negotiated a backup cell cost from \$75,000 to \$30,000.

Operations Manager Cage described the technical updates and repairs that were made, noting cost efficiencies realized and that production had improved from 6 gallons per minute to 8 gallons per minute.

3. December 2025 Flood Event

CEO Parno commended Operations Manager Cage and his team for their performance during the recent high-turbidity event. The Board discussed the impact of the flood on local neighborhoods and the resilience of the South Fork intake.

4. Annual Comprehensive Financial Report Distribution

CEO Parno distributed the report and noted that Finance Director Zook will present the report and answer questions at the next meeting.

Chair Bialostosky formally welcomed Capital Projects Manager Dirringer to the team, noting he is an Oregon City resident.

Capital Projects Manager Dirringer shared his background in engineering geology and expressed his commitment to serving the community.

BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD

The Board discussed the upcoming AWWA conference themed "Heroes of Water" and the collaborative project process courses available the day before the conference. Board members expressed a desire to focus on infrastructure funding and federal ARPA benefits given the Washington DC location.

Vice Chair McGriff noted the importance of monitoring state-level infrastructure bills.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2026. No meeting will be held on January 28, 2026.