

**MINUTES**  
**ENOCH CITY WATER BOARD**  
**February 14, 2019 at 4:30pm**  
**City Council Chambers**  
**City Offices, 900 E. Midvalley Road**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Larry Gardner, Alan Miller, Steve Woolsey, Doug Grimshaw and Spencer Jones

**STAFF PRESENT:** Rob Dotson, Julie Watson, Earl Gibson and Council Member Ross

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** none

1. **CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR MEETING-By Chairman Gardner at 4:30pm.**
  - a. **Pledge of Allegiance** –Led by Steve Woolsey
  - b. **Invocation** –Audience invited to participate. Given by Chairman Gardner
  - c. **Approval of agenda for February 14, 2019-Doug Grimshaw made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion was seconded by Steve Woolsey and all voted in favor.**
  - d. **Approval of minutes for December 13, 2018-Doug said change water rights number on page 3, 12 lines down to 2100 and in the next paragraph the priority date on supplementary should not piggyback. Motion to approve minutes with changes by Chairman Gardner. Motion seconded by Doug Grimshaw and all voted in favor except Spencer Jones, who abstained.**
  - e. **Conflict of Interest Declaration**-none stated

2. **ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO NEW WATER BOARD MEMBER-City Recorder**

The City Recorder administered the Oath of Office to Alan Miller. He was welcomed to the Water Board.

3. **DISCUSS PURCHASE OF WATER METERS AND MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL**

Chairman Gardner said we need to upgrade the old meters. Earl said we have replaced many old meters and referred to the chart in the packet. He said they have a 10-year warranty so we are trying to replace those out of warranty and figure some way to replace what we need to each year so all are within warranty. We want to do 52 this year and need to get the money for that purchase. The question is do we need to raise rates to upgrade them? We are looking for options. Alan asked if he was reading the chart right for 52 this year that will go out of warranty. We averaged it out, Earl said, so we do the same amount each year. Some will be ahead and some behind. We are already behind a bit. Alan said he experienced that with the system he read and that they have to be read by hand when they get old. Earl said now with our radio read it is taking Brad a week to read meters with the old ones not reading. Spencer said it is good to replace them so we have warranty and accuracy. There was more discussion of the math and the replacement cycle shown. There was discussion of the warranty and what is covered. Chairman Gardner noted in reality we have a 5-year warranty with the way it works.

Alan asked where the money comes from. Earl said we just take it from savings as the City Council approves it. Alan said they replaced all of the meters in the system he

oversaw over a two year span. When they go out it is costly if they go out all at once. He spent close to a million dollars. New meters cost \$300 each. Chairman Gardner asked if we have money in the water account. Earl told about other expenses he needs to use that for and noted we are doing a new Water Impact Fees Facilities Study which will give us new directions and numbers for what we may need to charge. Earl reported we are good on storage for 15 years but just barely on water sources. We are deepening Ravine Well and upgrading it. He is trying to refurbish instead of build new wells. He gave some history of the well and the new information that indicates there is water down deeper. Alan said acquiring additional sources can use impact fee money but meters can't come from there. Earl recapped other wells and problems he is fixing and he noted all the wells are 20-30 years old except the new one. He said we want to take this to the City Council while the budget is open and wanted to know if the Water Board had any suggestions.

Chairman Gardner asked, if they did nothing what would happen. Earl said they would bring it to the City Council anyway but they wanted suggestions from the Water Board if they have any. There was brief discussion of the need to raise rates. That has been talked about for many years. Some thought we should try to wait with the recent tax increase and let that settle down for a while. It was noted the State is pushing water conservation and if that works you don't have the excess money to fund things. There was more discussion of current watering habits which have changed over the years. After more discussion it was learned that a portion of the \$29 charged for 30,000 gallons of water does not factor in for meter replacement costs. There was more discussion of recommending a rate increase of \$1 to \$2. Earl noted the contingency in savings has to remain at a certain amount as required by the State. Earl gave more information about his "supplies and materials" budget and what comes out of that. He noted with three water leaks last week, there is not much left for meters. Alan said he would be happy to sit down out of this meeting and try to set up specific accounts for replacement and improvements. At his former job he set aside 3% of income for replacement costs. He gave more details adding it helps in budgeting to pull money from other accounts instead of from operating expenses. That works well for utilities.

It was decided to talk about it next month. Earl said he will ask the City Council to fund it and if we raise rates we will do it in new fiscal year. There is enough in the budget to cover a one-time purchase now. Chairman Gardner said we do have to talk about raising rates although he does not want to do a rate meeting right now. He said let's get more information and then talk about it next month. They need options. All agreed. Earl noted the new Impact Fee Facilities Plan Study will be done this spring. Based on that information we will be more qualified to make a recommendation. Earl said he would bring more information for discussion in the next meeting. No action was taken tonight.

#### **4. OPEN AND PUBLIC MEETINGS TRAINING-City Manager Dotson**

City Manager Dotson gave the presentation on open and public meetings. This is required every year by State Code.

#### **5. BOARD/STAFF REPORTS**

City Manager Dotson gave an update on the Groundwater Management Plan saying they met with the State Engineer and his staff to talk about the newest revisions to the plan.

Some of the changes included a change to the boundary line at Hwy. 56 which will remain the same except for veering off to the north to include Antelope Springs. The Board wanted to extend the time for intervals from five years to ten years. He said we need longer to curtail some rights. Those rights exist but are not worth anything because they can't be pumped. They changed it a little according to the suggestions. We told them we did not want that boundary changed and they took that to heart with just a slight change. Spencer added the policy stays the same for rights not being transferrable from south to north and vice versa. There can be no movement unless to maintain a curtailed right. Spencer said it was a huge deal to keep it as is and is a win for us. He gave more details about existing water rights and what has to be curtailed. He noted the State Engineer wants to get the non-use rights out first and curtail them. City Manager Dotson went through the details saying 1934 looks like a viable date so we were good when we made the change. He said the Plan allows for some depletion calculations on monitoring surface water and it is an adaptive management plan. Re-use of treatment plant water, bringing in water from Beaver County and farmers growing more water wise crops could all count. Agriculture will get a big cut. Because this is adaptive, if we bring water from the treatment plant and some stop using wells we could save a lot of water if they are not pumping. The numbers do not add up right now but this is the idea. He gave some information about how well the plan is working in the Enterprise/Beryl Valley when they changed crops. They may not need to take their first cut. He added since we changed to only take 1934 or older rights we will not lose much.

As a City there are things we can do. 160 AF will come in with a new subdivision and we will replace that with the 1934 rights we will get. Alan asked if municipalities can have more. City Manager Dotson said we have to put it in non-use and has to fit the pattern. Doug said we have until 2060 before we really lose if nothing changes. There was more discussion. City Manager Dotson added it puts us in a quandary when we convert from surface to culinary water because we take a 40% haircut. The reuse water will be a good deal if the farmers stop pumping to help the aquifer. The goal is the measurement of the depletion rate and to get rid of water rights that are newer and or in non-use. The State Engineer's goal is to stabilize the aquifer. There was more discussion and it was noted we would like longer than 10 years before cuts but this is adaptive and we can make this work with recharge projects and other things. Doug asked about the time line to adopt this? City Manager Dotson said they will meet one more time in March and then they start public meetings in May. Chairman Gardner asked about resistance? City Manager Dotson said the Coal Creek water company is resisting a bit. He gave more details. Most of that discussion is "that was my water before it was your water". Chairman Gardner thanked him for the information.

6. **ADJOURN**-Chairman Gardner asked for a motion. **Alan Miller made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Steve Woolsey and all voted in favor.** The meeting ended at 6:05pm.

  
Julie Watson, Recorder                      4-11-19  
Date