

**SALLAL WATER ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 17, 2024 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**Board members present:** Denise Smutny (President), Don Wise (Treasurer), Eric O'Brien (Secretary), Shawn McKone, Larry Costello, Rich Formisano and Emily Moore.

**Consultants present:** Richard Jonson, Attorney and Mike Johnson, Engineer.

**Employees present:** Devin Mettler, General Manager; Denny Scott, Water Superintendent; and Tree Bergman, Assistant Water Superintendent.

**Guests present:** Debbie Wise

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Smutny opened the meeting at approximately 6:00 pm.

**VISTOR COMMENTS** None.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- Vote to approve minutes of the Nov. 19, 2024 Board meeting – including edits as submitted.
- Vote to approve consultant statements:
  - Jonson & Jonson - \$3,425.00
  - Gray & Osborne - \$20,513.30
  - Finney Neill - \$2,893.00
- Vote to approve payment of invoices:
  - Systems Interface – River Point Booster Station - \$53,529.60
  - Westerlund Excavating – Well #1&2 Jumper Pipe - \$31,142.55

**Motion 2024-12-17-01** by Mr. O'Brien and seconded by Mr. McKone to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**ENGINEERING REPORT** (Mike Johnson, G&O)

- North Bend Intertie Update – The building permit should issue when a performance bond for certain site work issued; equipment has been ordered and site work is expected to commence in a few months when weather improves.
- Boxley Creek Intertie – Sallal Side Update – Work is complete.

**OPERATIONS REPORT** (Denny Scott and Tree Bergman)

- Water Usage– Mr. Scott reported on recent maintenance activities and water usage; leak detection services are continuing to be evaluated.
- Project Updates - Mr. Bergman reported on projects. Discussion followed regarding the City's review of water system plans for a residential plat in the City but within the area served by the Association. Mike Johnson described minor details of the City's proposed changes to the water system plans and thought that all were easily resolvable. Mr. Mettler stated that the City raised the issue that the Association does not have a franchise. Mr. Jonson mentioned some of the history and legal considerations of the franchise

conversations between Sallal and the City over the years. He expressed that the City should not delay approval of the water system plans for the project by waiting for negotiations to be complete.

## **BUSINESS REPORT**

### **Treasurer's Report (Don Wise)**

#### **GM Report (Devin Mettler)**

- Accounting Update – Discussions commenced with Sierra Housley of Advantage Accounting and Tax Service due to her familiarity with water systems and accounting software conversions.
- FEMA Public Assistance Grant – The grant application is proceeding and will be handed over to the State for review shortly.
- AMI Business Case – Mr. Mettler presented via Power Point estimated costs of various approaches to replace and possibly upgrade water meters and water meter reading equipment.
- 2025 Budget Draft 4.0 – Mr. Mettler presented on Power Point an updated 2025 draft budget. After discussion, a work study meeting was scheduled for January 4, 2025, 8:30 am to noon, to review further along with meter replacement options.

## **ATTORNEY REPORT**

None

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

Upon motion made by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Ms. Moore and unanimously passed, the meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm.

Submitted by:

Richard Jonson, counsel

Next scheduled meetings:

Board Work Study: Saturday, January 4, 2025 at 8:30a

Board Meeting: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 6 pm