

SunLand Water District
Board of Commissioners Meeting
March 10, 2015

- I. The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Pepper Putnam, President. In attendance were Albert Friess, Jim Larison, Mike Langley, and Celeste Lilley. Willy Burbank joined the meeting at 9:30. Jim Gross (BHC Consultants) and Vince Follett (Follett Engineering) arrived at 10:00 as planned.
- II. The minutes of February 10th, and two meetings - 10a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on February 23rd were approved.
- III. The next two meetings were scheduled for April 7th and May 5th due to planned absences.
- IV. The financial report was approved. County payroll expense is already over budget due to their not billing for the previous 15 months.
- V. The manager's report was reviewed and is appended to these minutes.
 - a. The monitoring well downstream from the new basins is not performing as needed. Willy stated that, when trying to sample the well, only three gallons of water could be purged before the well runs dry. The Department of Ecology will send a directive to the well driller, who was contracted by Ceccanti Inc. Corrections must be made by May 31st.
 - b. SWD was told by BHC that the cost to automate the new system would be from \$20,000-25,000. As it turns out, the estimate was only for equipment. BHC has now requested approval of "Amendment #3" to their contract for an additional \$50,949.57.
- VI. Mr. Putnam reported receiving a call from Terry Larkins of Dungeness Heights Homeowners Association. She asked if SWD would be interested in purchasing Dungeness Heights Water District. The owner is Collin Jackson from Yelm, WA, and it is maintained by Eric Thomas. As it is not particularly interested in additional maintenance issues, the SWD Board put this item on indefinite hold.
- VII. Checks and vouchers were approved by signature, including a payment to Ceccanti Inc. for \$51,975.74. There is \$67,419.10 left on their contract including retainage.
- VIII. One of the company trucks was hit by a golf ball. Willy will get estimates for repairing the damage.
- IX. AT 10:00 Jim Gross and Vince Follett joined the meeting. Mr. Putnam asked if BHC had contracted with Al Friedli, the controls programmer, which was confirmed. Mr.

Putnam stated that he was not happy with the third amendment to the BHC contract, as some of the costs they were requesting reimbursement for were a year old.

Mr. Gross stated that their firm generally does not do out-of-scope work without approval, but that automating the controls was agreed to verbally. Mr. Putnam reiterated that not one portion of the project stayed on budget.

Mr. Gross provided a handout showing the original budget of \$136,700, which included the engineering report, design, and construction support. Amendment #1 for \$14,500 was for additional meetings and engineering the structural support of the new disk filter. Amendment #2 for \$50,790 was for the additional programming and testing needed for automating the controls for the new equipment. He estimated that there would be an additional 20 hours to finish the Operation and Maintenance Manual.

Mr. Putnam stated that the project was coming close to what SWD would have spent on the initial plan to produce Class "A" biosolids and become totally independent of Sequim.

There was discussion about the two tier design of the equalization basin and aerobic digester, and whether it was included in the original scope of work. Mr. Langley stated that he had never seen any drawings that didn't include two tiers. Mr. Gross said that it wasn't included in their original scope of work, and must have come up in discussion prior to producing the drawings.

Mr. Putnam asked for the second time, if amendment #3 was the total amount due and anticipated. Gross said that there may be some additional charges from the programmer (Friedli) as he has spent a lot of time and travel and there is a little left to do. Follett interjected that he had talked with Friedli and had been advised the Friedli would not add any charges. Gross then agreed that the Amendment #3 total was final.

Mr. Langley stated that the BHC contract includes the word "assumes" in several places and that makes it too vague. He did agree that the design for the filter foundation was an additional task requested by SWD. BHC measured the SBR vault, but then asked Mr. Burbank to re-measure. The drawings for the changes to the SBR vault had to be re-done because the new equipment wouldn't fit as planned. Mr. Gross stated that the vault had to be replaced because, after excavation, the old one was found to be falling apart, and that a change order requested by Ceccanti was to replace it. BHC's change order was to add flexibility of operation to the EQ basin controls.

Mr. Larison stated that he felt BHC had used a "bait and switch" tactic when bidding on the project, and that they were incapable of understanding SWD's position. Mr. Friess suggested that they should admit their mistakes in estimating. Mr. Gross said that BHC has no control over bids from contractors (i.e. Fire Mountain or Ceccanti)

and that there were only two, which limited the choices. Mr. Putnam opined that BHC should have a better perspective of what was available.

Jim Gross agreed that they should have brought cost estimates to the SWD Board any time they saw changes that would be out of the scope of their contract.

Mr. Putnam stated that, after much deliberation, he had come to the conclusion that the most important thing was to finish the project. He offered to compensate BHC \$47,578.01 on the condition that it would not be paid until the project is complete, the as-builts and M&O manual delivered, and the programming of controls is finished.

Mr. Langley added that SWD must be able to start up the new equipment, which can't happen until the monitoring well is corrected. Mr. Burbank stated that, due to the low production of the well, he asked the Department of Ecology (D.O.E.) whether the test results would be approved. The short answer was no. Mr. Burbank said that he didn't feel the 35' deep well was properly constructed, and that it could be the materials the well contractor used- i.e. the sand or screening. Mr. Gross stated that the specifications instructed the well driller to "construct the well as per WAC 173.160."

Another document that BHC must prepare is the Construction Completion Report for the DOE. He suggested that getting approval might be difficult without the O&M manual that was never completed by Joe Dominczyk of Engineering Consultants Northwest.

Mr. Gross will send via email a revised Amendment #3 for SWD's signature.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.