

**MINUTES**  
**La Pine Water District**  
**Subcommittee Meeting**  
**November 19, 2002**

Those present were Kitty Shields, LWD board member; James Newton, LWD board member; Jim Court, Fire Chief, La Pine Rural Fire Protection District (LPRFPD); and Stu Martinez, LPRFPD board member. Also present was Donna Blatnik, LWD Admin. Assistant.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss how the LWD and LPRFPD can work together on the issue of water used for fire suppression outside LWD's boundaries.

Jim Court expressed his board's concern regarding the \$100.00 per month charge for water used outside LWD's boundaries. He feels people living outside the LWD boundary shouldn't have access to LWD water at no charge to them. LPRFPD shouldn't have to bear that cost.

Jim feels the commercial rate LWD has established would be great and would have no problem paying it. As for the trade agreement previously discussed that would require LPRFPD to perform maintenance and testing in exchange for water, LPRFPD is not willing to do that. LPRFPD's budget measure didn't pass and they are now looking at making additional cuts and can't supply the manpower necessary to perform maintenance and testing.

James felt it necessary to expose LPRFPD employees to such testing to ensure their familiarity with the hydrants.

Jim feels businesses inside LWD boundaries should pay for water for fire suppression.

Stu asked how LWD came up with the \$100.00 per month figure.

Kitty explained the \$100.00 per month figure was agreed upon by LWD's board and that these charges are necessary to pay back the loan to USDA RUS for the funding of the water system.

Jim didn't feel LPRFPD should be liable to help pay back the loan.

Stu asked how LWD would be charging the car wash. Kitty told him they would pay the commercial rate.

Jim said LPRFPD is already keeping track of water usage and would submit this information to LWD. He would have no problem paying the same commercial rate at the car wash. He also wanted to know how contractors would be charged for the water usage. Kitty explained they would be charged the commercial rate.

Jim proposed installing a metered hydrant on LPRFPD property that could be used for training purposes. He also commented that very few fire districts are charged for water at all.

Stu stated that his experience has been that fire districts usually notify water districts when water for suppression is used. Jim agreed and said that this was how it was done in Boring and Damascus when he was with their fire departments.

Jim stated the trade of water for hydrant maintenance was not a good option. Stu agreed and said the liability issue is a problem for LPRFPD. Jim also stated that LPRFPD would be protecting LWD facilities free of charge since LWD is exempt from paying taxes.

Stu agreed with Jim that LPRFPD should be able to pay the same rate as any commercial customer.

Donna will talk with Dick Nored and find out the cost of installing a 6" meter for a hydrant off the main water line to the LPRFPD office.

Stu feels this should be a cooperative effort where a representative from each district could work together.

James feels LWD should be involved with the maintenance and testing of the hydrants, but not be completely responsible for conducting such maintenance and tests without the help of LPRFPD employees.

Kitty expressed her concern with where the water goes during testing. James stated the water could be diverted using pipes to ensure no property damage is done.

Jim brought to LWD's attention the problems of chlorinating the water. Even though LWD is not going to chlorinate the water system, he wanted to make sure we were aware of the problems that can arise due to the chemicals being released (i.e., property damage).

Jim proposed LWD would install, at no cost to the Fire District, a 6-inch water line (approximately 400 to 500 feet) from Huntington Road, at the south end of the Fire District property, and install a hydrant at the end of this 6-inch water line. The Fire District will install, at their cost, a 2-inch line from the 6-inch line into their structure. A meter will be installed on the 2-inch line for metering water to the structure. The Fire District will pay the basic commercial rate for water supplied to the structure (\$27.34 per month, per equivalent dwelling unit (EDU), \$2.00 per every additional 1,000 gallons) and the \$100.00 per month water charge for the duration. The \$100.00 per month water charge covers water used outside the Water District's boundaries for fire suppression purposes and for training purposes. Jim Gustafson would act as the contact and work with our operator on testing. Jim also stated that the Uniform Fire Code (UFC) requires hydrants be inspected annually and flow tested every 1 to 3 years per requirements by the NFPA.

Jim also suggested installing markers for the hydrants, similar to the markers ODOT uses on their mile markers, to ensure the hydrants won't be lost in snow cover.

Jim asked that LPRFPD be put on LWD's agenda for the November 26, 2002 meeting. He will discuss the proposal he made with his board on December 10, 2002.

Respectfully submitted by:

Donna Blatnik  
Admin. Assistant  
La Pine Water District