

**MINUTES**  
**La Pine Water District**  
**Board of Commissioners Meeting**  
**November 26, 2002**

Those present were LWD Board members BarbeAnn Nelson-Dodson, Kitty Shields, James Newton, Richard Pelissey and Brian Earls. Also present were Dick Nored, HGE and Donna Blatnik, LWD Admin. Assistant.

A quorum was established and President BarbeAnn Nelson-Dodson called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

**Minutes of previous meetings:** Brian Earls made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2002 Board of Commissioners meeting as presented. Seconded by James Newton. **Motion carried.**

**Old Business:**

Ordinance 2001-1: Kitty is still working on redundancies throughout the Ordinance. She stated that care must be exercised as not to omit or change things that would change the meaning of the Ordinance. BarbeAnn requested all Board members to review the new version before the next meeting and be ready to vote on the new version. Kitty hopes to have the revisions made by next week.

Proposal by Jim Court re: water charges: At a conference held between LWD representatives (Kitty Shields and James Newton) and La Pine Rural Fire Protection District (LPRFPD) representatives (Jim Court and Stu Martinez) on November 19, 2002, Jim Court proposed the following: La Pine Water District will 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.

James Newton felt the \$100.00 per month water charge would be much more beneficial to the District as the cost we would incur to install 400 ft of 6" line would be approximately \$14,000.00 (per Dick Nored, \$35/ft x 400 ft).

BarbeAnn feels the District should reject the proposal and stay with the \$100.00 per month charge.

Kitty asked for all District Board members input on this proposal.

Richard feels LPRFPD should bear the expense for the 6" line installation.

Brian stated it would take 10 years for the District to be paid back if we installed the 6" line.

Kitty found that other fire districts do perform maintenance and testing on hydrants at their cost, not at the cost of the water district they're in. Jim Court was concerned about the liability involved with LPRFPD performing maintenance and testing. Kitty also stated LPRFPD should bear the cost of normal installation and the District will split the cost of the additional line and hydrant.

Dick Nored, HGE, reminded the Board that the District is installing hydrants for the benefit of the community at our cost. He also suggested that the District pay for half of the cost of installing the line and hydrant and will prepare a report showing what half that cost would be. He stressed the importance of LPRFPD employees knowing how to operate the hydrants without assistance from the District.

LIGI Land Purchase: Donna gave a check in the amount of \$349,346.72 to Western Title and Escrow. Final documents will be sent to the District as soon as Western Title has prepared them.

Neal Russell Business: BarbeAnn stated she thought it would be a good idea if we took over Neal's business on the 1<sup>st</sup> of a month. She also stated we should pay Neal and sign the agreement now, but date it when we actually take the business over. The District will begin paying Neal's costs involved in managing his water business for us (electricity, fees for meter reading, fuel, etc.). Neal agreed with this suggestion. BarbeAnn would like to have Neal's wife, Peggy Neal, added to the agreement.

Neal gave the name of someone who may be interested in working as an Operator for the District: Butch Rogers, 20332 Empire, Bend, OR 97707, phone 541-383-9310, cell 541-788-5103, home 541-382-5103. Mr. Rogers is currently employed with North Creek Analytical and has worked at Ponderosa Pines and Oregon Water Wonderland. He is also a part owner of La Pine Water Company. Mr. Rogers would do sampling and technical advising at a cost of \$200.00 per month and work on-call for \$50.00 per hour.

Neal also spoke with Darrell Lockhart of Oregon Association of Water Utilities. Mr. Lockhart feels it would be beneficial for the District to join the Association as they could give us assistance and advice whenever necessary.

BarbeAnn asked that Donna look into the legalities of pumping District water through Neal's lines. James stated that it should be OK to use Neal's lines while we are testing, but an agreement may be needed as soon as the water is used for public consumption.

Lee Blake/ALA: A letter was sent to Michael Gentry, attorney for Lee Blake/ALA. No news as of yet.

Operator: Kitty asked Dick what the duties of an Operator are. Dick explained basic responsibilities include reading meters, performing installations, etc. He also explained that the District would need to hire 1 full-time operator and 1 relief operator.

Deschutes County: Dick asked the Board about the status of the \$60,000.00 owed to Deschutes County. He has contacted Susan Ross many times, but hasn't received much of a response. He does know that the county doesn't want the money back. BarbeAnn said the \$60,000.00 went into an account for SDCs for the New Neighborhood project.

Construction Update: Tapani Underground Inc. has completed installation of the transmission line. The line needs to be flushed and Tapani will return in the spring to do this.

The east side of Hwy 97 is almost complete. Bill Booker Construction is still working on Huntington Road near Midstate Electric.

Staking began on the west side of Hwy 97 and construction will be complete on a large portion of the west side within the next 1 or 2 months.

Telegraph Rd. – Dick is concerned about this road as it is not an official county road, but stated that something needs to be figured out in order to lay line.

Dick stated there are other properties that will pose problems, as it will be difficult to get water to them since there is no legal access to these properties. Properties owned by members of Kitty's family are included in this list and Kitty assured Dick and the Board that her family would grant any easements necessary.

**New Business:**

Newberry Eagle Article – “La Pine-Life Without a Government”: Kristi Otteni has requested information about the District such as who the Board members are, whether they are elected or appointed, a mission statement, etc. Donna will gather this info and provide it to Kristi.

**Payment of Bills:** Brian made a motion to pay all bills presented to the Board. Seconded by Richard. **Motion carried.**

**Correspondence List:** The correspondence list was reviewed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Donna Blatnik  
Admin. Assistant  
La Pine Water District