

**MINUTES**  
**La Pine Water District**  
**Board of Commissioners Meeting**  
**April 13, 2004**

Those present were LWD Board members BarbeAnn Nelson-Dodson, James Newton, Dennis Carter and Brian Earls. Also present: Dick Nored – HGE, Kitty Shields, Lee Smith, Stan Russell, Sylvia Shields, Dave Crider – District Operator and Donna Blatnik – Operations Manager.

A quorum was established and President BarbeAnn Nelson-Dodson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**Minutes of previous meetings:** Dennis made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 30, 2004 Board of Commissioners meeting as presented. Seconded by James. **Motion carried.**

**Guests:**

Lee Smith was asked to attend the meeting on behalf of Deschutes County to keep up on the progress of the Wickiup Junction project. The County will sign an agreement with Pahlisch Homes and need dates when the District can complete the water line. BarbeAnn stated the Board was uncomfortable with dates, therefore did not sign any agreement with the County.

Sylvia asked what is the intention of the District once actual usage for customers is determined. BarbeAnn explained that possibly in the future there will be adjustments made, but for now it is necessary to keep the current monthly charges in place since this is how the District was set up in order to pay back the loan through USDA. Sylvia is concerned that businesses are being priced out of La Pine due to the high SDC fees. She stated people in this area couldn't afford these costs. She explained that Dr. Moss of the La Pine Dental Center has to pay SDCs to remodel an existing building. She feels this is outrageous. BarbeAnn and James both stated that if customers have concerns, they would like them to please attend a meeting so that we can resolve these problems. Sylvia thought it might be a good idea to run a question and answer segment in the Newberry Eagle to help address customers' concerns.

Kitty asked when the budget meeting would be scheduled. BarbeAnn stated this would be discussed at the next meeting since Brian had to leave early today.

**Old Business:**

Office/Shop Construction: Dick brought the Board up to speed on the progress of the office and shop. The sheetrock is up and the fence posts are all in around the property line. There were problems with the roofing, but they have been resolved.

Wickiup Junction: According to Dick, all easements necessary for Wickiup have been sent out, but none have been returned. Dick needs to speak with Russ Kramer of Ponderosa Pizza regarding an easement for the access road that runs parallel to Hwy 97.

Due to increased petroleum prices, there has been an increase in the cost of PVC. The District may have to look at other options like ductile iron or polyethylene, although PVC is still the best material to use.

There is no word yet from Rural Development on the plans submitted by HGE, but Dick is confident Joe Sahlfeld will approve them.

Round Up Trailer Park: Dick asked if Round Up Trailer Park connected to the water system yet. Donna informed him they had not.

### **New Business:**

Contract Water Agreement – Vic Russell Construction: BarbeAnn explained the history of the \$100.00 per month charge for contract water. It began with the Board making an agreement with the La Pine Rural Fire Protection District for unfettered water for fire suppression for a fee of \$100.00 per month and then an agreement with Deschutes County for contract water for construction purposes for the same price. Donna contacted all Board members except Brian and they all agreed to give Vic Russell Construction the same agreement. The contract will be in effect from April 1, 2004 to October 31, 2004. BarbeAnn stated that if payment were not received from Vic Russell for last year's water use, the District would cancel the contract. Dennis made a motion that requires all contract water agreements be for a fee of no less than \$100.00 per month, be no less than 1 year in length and be reviewed each year before renewal. Seconded by James. **Motion carried.** All existing water contract agreements will be honored until expiration.

Water for LSSD Project: Donna prepared a letter to be sent to the La Pine Special Sewer District that explains that District will need \$500.00 per week during the compaction portion of the project. According to Dick, this process may take up to 6 weeks. Donna will do a weekly read on the wells before and after the project starts to keep track of the impact on the water system. Dick has talked to several people involved with this project and they all feel this price is reasonable. With agreement from the Board, BarbeAnn signed two copies of the letter and gave one to Dick and one to Dennis.

Easement from Lee Land to Install/Read/Maintain Meter at La Pine Community Clinic: An easement for the District to be able to install, read and maintain the water meter at the La Pine Community Clinic was presented to the Board. Stan Russell facilitated this easement due to the high cost of connecting to the meter installed in the right of way on First Street. BarbeAnn asked that Stan make sure there is separation of the irrigation and safety fire line. Stan agreed to do so. BarbeAnn signed the easement. Dave stated there are 2 backflow devices at the clinic; 1 reduced-pressure and 1 double check.

Resolution 2001-3 – Inspection Fees: BarbeAnn conducted the first reading of changes to Resolution 2001-3 to include a \$30.00 per hour fee for inspections by the District's operator. No comments regarding change. Dennis made a motion to accept the first reading. Seconded by James. **Motion carried.** Second reading will be at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Construction Standards: BarbeAnn asked Dick and Dave to work on differences and possibly combine both sets to come up with a set of standards that are satisfactory to all involved. This item will be on the next agenda under Old Business.

Property at Hwy 97 & Huntington Road: Dennis received a call from Linda Stevenson about her concerns regarding irrigation water for this property. Donna stated that the Union 76 station is already connected to the water system.

Alpine Foods: Dennis asked if it would be possible to move the meter in order to make an easier connection. Dave will check into moving the meter.

Russell Road: Dave reported that Russell Road south of Finley Butte Road had not been turned on. He turned it on and flushed all the hydrants. He will do a more extensive flush and bac-T test to ensure the water is OK.

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Donna Blatnik  
Operations Manager  
La Pine Water District