

City of Lafayette
Water Resources Committee
April 11, 2018
Lafayette City Hall

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Harper called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **FLAG SALUTE:** Chairman Harper led the flag salute.
3. **ROLL CALL:**
 - Present:** Chris Harper, Doug Cook, Richard Olson, and George Larsen
 - Absent:** Todd Holt (excused)
 - Staff:** Preston Polasek, City Administrator
 - Others:** Gordon Munro, City Engineer; and Konrad Dimmitt, Public Works Supervisor

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

George Larsen moved and Doug Cook seconded a motion to approve as presented the minutes of the February 6, 2018 meeting of the WRC. The motion passed (4-0).

5. **WATER PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION THRU MARCH:**

Chairman Harper welcomed Konrad Dimmitt to the group. Gordon and Konrad have been discussing Bluebird springs and watershed calculations. The goal is to replace meters where needed, so we can get accurate numbers on our production and loss. Two of the meters likely need to be replaced, and the design of the piping in a small space also impacts the reliability of these meters. The group spent several minutes discussing the status of current meters and how watershed production had been estimated over the years. Gordon will be making a recommendation on placement of new meters or any redesign of facilities. These meters will be ordered and installed when defined as an operational expense. It is not defined as a CIP project and can be expensed in either in the current fiscal year or next. Until new meters are installed, staff will continue to try to reasonably estimate production numbers.

Our data goes back to 2007 and ASR started in 2012. Doug mentioned that loss figures escalated 25% after ASR was implemented. Regardless of the accuracy of loss data over time, the investment decisions of the City would not have changed. Chairman Harper reiterated the need to get as much as possible into ASR as while we have adequate springtime flows.

6. **PROJECTS UPDATE:**

Preston referred to the draft Capital Improvement Program for next fiscal year, and pointed out a significant new water project. Listed as project no. 8 on the draft FY 2019 CIP is Mainline Meters and Chlorine Booster Station, \$110,000. This project entails a installation of a new meter on each of our transmission lines coming into town. In addition, we will be installing a chlorine booster station on the joint system line. Staff explained the need for project, and there were no objections from committee members on moving forward with the CIP.

The other new project listed that contains some water line work is project no. 1, Third Street Rehabilitation, FY 2019-2020, \$15,000. This project provides design services for at least three utility crossings of Hwy99W in advance of ODOT's rebuild project in 2020.

6. PROJECTS UPDATE (con.):

The group discussed points for a draft informational flyer to be sent to residents ahead of the May 15 vote on the water intertie to MWL. George and others expressed concern over the fact that we are projecting a 4% increase in rates each year with no explanation. It is also challenging to explain how to say that the annual rate increase will occur regardless of the vote, because we are raising revenue to fund the capital costs of our CIP for the next 15 years.

Committee members liked the idea of a tri-fold brochure, which will be reviewed by the Oregon Secretary of State before it is mailed. Gordon pointed out that the purpose behind the intertie is to meet both current and future needs and that current demand should be defined as “peak” demand in the summer.

Richard mentioned the need to state what happens to our current system in terms of replacing water sources. Preston stated that the City would initially purchase water from MWL to make ends meet. As demand increases, then more water will be purchased and the decision to replace any existing sources will be a long-term solution based on what makes the most financial sense.

Chairman Harper mentioned that we should stress that we need an additional water source and this intertie project is the only feasible option. We have analyzed options, and linking to MWL is the only financially viable option.

7. NEXT MEETING: June 13, 2018 at 6:00 pm

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Doug Cook moved and George Larsen seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 4-0 and the meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

These WRC minutes for April 11, 2018 were approved on June 13, 2018.

CERTIFIED:


Chris Harper, Chair