

**Water Conservancy Board of Thurston County
Regular Meeting
October 15, 2007**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mike Rhubright, Chairman
Jon Hare, Vice Chairman
Tom Myrum, Treasurer
Mike McGinnis, Secretary
Jerry Louthain

MEETING TIME, PLACE, AND ATTENDEES

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Chairman Rhubright at the Board's regular meeting place: Percival Plaza Conference Room, 626 Columbia St. N.W., Suite 1-IF, Olympia, Washington 98501. Guests included Ms. Shelly Badger and Ms. Stephanie Ray, City of Yelm; and Ms. Jill Van Hulle of the Pacific Groundwater Group.

MINUTES

1. Approval of Agenda: Meeting agenda was reviewed and approved as amended.

2. Approval of Minutes / Correspondence / Financial Report

- **Minutes** of the September 17, 2007 regular monthly meeting were approved as amended.
- **Correspondence received by the Board:**
 1. A letter from WDFW (9/18/07) regarding application THUR-04-04 (Keeneland Park). This follow-up letter supports approval of this application with a recommendation to minimize impacts to fish and wildlife. Furthermore, the letter states that WDFW would consider recommending the elimination of the minimum instream flow of 1.0 cfs as part of this water right change if steps were taken to protect a portion of the water available for transfer.
 2. Two bills received on 10/15/07: 1) Anna Giesman for \$66.64 (services rendered); and 2) US Postal Service for \$168.00 (12 month charge for PO Box).
- **Financial Report:** The monthly bank statement of September 30, 2007 showed:
 - 1) a balance of \$6,550.54; and 2) payment of the following bills, two totaling \$1,271.27 (Olympian Newspaper), and one for \$85.14 (Anna Giesman for services rendered).

3. New Applications

- Representatives of the City of Yelm submitted two change/transfer applications with documentation (#5155-A, 380 GPM and #5721-A, 80 GPM). Both are proposed to change purpose of use (irrigation/domestic to municipal) and place of use (local golf course to the area served by the City of Yelm). Each water right is currently owned by the City of Yelm. The City of Yelm is submitting these applications to fulfill their short- and mid-term water needs.

After preliminary review of the application packet and discussion with City representatives the Board unanimously approved the City's request and accepted the applications for consideration. Upon Board approval the City submitted payment in the amount of \$2,900.00 (\$1,450.00 per application) for processing. Thereafter, each application for change was assigned a unique identifier: *THUR-07-08: 380 GPM (5155-A)* and *THUR-07-09: 80 GPM (5721-A)*. Commissioners McGinnis and Hare were assigned as Board points of contact.

- Jill Van Hulle of Pacific Groundwater Group representing the Pattison Water Company submitted an application packet for change/transfer (point of withdrawal) of certificate of ground water right G2-25242 (120 GPM). This certificate authorizes withdrawal from an existing well (Oakwest Glen – Community Domestic) owned by the Pattison Water Company. The change application request is to transfer the point of withdrawal to an existing well (X-mas Tree Well - Municipal) also owned by the Pattison Water Company. As this water right certificate is used for municipal purposes, a formal change in place of use and purpose of use is not required under state law. However, Pattison Water Company requests that the change reflect the place of use, and designate the purpose of use as municipal.

Upon Board review of the application packet and discussion with Ms Van Hulle the application for change was unanimously accepted for consideration. Ms Van Hulle submitted payment in the amount of \$1,450.00 for processing. Thereafter, the application for change was assigned the following unique identifier: *THUR-07-10: 120 GPM*. Commissioner Louthain was assigned as the Board point of contact.

4. Applications in Progress

- Fagerness/Oakville (THUR-04-01: 60): Commissioner Hare reported that a hydrogeo report will be required and he proposes to utilize such a report prepared for another change application within the same vicinity. Commissioner Hare will notify the applicant to seek permission to move forward.
- Keeneland Park (THUR-04-04): Commissioner Louthain received a letter from WDFW in response to the meeting that took place on September 7, 2007 (see

meeting minutes of September 17, 2007) addressing their views on appropriate mitigation regarding this application and the applicability of the 1.0 cfs minimum flow requirement (see correspondence above). To date, this transfer remains on hold awaiting the publication of a final EIS.

- Mountain View Prairie Estates (Certificate #1118-A): Nothing new to report.
- Pattison Water Company (THUR-07-04, THUR-07-05, THUR-07-06): Commissioner Louthain reported that the ROEs are nearly complete awaiting a meeting with Ecology scheduled for October 19, 2007. Therefore, a special meeting of the Board was scheduled for October 29, 2007 (all in favor) at which, a final review/discussion and vote to approve is proposed.
- Grand Mound Water System (THUR-07-01, THUR-07-02, THUR-07-03): Commissioner McGinnis hosted a site visit on September 22, 2007 which included a field survey of the lower reach of Prairie Creek located in part on the Maple Lane School and Hank Doleman properties. In attendance were Mr. Linton Wildrick and Ms Jill Van Hulle of the Pacific Groundwater Group. The purpose of the survey was to determine if flow was present and to brainstorm mitigation measures that may be required to offset possible impacts to this reach of Prairie Creek resulting from application approvals.

In addition, Commissioner McGinnis enabled a meeting to take place between Mr. Mike Mahoney (most recent operator of the Leprechaun Dairy) and Ms Jill Van Hulle of the Pacific Groundwater Group. On October 11, 2007 Ms Van Hulle met with Mike Mahoney and discussed dairy irrigation practices up to the purchase by the Port of Centralia. The information gathered by Ms Van Hulle will enable a more accurate account of water to land applications during the Mahoney years of ownership and dairy management.

A meeting with Ecology has been scheduled for October 19, 2007 to discuss these proposed applications.

- Hamilton (THUR-07-07: 263): Because this application is a part of the total application package for Grand Mound submitted by Thurston County it will also be on the October 19th meeting agenda with Ecology. Meeting results will be discussed at the next regular meeting of the Board in November.

5. Administration

- *Continuing Education (Ecology)*: Nothing new to report.
- *WCB Insurance*: Nothing new to report.
- *New Application/Board Recruitment Outreach*: Nothing new to report.
- *WCB Bylaw Updating*: No progress reported.

- *Annual Board of County Commissioners Briefing:* Representatives of the Water Board attended a 1.5 hour meeting with the Board of Thurston County Commissioners on October 2, 2007. Chairman Rhubright brought the County Commissioners up-to-date regarding Board business during the previous year and answered questions. The County Commissioners expressed thanks to each Board member for their continuing volunteer service to Thurston County.
- *Alternate WB Recruitment:* Nothing new to report.

6. Reports: Nothing to report.

7. Expenditures:

1. \$1,271.27 to the Olympian News Paper for public notice announcement.
2. \$85.14 to Anna Giesman for services rendered.

8. Other: Commissioner Rhubright was nominated by the Board for another 6-year term (all in favor). Chairman Rhubright graciously accepted.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Minutes Approved: November 19, 2007