

VIRGIN VALLEY WATER DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
VIRGIN VALLEY WATER DISTRICT OFFICE  
APRIL 7, 2009

Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting of the Virgin Valley Water District Board held on April 7, 2009, at the Virgin Valley Water District Office at 3:00 p.m. Attending were President John Paul, Vice-President Kenyon Leavitt, Secretary-Treasurer Cecil Leavitt, and Board Member Robert “Bubba” Smith. Board Member Ted Miller was not present. Also present were Michael Winters General Manager, George Benesch District Council, Erik Beyer District Engineer and Mary Johnson taking minutes and other interested parties of agenda items.

**President John Paul called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.**

**Bubba Smith offered a Prayer and Kenyon Leavitt led the pledge.**

**Public Comment** – There was no public comment at this time.

Discussion: Board Comments - None  
President of Board Comments - None

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

John Paul stated that District Council had suggested that item “9” be heard before item “8”.

**Bubba Smith made a motion to approve the consent agenda as listed below with the change to the agenda of hearing item 9 before item 8. Cecil Leavitt seconded this motion and it was unanimously carried. 4-0**

1. Discussion & Action - Approve Agenda – **Item 9 to be heard before item 8**
2. Discussion & Action – Approve Minutes from **3/11/09 Special Board Meeting**
3. Discussion & Action – Approve Minutes from **3/17/09 Regular Board Meeting**
4. Discussion & Action – Approve Bills Paid - **\$1,339,335.79**
5. Discussion & Action – Approve Purchase Orders Over \$2,500
  - a. Nickerson Company, Inc. - **\$19,959.00 – Aurora 411 – 6x8x20 Split Ease Pump 250 HP Motor and Coupler for Well #33**
  - b. Wonderware West - **\$12,658.00 – Upgrade SCADA System**
  - c. Lincoln County - **\$30,981.80 – Out of County Transfer fees for Permit Numbers 67729 & 67730**

**\*\* End of Consent Agenda\*\***

6. Discussion & Possible Action – Consideration to Waive all VVWD Fees for Mesquite Veterans Center – Requested by the Vietnam Veterans of America, Mesquite Chapter 993, Dale Hoyt

Mike stated that Mr. Hoyt's letter was based on the Ordinance II fees set at \$8,700 per EDU and that has since been changed back to \$3,300 per EDU so the actual cost would be \$5,770 for a ¾" meter hook-up in lieu of the stated amount of \$11,400. John Paul stated that the Mesquite Vets Center is worthy to support and would be built by donations and grants. Bubba stated that the City has provided the land for this project with motivation to create a place so they wouldn't have to travel. Kenyon asked who would be next and was not certain if we want to set precedence of waiving fees regardless that it is a good cause. Also, someone has to pick up that \$5,770 and that would be the rate payers and the District has not budgeted for this. Bubba further stated that the City had set up some parameters for the Vets to meet and that they were not just getting everything for free, but he did not bring those parameters with him and was not sure what all they were. Cecil thought at one time he had spoken with Dale Hoyt and they have donations coming in and partial commitments for the construction of the building and monthly bills. George stated that Kenyon had a valid point and maybe not act on this item today but bring back to the board for a policy for waiving fees. Kenyon stated that policy has always been "no waiving of fees" and questioned whether we could defer costs by the Vets making payments in lieu of payment all at once.

Dale Hoyt arrived at 3:15 and stated that the Vets wanted to open a Veteran's Center that would be located off Hafen Lane, and that there is no other Vets service organization within 100 miles of Mesquite with the closest being in Las Vegas. Dale further stated that the money for the facility would be coming from grants and loans like the VA and USDA and that the hook-up fees were extra and that they cannot afford and it could mean that these fees may eliminate getting a Vet's Center. Dale also mentioned that they are involving other organizations as the VFW and the American Legion and all their efforts are strictly on a volunteer basis. Mike asked who would own the building and was informed that the Vet's would. Kenyon informed Mr. Hoyt of his previous concerns and his hesitancy of waiving all fees, but that costs could possibly be deferred and paid over time. Mr. Hoyt stated that this organization was a 501C3. George Benesch called for a point of order stating that the agenda states waiving "all fees". John Paul questioned if this could be put on another agenda with different options.

**Cecil Leavitt made a motion to table this item until the next regular scheduled meeting and that we place on that agenda item the parameters of contribution expressed to establish our policy; also then to declare whether this is an acceptable policy that this will fit within the parameters that we establish and then vote on it at that time.**

There was further discussion on the wording of the agenda item to make sure it was broad enough to include different parameters. John Paul stopped the discussion stating that there was a motion on the table with no second.

**Kenyon Leavitt seconded this motion.**

George asked by point of discussion if the board wanted to include in the motion parameters

kind of fees. George further stated that an alternative may include splitting the difference of these fees.

**Cecil Leavitt amended his motion to include alternatives outside the parameters. Kenyon Leavitt seconded the amendment. John Paul called for a vote on the motion and amended motion and they were unanimously carried. 4-0**

7. Discussion & Possible Action – Consideration to Award Contract and Notice to Proceed for Well #27 Access Road and Site Preparation to the Lowest Responsible Bidder in the Best Interest of the Virgin Valley Water District

Mike stated that bids were opened on March 30<sup>th</sup> with Longview Construction coming in with the low bid of \$50,213.20. Mike further stated that this project will allow equipment on the property in case we needed to work on the well. Bubba questioned this company and history of the low bid and then coming in with change orders. Mike stated that this contractor was used on the Directional Drilling at the Bunkerville Bridge and they did come in with a large change order, but that the engineers have reviewed these bids and Longview submitted all the correct paperwork with their bid and if there were a change order it would have to come before the board. John Paul stated that he was quite gun shy of this company but was inclined to give them a second chance or last chance. Kenyon stated that he was pretty much of the same opinion but willing to give another chance, but if they come in with another change order he would not vote to approve Longview for another project.

**Cecil Leavitt made a motion to award contract and Notice to Proceed for Well #27 Access Road and Site Preparation to Longview Construction in the amount not to exceed \$50,213.20. Bubba Smith seconded this motion and it was unanimously carried. 4-0**

9. Discussion & Possible Action – Consideration to Authorize Staff to Prepare Specifications and Bid Documents for the Drilling and Development of VVWD Well No. 34

Boomer is not present due to speaking at the AWWA Conference in San Jose. Mike stated that well 34 would be used in case something happened to well #33 that pumps 2,200 gpm. We're hoping that we would have no problems, but just in case. Boomer had included memos for this item and item 8 stating that the water right permit has been obtained from the Nevada Division of Water Resources and that the right-of-way grant for the well site has been obtained from the BLM Ely Field Office. Boomer further stated in his memos that well #34 will be located on a 4-acre site, approximately 0.95 miles north of the existing VVWD Well No. 32 site in Lincoln County. The well will provide additional back up for filling the 6 million gallon storage tanks needed to support the distribution system for peak summer demand. There will be a mandatory pre-bid conducted so that all contractors are aware of existing conditions prior to the bid opening. The contractor must be a licensed Nevada contractor capable of completing a minimum of 51% of the required work to be

contract will be brought back to the VVWD Board for execution of the contract documents.

**Kenyon Leavitt made a motion to authorize staff to prepare specifications and bid documents for the drilling and development of VVWD Well No. 34. Bubba Smith seconded this motion and it was unanimously carried. 4-0**

8. Discussion & Possible Action – Consideration to Authorize Staff to Obtain Bids for Site Preparation Associated with the Drilling and Development of VVWD Well No. 34

Mike informed the board, along with the memo Boomer had attached, that we will need to be able to get to the site and that there is only a 4-wheeler trail right now.

**Bubba Smith made a motion to authorize staff to obtain bids for site preparation associated with the drilling and development of VVWD Well No. 34. Kenyon Leavitt seconded this motion and it was unanimously carried. 4-0**

#### 10. General Manager's Report

Mike had not included a written report. Mike informed the board that the arsenic plants were nearing completion and that site #28 should be on-line April 23<sup>rd</sup> with site #29 a couple days later and that by the end of April, all four arsenic treatment plants should be running. Mike also stated that we were planning an "open house" and dedication when the plants start up.

Mike further informed the board that he had received a telephone call this morning from Clark County Health and they informed him that someone is dying of arsenic poisoning in Mesquite. The Clark County Health Department will be speaking with this customer.

George mentioned that we have had conversations with EPA regarding our violation of arsenic and being fined, but we are ahead of schedule for this to happen.

#### 11. Hydrologist's Report

Michael had not included a written report nor was he present due to speaking at the AWWA Conference in San Jose on developing wells.

#### 12. Engineer's Report

Erik had not included a written report. He informed the board that he was impressed with Kevin Amen, District Inspector, and that Kevin was very conscientious out in the field. Erik also mentioned conservation since it was that time again and that he had reviewed the District's first three months of water usage and that we are still down in the low acre-foot per unit; using only half of that. Erik further stated that the State keeps a close watch of water conservation.

13. Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

14. Adjournment

**President John Paul adjourned the meeting at 3:59 p.m.**

(NOTE): The minutes of this meeting have been tape-recorded and will remain on file in the District office for a one-year period for public examination.