

GRAND RONDE SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

March 16, 2016, 9:15 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND NOTE OF ATTENDANCE

Trustee Pope declared the meeting of the Grand Ronde Sanitary District Board of Trustees to be in session at 9:45 a.m. Trustee Ainsworth and Trustee Wheeler were present.

Staff present: Greg Hansen, Interim Manager
 Morgan Smith, Legal Counsel

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (a) A Budget Hearing for the Grand Ronde Sanitary District will be held on Wednesday, May 18, 2016 at 9:15 a.m. in the Courthouse conference room.

3. COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: TRUSTEE AINSWORTH MOVED, TRUSTEE WHEELER SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 16, 2015

MOTION: TRUSTEE AINSWORTH MOVED, TRUSTEE WHEELER SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 17, 2014.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. STATUS OF THE DISTRICT

Greg Hansen reported that the current District Operator, Roy Bradley, has resigned effective this Friday. He has found a position with the City of Bend. The GRSD position opening was sent to the Linn-Benton Community College wastewater student mailing list and is posted on the Worksource Oregon Job Openings List. So far there has been one inquiry, but no applications submitted. Greg and Todd Whitaker, Public Works Director have met with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, who are willing to serve as operator of record for the District. The Tribe is working on developing an internship program that once operational, would be able to staff the District office.

The Board expressed concern with the Tribe operating the District via contract without oversight. In the past, the Tribe has discharged to the District without our knowledge or consent, and the Board fears that could happen again. Greg explained that the Tribe's sanitary system only functions efficiently when levels are steady, so being able to discharge to our system when levels rise helps keep their system operating efficiently. If additional piping was ran to form a full loop between the systems, it would solve the District's summer discharge issues and the Tribe's winter discharge issues.

Morgan discussed other examples of districts transferring operation to other districts. However, there is no such examples of districts transferring ownership to a sovereign nation, like the tribe. The Board also expressed concern with non-tribal members connected to the system being discriminated against or having their rates increased as a tool to drive non-tribal members out so

the tribe can acquire their property.

Greg explained that the District system serves a small population that doesn't pay for itself. Rates in the District have not risen in 20 years, and many residents may not be able to afford higher rates. Year to date, the District finances show a net loss of approximately \$44,000. A large portion of this expense was related to the generator installation and hook-up. Greg has submitted a claim to FEMA for the expenses incurred during the recent flooding event, including the District Operator's over time and generator rental.

Hearing no further business, Trustee Pope adjourned the meeting at 10:06 a.m.

Minutes: Heather Chase

Approved: June 15, 2016