



Discovery Clean
Water Alliance

Board of Directors Meeting Third Quarter 2023 MINUTES

Friday, September 15, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

In-Person / Remote Meeting via GoToMeeting

District Board Meeting Room, 8000 NE 52nd Court, Vancouver, WA 98665

Present:

City of Battle Ground: Shane Bowman

Clark County: Sue Marshall

City of Ridgefield: Ron Onslow

Clark Regional Wastewater District: Norm Harker

Staff: Clark Regional Wastewater District: John Peterson, David Logan, Matt Jenkins, Robin Krause, Kristen Thomas, Leanne Mattos, Laine Keniston; City of Battle Ground: Mark Herceg; Clark County: None; City of Ridgefield: None.

Attendees: Clark Regional Wastewater District: Denny Kiggins, Neil Kimsey, Britny Carrier, Connie Pekarek, Maria Webster; City of Vancouver: Frank Dick; Clark County: None; City of Battle Ground: None; City of Ridgefield: Lee Wells; Foster Garvey Legal Counsel: Lee Marchisio; Interested Citizens: Dan Clark; Guest Speakers: None

Regular Business Meeting

Call to order:

Chair Bowman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

1. Late Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

None.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Consent Agenda

Action:

Ron Onslow moved, seconded by Norm Harker, to approve the Consent Agenda, approving the June 16, 2023 meeting minutes; and ratifying claim warrants #10628-10637 in the amount of \$3,319,775.10 for June 2023, claim warrants #10638-10642 in the amount of \$1,639,759.48 for July 2023, claim warrants #10643-10648 in the amount of \$1,709,952.76 for August 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Operator Reports – Second Quarter 2023

Matt Jenkins presented the Operator Report covering the Salmon Creek Treatment Plant (SCTP), Ridgefield Treatment Plant (RTP), and the Alliance Transmission System operations and treatment performance through June 30, 2023. He noted that SCTP and RTP treatment performance was stable throughout the second quarter of the year, and that all NPDES permit limits were met.

Mr. Jenkins provided an update outlining the ongoing work completed by SCTP maintenance staff, and that all critical SCTP systems are now back to full operational readiness. Further updates were provided on the operations and maintenance of the Alliance Transmission system, as well as biosolids land application and the exploration of partnerships with agricultural lands beyond the current program framework in Cowlitz and Klickitat counties.

5. Capital Program Report – Second Quarter 2023

Robin Krause presented updates on the capital program and capital project activities. Mr. Krause presented a Capital Program Summary status report for the District-led capital projects included in the 2023-2024 budget period. He provided updates on projects in construction, projects in design, and projects in planning.

Mr. Krause then presented an update on the SCTP Phase 5A Package 2 Effluent Pipeline project, explaining that the Salmon Creek Crossing was completed August 28. Mr. Krause provided status updates on a number of ongoing projects, including the SCTP Phase 5B Package 2 Secondary Treatment Process Improvements, SCTP Diesel Tank replacement, SCTP Chemically Enhanced Primary Treatment Pilot, RTP Secondary Process Improvements, and the 36th Avenue Pump Station generator replacement.

Mr. Krause presented a chart showing the budget and schedule status of the Alliance CIP and R&R projects, listing a majority of the projects tracking within budget or on schedule, while also explaining the limited number of schedule or cost variances.

Mr. Krause concluded with an update on the development of the R&R program elements for the 2024 Capital Plan. He is planning to present the evaluation process and draft project list at a future Board of Directors meeting.

6. Treasurer Report – Second Quarter 2023

David Logan presented the Second Quarter 2023 Financial Report reflecting the results from operations for all funds, as well as cash and investment balances as of June 30, 2023.

Mr. Logan presented the upcoming 2023-2024 Operating & Capital Budget Amendment process, noting that there are no planned Regional Service Charges (RSC) increases for the Budget Amendment No. 1 to be presented at the December Board of Directors meeting.

Mr. Logan further explained an ongoing arbitrage evaluation that may inform a second Budget Amendment at the December meeting, pending the outcome of the evaluation and review with the Standing Committees.

7. Regulatory Compliance Program Report

Kristen Thomas presented an update on the Industrial Pretreatment Program, the CDC/WEF National Wastewater Surveillance System (NWSS) Monitoring Project, State and Federal Water Quality Regulatory Processes for the Columbia River Monitoring Program, and PFAS Legislation and Regulation.

8. Administrative Lead Report

John Peterson presented the Administrative Lead (AL) report, highlighting the following items, which were included in the agenda packet:

- 1) Federal Advocacy Updates – Mr. Peterson provided updates regarding two federal bills relevant to Alliance responsibilities. Additionally, Mr. Peterson spoke to two potential sources of Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) grant funding, submitted to the Appropriations Committee by the offices of Senator Murray and Congresswoman Gluesenkamp Perez, for the Salmon Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Energy Efficiency and Modernization project.
- 2) State Advocacy Updates – Mr. Peterson reported that the 2023 biosolids bill will be automatically reintroduced in the next legislative session.
- 3) Regional Planning Update – Mr. Peterson discussed the upcoming planning efforts for the Alliance’s General Sewer Plan (GSP) update, and the alignment of those efforts with Clark County’s Growth Management Act (GMA) “Periodic Update”. He displayed a series of maps to show alternative solutions to providing for the capacity needs of the region. The Board discussed a possible approach where the formal planning needs were met with a 20-year plan, but the longer-term needs of the region were also considered with a 50-year vision.
- 4) Communications Program Update – Mr. Peterson shared information about the ongoing efforts to keep the public, elected officials and offices, and Member agencies updated on the work of the Alliance.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Prepared and edited by Alliance Administrative Lead staff. Approved by the Discovery Clean Water Alliance Board of Directors on:

December 15, 2023

Norm Harker, Secretary