

COOS BAY-NORTH BEND WATER BOARD
P O BOX 539 – 2305 Ocean Boulevard
Coos Bay, Oregon 97420

Minutes
Regular Board Meeting

February 20, 2025
7:00 a.m.

Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board met in open session in the Board Room at the above address, date, and time with Vice-Chair Bill Richardson presiding. Other Board members present: Rob Kilmer, and Greg Solarz. Board Members absent: Chair Carmen Matthews. Water Board staff present: Ivan D. Thomas, General Manager; Matt Whitty, Engineering Manager; Jeff Miller, Operations Manager; Aimee Hollis, Customer Relations Manager; Micah Demanett, Meter Services Supervisor; Jason Mills, Distribution Supervisor; and Stacey Parrott, Executive Assistant & HR Specialist; Board Legal Counsel Melissa Cribbins was present. Media present: None.

Vice-Chair Richardson opened the meeting at 7:00 a.m. and led the Board and assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice-Chair Richardson asked if there were any corrections or additions to the February 6, 2025, Regular Board meeting minutes. Mr. Kilmer moved the minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Solarz and passed unanimously.

Vice-Chair Richardson asked if there were any public comments and there were none.

Regarding the proposed purchase and installation of a SolarBee Motor, Distribution Supervisor Jason Mills stated that the Water Board previously installed a SolarBee floating, solar-powered mixer in the Upper Pony Creek Reservoir in 2013. The mixer has been effective in maintaining source water quality by reducing the negative impacts of thermal stratification and remains critical for the Board's water quality management. Recently, the mixer was discovered to be nonfunctional, it was then determined that the unit's electrical motor had failed, which typically has a lifespan of ten years. Due to the technical complexity of the motor replacement, it was recommended to authorize a sole-source purchase through Ixom, the parent company of SolarBee, to perform the replacement at a total estimated cost of \$10,664.

The fiscal year 2025 budget does not include funding for this project, however, to cover the cost, \$10,000 would be reallocated from the Treatment Plant Fiber Internet Service project, and the remaining \$664 from active capital reserve funds.

Mr. Solarz moved to authorize a sole-source purchase and installation of the new SolarBee motor from the sole provider of this motor through Ixom at a total cost of \$10,664. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kilmer and passed unanimously.

Regarding the proposed purchase of water meters and Automated Meter Reading (AMR) units through Consolidated Supply Company, Meter Services Supervisor Micah Demanett summarized that the Water Board has been transitioning to Automated Meter Reading and had entered into a contract with Consolidated Supply Company to supply water meters that utilize meter interface units with AMR technology since FY 2021. They are requesting the Board take advantage of the favorable contract pricing before the current

contract ends. Consolidated Supply has given a quote for 1,058 water meters with AMR meter interface units honoring the FY25 rate, 3% above the FY24 rate, for a total cost of \$240,087.54. Once ordered, meters would be expected to arrive in late spring and would be installed for meter reading cycle 3, the central Coos Bay area including Ocean Blvd, Thompson Rd, Bayshore Ave, and surrounding areas.

The Water Board currently has \$123,000 in the meter replacement program and proposes utilizing timber funds to cover the balance in order to secure FY25 pricing from Consolidated Supply Company. The timber fund balance is currently \$1,300,000.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Kilmer moved to approve the General Manager to purchase this round of Mueller water meters and AMR meter interface units from Consolidated Supply Company for \$240,087.54. The motion was seconded by Mr. Solarz and passed unanimously.

Regarding the award of Watershed logging road repairs, Engineering Manager Matt Whitty reported that quotes were solicited for repairs to damage caused by fallen trees next to Merritt Lake during a recent windstorm. The proposed repairs include removal of loose soil, installation of 70 cubic yards of two to three-foot boulders, and placement of 20 cubic yards of surface rock to restore a portion of the road. The following quotes were received:

- Johnson Rock Products \$12,388.00
- Windrose Excavation \$15,961.90
- Roseburg Forest Products \$27,093.60

Based on the quotes received, Mr. Whitty recommended awarding the project to Johnson Rock Products, the lowest bidder, at \$12,388.00.

Mr. Solarz moved to award the project to Johnson Rock Products for \$12,388.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kilmer and passed unanimously.

The Board's next regular meeting was set for Thursday, March 6, 2025, at 7:00 a.m.

Concerning items of interest, Mr. Solarz inquired about the pension plan's current funding percentage and the frequency of actuarial evaluations. Mr. Thomas responded that actuarial evaluations are conducted biennially, and the next evaluation should be due after this July. He noted that the last recommended increases resulted in the pension plan being over 90% funded.

Updates were given as follows:

- FY 2023 Timber Sale, Tree Planting – Tree planting is completed, the weather was ideal for planting, cold and rainy. 29,000 trees were planted in approximately three days. The Water Board budgeted .85 per tree and actual cost was .58 per tree.

At 7:14 a.m. Vice-Chair Richardson directed they go into executive session for the purpose of discussing potential litigation pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(h), personnel issues pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(a) and labor negotiations pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d). The Board returned to open session at 8:00 a.m.

There being no other business to come before the Board, Vice-Chair Richardson adjourned the meeting at 8:00 a.m.

Approved: _____, 2025

By: _____
Carmen Matthews, Chair

ATTEST:
