

TSCC Meeting Minutes

April 29, 2020

Via Telephone conference call

Commissioners Barringer, Ofsink, Norton, Wubbold, and Quiroz were present as were Executive Director Craig Gibons, Budget Analyst Tunie Betschart all via telephone conference call.

Chair Barringer convened the TSCC Regular Meeting at 1:05

1. Chair Barringer approved the April 15 meeting minutes with one correction.
2. Commissioner Norton asked if we had a response from RFPD #10 asking about the district's vulnerability due to the COVID-19. Executive Director Gibons responded by reading the answer given by the district which said they felt their vulnerability was very limited and they had a reserve built up. If necessary they would adjust expenditures.

Commissioner Norton moved to certify that the Commission had no objections or recommendations with regard to their 2020-21 Approved Budget and their budget process. Commissioner Ofsink seconded the motion which passed with a unanimous vote.

3. Craig Gibons reviewed the TSCC FY20 budget included in the packet which was very close to the same as the previous one distributed for the April 15 Meeting. He explained that he had added \$700 to the expense of switching from the office to working from home using the Cloud Network due to additional upgrades required at the Office Suite in our downtown office which complicated things. Also additional funds were set aside to pay for our IT contract person to help with the changing to that Cloud Network verses using the VPN network to tap into our own network server. This is still within budget.
4. TriMet questions that had been disbursed with the meeting packet were briefly discussed. All commissioners liked the 6 questions as presented. They are ready to send to TriMet for preparation of the answers. Chair Barringer and Executive Director Gibons will assign the questions to Commissioners prior to the TriMet Hearing scheduled for May 27 at 8:00 a.m.
5. Chair Barringer moved to the next agenda item, Budget Reviews:
 - a. Corbett Fire District was considered first. Commissioner Norton asked about the Incentive Plan included in the Budget. She suggested asking staff if this plan is subject to compliance with an outside agency? If the district were in need of cash flow, could they lawfully use the funds in this plan? There was discussion on the fact that expenditures are outpacing the revenue. The commissioners would like to keep an eye on this and review it next year with the district if this trend continues. Executive Director Gibons reviewed the district's response to the two questions about the COVID-19.

Commissioner Wubbold moved to certify that the Commission had no objections or recommendations with regard to their 2020-21 Approved Budget and their budget process. Commissioner Quiroz seconded the motion which passed with a unanimous vote.

- b. Valley View Water District was the next district to be discussed. The capital outlay was discussed. They are putting money into the landslide mitigation project. Their main water line was threatened by a landslide a couple years back so they have put money into resolving this. That is why the fund balance has been decreasing. Now with the project well underway, the budget will return to normal in 2021-22. The commissioners discussed the decrease in the Portland wholesale rates. The district is practicing rate stabilization by not reducing the cost of water to their customers, even though for this one year they will pay less for water. The district maintains a very high fund balance. The district's response to the two COVID-19 questions was discussed. The district does not consider itself vulnerable because of the social economic status of the residents. And all customers are residential. The district does not anticipate that the assessed value of property in the district will decrease.

Commissioner Norton moved to certify that the Commission had no objections or recommendations with regard to their 2020-21 Approved Budget and their budget process. Commissioner Ofsink seconded the motion which passed with a unanimous vote.

- c. Alto Park Water was next to be reviewed. The question had been asked what it would take to change their name to Alto Park Fire District. It was recommended that when certifying their budget, TSCC include an inquiry requesting the district to explore what it would take to change the district name in the interest of transparency to represent their actual activity, providing fire protection and report back to TSCC when they submit their Adopted Budget. The districts fire protection contract is tied directly to their property tax collections. So when assessed value goes up in the district so does the contract expenditure. The district's answer to the two COVID-19 questions was discussed briefly since the district feels they will not be adversely affected by the pandemic.

Commissioner Norton moved to certify that with regard to Alto Park Water District's 2020-21 Approved Budget and the budget process, the Commission had no objections and one recommendations as follows: "The district, in the interest of transparency, explore and report back on changing their name to reflect the actual activity of the district which is fire

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protection". Commissioner Quiroz seconded the motion which passed with a unanimous vote

6. The commission talked about changes to the spring schedule for TSCC discussion meetings and hearings. Two large district hearings were rescheduled and one new large district (Urban Flood Safety and Water Quality District) was added to the hearing schedule. The next meeting will be May 6 at 11:30. Executive Director Gibons will send an updated Commission Meetings Schedule.
7. The commissioners discussed the process for holding the Spring Budget Hearings while obeying the mandate to stay at home. Not all commissioners could join a virtual meeting but may need to be able to join via telephone conference call. Executive Director Gibons said he has spoken with the first 3 districts holding hearings in May, (East Multnomah SWCD, Multnomah ESD and TriMet) and all have a program in place for virtual meetings and we will be able to tap into this. The point was made that we need to make sure they realize we actually be conducting the hearing and will need to be able to do that. Executive Director Gibons will work with each district to ensure this is the way the hearing will be conducted. It was mentioned that we will need to be able to get a recording of the meeting to put on the website.

Chair Barringer closed the meeting at about 2:15.

Approved 5/6/2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CG', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Craig Gibons