

Richmond Water Commission Minutes

6/17/19

Called to Order: 6:00pm

Present: Fran Huntoon, Bob Reap, Bard Hill, David Sander, Christy Witters, Josh Arneson, Kendall Chamberlin, Jessica Draper, Brett Hamilton, Heidi Bormann, Mary Houle

Public Comment: NA

Agenda Changes: None

Stone Corral: Bard explained that Stone Corral has recently been discussed because of their wastewater system. They currently treat their brewery waste, but are not charged for their wastewater associated with the restaurant use. The commission has been discussing the fairness of not charging Stone Corral for that wastewater that is not metered through beer production. All of the water is metered. Brett Hamilton introduced himself. Kendall asked a clarifying question about where water goes in the brewery portion of the business. Bard suggested that it might be fair to charge for both waste streams. Kendall said that there isn't an inexpensive way to meter the restaurant wastewater. Bard explained he wants a level playing field for the restaurants in town. Discussion ensued about intention from when the brewery was built. Brett said he doesn't have an objection to paying for the restaurant water/wastewater, but would like to be a part of how that is formulated. They have several water using and wastewater producing systems in the business that affects the numbers. Brett suggested a potential way to calculate their bill. Bard suggested that they do a month long trial calculation to see if it really works for everyone. Kendall agreed that the proposal would be simple and work well for his purposes. Everyone agreed that Brett would read his meter monthly and work with Kendall on reporting.

Policies: Bard said he was thinking about building in penalties included in the permitting policy. Staff clarified that fees were outlined in the fee schedule but are not mentioned specifically in the policy. The commission asked staff to add language regarding violation fees to the policy. Bard said at the top of page 2 in the public-private system policy the word should, should be changed to shall. Josh left to make the proposed changes to the hard copy drafts for approval and signature. Josh read the changes. David moved to approve the policies. Seconded by Christy. All were in favor, so moved.

Fees: Jessica explained the draft fee schedule. Discussion ensued about landowner versus contractor fees. David moved to approve the proposed fees. Seconded by Christy. All were in favor, so moved.

CHMS Extension: Josh explained that the letter was sent and the only feedback was a request to include prompt service when there are an issues.

Delinquent Accounts: Kendall said that the delinquent levels have gone down over the last few months all thanks to Laurie and Connie being diligent and professional with customers.

Superintendent's Report: Kendall said that septage has increased significantly and Richmond manages it well. Kendall also brought up that there are new proposed rules about PFOS and PFOA that could be potentially harmful to the service providers in the state. He believes the new rules are too strict and based on an emotional overreaction to the Bennington case. He explained that Aaron is working on

arguing the case on behalf of Richmond that the rules are not achievable and there are high risks of false positives as well as high costs of additional treatment. Bard said it might be worth sending around links to the regulations and bill language to colleagues at VLCT and other towns.

Purchase Orders: Kendall presented purchase orders for loan payments. David Sander moved to approve Purchase Orders 3806-3813. Seconded by Fran Huntoon. All were in favor, so moved. David Sander moved to approve the Admin Support Purchase Order 3794, seconded by Christy Witters. All were in favor, so moved.

Minutes: David Sander moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Seconded by Christy Witters. All were in favor, so moved.

Next Agenda: CHMS extension

David Sander moved to adjourn, seconded by Christy Witters. All were in favor, so moved. Adjourned 6:58pm.