

**CENTRAL WYOMING REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM
JOINT POWERS BOARD**

MEETING PROCEEDINGS

May 28, 2003

A public meeting of the Regional Water System Joint Powers Board (JPB) was held Wednesday, May 28, 2003 at 6:00 PM, in the Joint Powers Board Conference Room, Regional Water Treatment Plant, 1500 SW Wyoming Boulevard, Casper, WY.

Board Members Present - Vice-Chairman Bertoglio, Secretary Lamb, Treasurer Jones, Board Members Haigler, Padgett, and Sjostrom. Chairman Dobos was absent.

City of Casper –Bertoglio, Padgett, Lamb, Peryam, David Hill

Natrona County – Haigler

Salt Creek Joint Powers Board – Jones

Wardwell Water & Sewer District – Sjostrom

Pioneer Water & Sewer District – Delane Baldwin

Poison Spider Improvement & Service District -

Wyoming Water Development Office –

Sandy Lakes Estates -

Lakeview Improvement & Service District -

33 Mile Road Improvement & Service District -

Central Wyoming Regional Water System - Steve Garner, John Naquin, Deena Hood, Janette Brown

Central Wyoming Groundwater Guardian Team (CWGG)-

Others – Brodie Farquar – Casper Star-Tribune, Don Chapin

The JPB meeting was called to order at 6:43 p.m.

1. Vice-Chairman Bertoglio announced that Chairman Dobos was absent and Delane Baldwin of Pioneer has his proxy.
2. Vice-Chairman Bertoglio asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2003 JPB meeting. Motion made by Board Member Padgett and seconded by Board Member Haigler to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2003 JPB meeting. Motion put and carried.

3. Vice-Chairman Bertoglio asked for a motion to approve the voucher listing handed out to the Board on this date to include voucher numbers 5286 through 5355 in the amount of \$1,124,033.51. Motion made by Secretary Lamb and seconded by Board Member Padgett to approve the vouchers. Board Member Sjostrom asked why there were repairs for the Explorer. Mr. Garner stated that there was an accident due to the last snowstorm. Treasurer Jones asked about voucher number 5523. Mr. Garner stated that the Groundwater Guardian Team hosts a barbeque for the residents of the Dempsey Acres area in September as part of their Wellhead Protection Program. Motion put and carried with Board Member Sjostrom abstaining on voucher 5343.
4. Mr. Garner asked the Board to reference the Financial Report on pages 7-13 of the agenda. He stated that he would answer any questions. There were no questions.
5. Mr. Garner asked Mr. John Naquin to give the Operations Update. Mr. Naquin stated that demand is up approximately 40 million gallons from the same time last year. Mr. Naquin stated that the Surface Plant started yesterday. Mr. Naquin also stated that daily production is at 24mgd. Mr. Garner stated that Operations are going well.
6. There was no public comment.
7. Old Business:
 - a) Mr. Garner stated that currently there is not a water call. He stated that if a call is made later in the season, it would probably be for 1945. Mr. Garner also stated that he received a phone call from the Bureau of Reclamation about the water that was purchased. The Bureau is returning \$67,500, which will be transferred to the General Reserve account. The Endangered Species fee of \$1,140 will not be returned. Mr. Garner stated that the City of Cheyenne has bought the water from the Bureau.
 - b) Mr. Garner stated that he received two proposals for the audit. He stated that his biggest concern for the audit is GASB 34. Mr. Garner stated that Lovlett, Skogen & Associates has more experience with GASB 34, and that Leo Riley & Co. has the lower proposal. Board Member Padgett asked Mr. Garner why he thought Lovelett, Skogen & Associates has more experience. Mr. Garner stated that they have clients that have implemented GASB 34. Vice-Chairman Bertoglio asked if Leo Riley has experience with water utilities. Mr. Garner stated that they are the auditors for Wardwell and other water and sewer entities. Mr. Garner stated that both organizations came to the plant and met with Ms. Brown, Ms. Hood and Mr. Garner. Each were given a copy of the last audit. After much discussion, Board Member Peryam moved to accept Lovelett, Skogen & Associates proposal for a three-year period. Seconded by Board Member Haigler. Board Member Sjostrom asked if the Board is bound to accept the lower bid. Mr. Chapin stated that the Board is not bound to accept the lower proposal for personal services. Motion put and

carried with Board Member Sjostrom voting against. Mr. Garner will contact Lovelett, Skogen & Associates with the Board's decision.

- c) Mr. Garner stated that he recently had a meeting with the Local Government Liability Pool Insurance and spoke to them about a price quote. Their price quote for liability insurance only is \$14,031. Mr. Garner stated that he is trying to get a price break down on the Board's current insurance policy. Mr. Garner stated that he left the budget figure for Property and Liability Insurance at \$70,000. He also stated that the current insurance policy has been cancelled effective October 1st. Board Member Sjostrom asked why the Board was dropped. Mr. Garner stated that water utilities are on the top ten list of Homeland Security and Insurance companies are dropping them at a fast rate.
 - d) In Other Old Business, Mr. Garner stated that he wished to congratulate Ms. Brown and Ms. Hood for a job well done on the Water Festival and thanked them for all their efforts. He stated that they will give a report on the Water Festival at the next meeting.
8. The Board decided not to take a 5-minute break.
9. New Business:

- a) Mr. Garner asked the JPB to reference the draft budget sheet. Mr. Garner reviewed the budget numbers with the Board. Mr. Garner stated that the Natural Gas line item was left at \$140,000. He stated that the pass along rate was chosen. Mr. Garner stated that the Water Purchase line item was put to zero, the refund from the Bureau of Reclamation will go to the General Reserve account and will be used next year if water must be purchased. Mr. Garner stated that he recommends a 3% cost of living increase on wages and salaries and suspend all merit increases for FY'04. The reduction in the budget is \$63,393, much of which was due to the water purchase. Mr. Garner stated that with this draft budget, Table 19 of the rate model shows a rate of \$1.19/thousand, which is a 9.2% increase with negative growth. Mr. Garner stated that approximately \$140,000 will be turned back at the end of the budget year, which will go into Rate Stabilization. Mr. Garner stated that he recommends the Board conceptually approve the rate and reaffirm the approval at the next Board meeting. Secretary Lamb made the motion to officially approve the rate at \$1.19 per thousand for FY'04. Seconded by Board Member Peryam. Motion put and carried.

Board Member Haigler made the motion to conceptually approve the proposed budget for FY'04 and to reaffirm the approval at the next Board meeting. Seconded by Board Member Peryam. Board Member Baldwin asked what was cut back on the wages with the 3% increase. Mr. Garner stated that merit based increases are suspended in FY'04 and he will ask the employees to accept this suspension for this year. Motion put and carried with Board Member Sjostrom voting against. Board Member Sjostrom asked Mr. Garner to get information from the Department of Labor on the cost of living increase for the region and nationally. Mr. Garner stated he will get the information for the next meeting.

- b) In Other new Business, Mr. Garner stated that Civil Engineering Professionals Inc. was selected as the engineer for the South Garden Creek Project.

Vice-Chairman Bertoglio stated that the Casper City Council will approve an agreement with Casper Alcova Irrigation District. He stated that the RWS will exercise the water if it is ever needed. He stated that the JPB will need to sit down with the City Council and review the agreement.

- 10. There was no Chairman's Report.

The motion was made by Board Member Padgett and seconded by Board Member Baldwin to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 PM. Motion put and carried.

The next regular meeting will be held on June 18, 2003 at 6:00 PM.

Secretary
