

**MINUTES  
MOAPA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
HELD  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2018**

**Agenda Item #2**

**PRESENT:**

Kenneth Staton  
Jon Blackwell  
Randy Tobler

Lindsey Dalley  
Ryan Wheeler  
Lon Dalley

Joe Davis  
Lon Dalley  
Bryan Mortensen

Susan Rose  
Jeannie Poynor

Byron Mills

Jed Wheeler - MV Contractors

Robert Cooper - MV Contractors

**ORDER OF BUSINESS:** At 4:00 p.m., Chairman Ken Staton called to order the regular meeting of the Moapa Valley Water District Board of Directors. The agenda items were addressed in the following order:

**1. Public Comment (May be limited to five minutes)**

Jed Wheeler and Robert Cooper were at the meeting to talk to the Directors about the bid for the Meadow Valley Wash project.

Jed explained that they had the low bid on the MV Wash project. They understand the budget concerns on the project. Jed feels like they put a good price together. Usually Trade West is dirt cheap and MV Contractors has a problem beating them on small jobs like this. When they were \$40,000 lower than Trade West, they were concerned at first. They looked at their bid & it has their name on it so they decided to go ahead and do it.

The concern is if we push it to next year because of budget constraints, is the increase in material pricing going to go up because of the tariffs imposed by Trump?

Jed said that it sounded like it was a real pain to go thru the Army Core of Engineers to get the permits. He didn't know if those expired or what it would take the District to get those renewed. Lastly, if the district does push it to next year, is there an opportunity for the District to just hold the project for MV Contractors because of the work they put into it? If it does get constructed in the next two years, is there a way for the District to keep MV Contractors on the project and then revisit the material pricing?

Joe Davis said that this is actually an agenda item. It will give us a chance to talk about it when we get to that item.

**2. Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting held August 9, 2018 (For Possible Action)**

On motion of Lindsey Dalley and seconded by Randy Tobler, the Board voted 5-0 in favor to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2018 meeting.

**3. ~~Reject all bids for the Meadow Valley Wash Project and instruct staff to explore alternative options (For Possible Action)~~**

Joe explained that when staff and Forsgren first sat down to talk about the MV Wash project, there was some unknowns in there so staff worked thru the permitting process with the Army Core of Engineers. What ultimately happened was they told us if we stay out of the bottom of the river we wouldn't need any permits. Sam with Forsgren figured it would cost about \$250/lf. We thought we might get a couple of boring companies that would come in and bid on the project but that didn't happen.

As staff worked thru the project we had some concerns with the two pipe products that are out there. HDPE is a good product and most people use it. With all of the problems we have with poly pipe (it's splitting from the inside out) and now the 8" HDPE they are using at Sand Hollow has had some major issues. It's doing the exact same thing ours is doing.

Staff decided it probably wouldn't be wise for us to go under the river that way so we changed our design halfway thru and looked at some other products that are out there. We decided to use ductile because we've used it for years and have never had an issue with it. It doesn't leak but the problem is it's more expensive.

We thought the bids would come in at \$200,000 - \$210,000. We went out for bid and had two bidders. We had one boring company that gave numbers to both of the bidders. We also had a mandatory pre-bid meeting. Since the job was only a bore job we didn't advertise anywhere but in the St. George Spectrum newspaper. We also put it in a plans room in Las Vegas.

We actually got a decent turnout (8 companies) for the pre-bid walk thru. We received two bids but \$300,000 is quite a bit more than what we budgeted for the project. We started looking at other options and there might be some other alternates we could do. Joe thought we would probably reject all the bids and try to figure out an alternative.

The three alternatives Joe thought of were 1<sup>st</sup>, try to re-budget it for next year, 2<sup>nd</sup> we could try to get a permit to dig thru the river bed. The water in there is actually tail water from a field but because of the Waters of the US, it turns it into a waterway and 3<sup>rd</sup>, we could just let it break and then go in there and fix it. If it breaks under an emergency situation, we just have to let the ACOE know that we fixed it.

There was quite a lot of discussion on what we should do.

On motion of Ryan Wheeler and seconded by Lindsey Dalley, the Board voted 5-0 in favor to table this item until next month in order to explore alternative options.

#### 4. **Manager's Reports**

**Office Manager** – Jeannie Poyner had the financial dashboard, the budget report and the revenues put in their packets. She explained that we're at 8.33% of the year but we're just one month into this fiscal year. It's kind of early in the year but the budget looks good so far. Revenues are up right now so that's good news.

Connections fees are above where we thought they would be right now. We budgeted \$6,000 for this year and we're already at \$10,500.

Cash flows are down because we had to make some debt payments.

**Assistant General Manager – 1) Production** - Lon Dalley explained that production is where it should be. We pumped 67,972,000 gallons out of Arrow Canyon #1 & 38,377,000 out of Baldwin for a total of 105,349,000 gallons. **2) Arrow Canyon Well #1 Well Level** – We've been keeping the well at 900 gpm to keep the well level consistent. **3) Meter Installs** – We sold six more meters last month (five residential and one commercial). We've sold 8 since then so that makes 24 so far this year. Most of the meters we've sold are in Valley Heights.

**General Manager – 1) Leak Detection** – The equipment was delivered. They field guys were trained on it so Mason has been going out and systematically putting it in our system. He started at the Breedlove zone. Putting things in perspective, we have 14 pressure zones. We will go thru and do one zone at a time. Three times a week Mason sets up the equipment on the valves, they kick on at night, listen for one hour and then kick off. The next day he picks them up, puts them in the truck, loads the data into the tablet and he reprograms it. He goes back out and puts out the next set. During that process if anything shows an anomaly, he'll dial in and replace the logger in there so he can track down what's going on. It will take quite a while to get thru the whole system. The problem we have is that we have a lot of areas that the valves are far apart. They should only be 500' apart or less so we are going to have to do some finagling to put some sounding ports out there so Mason can drop the equipment on them. It will take awhile to get them installed but once they're installed he can use them throughout the year. The equipment is actually really neat. **2) State Engineer Water Rights Meeting** – Jay Lazarus and Joe attended an HRT meeting hosted by the NV State Engineers office. Each participant was given 15 minutes to summarize what key points regarding science and data that we felt the State Engineer needed to understand. That was the mandate they sent out. We submitted a report when the 1169 test pump was done. We were very concise when we told them our opinion hasn't changed. The big thing that came out of it was that they definitely know that there's not going to be an easy consensus with the litigation that is going on between SNWA & CSI. Neither one of them said much in

the meeting. The State Engineer is still trudging forward. He has scheduled another meeting on September 19<sup>th</sup>.

He has invited all of the people involved in the HRT meetings, other individuals from the valley and also the Center for Biological Diversity. They haven't sent an agenda out yet; the only thing they said was that it will be limited to two members from each invited group. **3) Baldwin Springs** – The delivery date on the pumps has been pushed back a couple of weeks because the stainless steel and the colors were a little hard to get but they are ordered and are being manufactured. **4) Mining Claim Meter** – In the 1980's there were a whole lot of mining claims out there that individuals had purchased water for. All of those mining claims went defunct except for one. When they went defunct we couldn't lien the properties because they were on BLM land so we went in and removed the meters. This last meter was up in Moapa and was owned by Ron Schrieber. He has a mining claim which he has abandoned and he has stopped paying the bill and the bill is escalating. Joe asked Susan to send him a delinquent account letter which she did and the letter was returned unclaimed so we are going to remove the meter from the system. **5) Valve Exercise Equipment** – We've received the valve exercise equipment that we ordered. The guys took it out and tested it and its meeting expectations. It will help us keep our valves exercised. We have 1646 valves in our system. The field crew took the exerciser up to the reservation to do some valve exercising and it use to take two guys with 4' cheaters to turn the valves. With the exerciser they get those valves turned real fast and now you can turn them off with the key. It works great. **6) East Logandale Tank** – We had an independent tank inspection performed on the East Logandale Tank. We had that epoxy stuff put on the floor with that new process where they sandblast it and epoxy it under water. We wanted to see how it had held up. It was ok except on the edge where the paint ties into the other paint. It has rust rings all the way around it. It's hard to get in there and blend it in. The inspectors said that we are probably going to have to do a blast and a recoat in the next 1-3 years. We were hoping we were going to be able to save ourselves money by not having to take the tank offline but that doesn't look like that's going to be viable. If we take it offline, it would really help to have Yamashita and Gubler put in. That would give us another avenue to get the water across the valley so we can take the tank offline.

**5. Public Comment**

None

**6. Director's Preference**

- Review Monthly Expenditures
- Litigation (Closed-Door Session)

Randy Tobler disclosed that he has an interest in a small business that is on the monthly expenditures list.

On motion of Chairman Staton and seconded by Jon Blackwell the Board voted 5-0 to call a closed-door session at 4:25 p.m.

On motion of Chairman Staton and seconded by Ryan Wheeler the Board voted 4-0 to reconvene the open-door session at 5:35 p.m.

**7. Personnel (Closed-Door Session)**

**8. Approval of the September 13, 2018 Board Meeting**

The general consensus was to hold the next Board meeting on October 9, 2018 at 4 p.m.

**9. Public Comment (May be limited to five minutes)**

None

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**10. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm.