

Tualatin Valley Water District



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
1850 SW 170th AVENUE
BEAVERTON, OR 97006
WORK SESSION
MARCH 13, 2012
6:00 PM

Present: Commissioners: President Dick Schmidt, Richard Burke, Jim Duggan, and Marilyn McWilliams (Jim Doane was absent)

Management

Staff: Greg DiLoreto, Paul Matthews, Mark Knudson, Todd Heidgerken, Patty Rupp, Brenda Lennox

Legal

Counsel: Clark Balfour – Cable Huston Benedict

Staff: Tod Burton, Justin Carlton

President Schmidt called the Work Session to order at 6:00 p.m.

RATE DESIGN WORKSHOP #2 (PowerPoint Presentation Attached)

Manager of the Office of Community and Intergovernmental Relations, Todd Heidgerken explained that this is the second Tualatin Valley Water District (TVWD) workshop regarding the Rate Design Study. He then gave the floor to Chief Financial Officer, Paul Matthews.

Mr. Matthews provided a PowerPoint presentation and several scenarios of the rate design were presented to the Board.

Prior Scenarios:

- Status Quo
- \$2 increase in bi-monthly fixed charge
- Cost of service fixed charges
- Cost of service fixed charges with allowance for private fireline
- 25% revenue from fixed charges

Board Requested Scenarios:

- 3-year phase in to cost of service fixed charges
- 3-year phase in to cost of service fixed charges with allowance for private fireline

Following the presentation, Mr. Matthews and staff answered general questions of the Board.

In closing, Mr. Matthews explained the next steps:

- Present rate study draft reports to the Board at the April 18 Board meeting
- Present Rate Study final report at the May 16 Board meeting
- Present Rate Resolution at the July 18 Board meeting
- If adopted, Rates and Charges would become effective October 1, 2012

BOARD MEETING PUBLIC COMMENT PROCESS

During the January Board meeting, Commissioner Doane expressed interest in holding a discussion regarding the public comment process used during TVWD Board meetings. Commissioner Doane’s comments are included in the Work Session agenda packet. The primary issue revolves around the use of the public comment period on topics that are not germane to the work of TVWD. In addition, statements offered during either an agenda item or public comment period that are potentially defamatory, or in which the facts are in question. An additional situation might involve comments that could be considered electioneering in nature.

Mr. Heidgerken covered the current approach. He indicated that Board meetings are recorded for each meeting (both by audio tape and by DVD). The recordings are then broadcast on public access television and made available on the TVWD website. A live audio stream is accessible over the internet as well. The video recording and editing is provided by Tualatin Valley Community Television (public access TV) which includes graphics and captions during the meeting. The DVD is provided to TVWD directly after the conclusion of the meetings.

Mr. Heidgerken explained that although Commissioner Doane was not able to attend this Work Session, he had asked that the Board proceed with the discussion. Changes that might eliminate the inclusion of public testimony would require the Board to amend Article 1.10.100 of the Board Policy Handbook during a future Board meeting.

A discussion took place amongst the Board and staff. Commissioner McWilliams suggested adding a caption reading that the opinions of the speaker are their own. Commissioner Duggan expressed that this should “go without saying”.

Commissioner Schmidt suggested allowing 5 minutes for comment on agenda items, and 3 minutes for comments regarding topics not on the agenda.

Commissioner Burke suggested that public comment should be given by a District resident. He suggested that a check box be added to the Blue Public Communications form for citizens to mark stating that they are a resident of the District.

Consensus of the Board was to revise the Blue Public Comment form as suggested by Commissioner Burke, and should six or more citizens wish to speak, comment time would be limited to three minutes as suggested by President Schmidt.

Mr. Heidgerken indicated that this would be brought before the Board for consideration at the March 21 Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Without objection, President Schmidt adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUALATIN VALLEY WATER DISTRICT**

BY: _____
Dick Schmidt, President

BY: _____
Jim Duggan, Secretary

Date Approved: April 18, 2012