

PRESENT: B. Baines, J. Grant (arr 4:03 PM), P. Jensen, Mayor B. Leff, K. Stevens, G. Wakeman

STAFF: D. Bartoldus, M. Bauman, City Recorder M. Meagher, City Attorney P. Gintner,
WWTP Operator G. Walls, City Superintendent B. Weidner

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM. Mayor Leff introduced the new City Recorder, Melanie Meagher, and asked everyone to identify themselves. She also offered to provide Gleneden Sanitary District (GSD) with a copy of the recorded meeting; they said receiving copies of the minutes was sufficient.

II. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- City of Depoe Bay's Proposed Budgeted Capital Items Pertaining to the Joint Agreement Weidner indicated there is a capacity issue with the biosolids storage tanks when the weather is too wet to haul. There was discussion regarding potential ways to deal with the situation. GSD was not anxious for the City's planned expenditure to purchase a press. A suggestion was made for the City to investigate contracting with a neighboring city to use their press. There were contentious comments from Baines. Mayor Leff asked him to calm down and let Walls speak. Walls said there would be costs associated with such an arrangement, including trucking the biosolids, cost per gallon for processing, cost to haul it off, and cost to dispose. He said Newport would charge 25 cents a gallon to process, it would cost 10 cents a gallon to get it there, plus hauling and disposal charges. He estimated the cost would be close to 50 cents a gallon, which would be around \$400,000 for processing and disposal of 800,000 gallons. He also said that Lincoln City has an anaerobic process, which is different from Depoe Bay's aerobic process, and the treatment is different. They would have to reconfigure their system to process our biosolids. A GSD representative questioned the capacity issue. Walls said if he can't haul by May 15, Depoe Bay's system would exceed its capacity. There were more contentious comments from Baines. Mayor Leff said the meetings might have been contentious but were also polite and courteous until Baines came, and asked him to keep his voice down. There was additional discussion regarding hauling cost. Walls said it would cost 10 times as much as what we are doing now, which costs around \$60,000 per year to haul to Siletz. He said it's not DEQ that will stop us hauling to Siletz, it's the neighbors' complaining. He said the Agreement says any portion of the treatment plant that exceeds 85% of its capacity triggers discussion for expanding the plant and getting another bond. Grant noted that the voters would have to approve a bond. Walls said we have reached over 85% of our biosolids capacity. He asked GSD if they wanted to expand the plant, and said we still have eight years on our bond. He said there isn't a footprint large enough at the plant to install a temporary storage tank and still have room for future expansion of the plant; Mayor Leff added the press that is in the budget is a solution to the situation. There was additional discussion regarding the disposal site and how long we might be able to continue using it. Walls said if he can't haul by May 15, he could drain an aeration basin and put biosolids in there; Weidner commented that would only buy some time. Walls added that would cut his tank capacity in half. He said it's an unorthodox thing to do. Mayor Leff asked GSD if they agreed that Walls' plan was a viable short-term crisis solution; they responded that they trusted Depoe Bay's professional opinion. GSD's question was whether purchasing this \$300,000 press was the most economical way to solve the problem; Bartoldus said they have never seen the numbers, the analysis, or options that have been looked for, and this is one of their concerns because they're being asked to come up with a large sum of money in a short period of time. He said it would help if it was in writing. Baines said GSD would like to make sure this is the last time

they have to go to their voters for a capital expenditure. Baines said GSD is going to the voters for a rate increase to take care of some big things in their collection system, which is rotting out because things were neglected in the mid-70s. He said the GSD system is twice the size (in miles) of Depoe Bay's collection system, and they have many more pumps and many more connections in many little housing districts and mobile home parks, and they are having to clean it up. He said it's the second time in seven years they have gone to the voters for a big rate increase and they have egg all over their face. He said they really need to have some engineering on the press, and to know what the growth rate is. Mayor Leff said that was a fair question, and that Depoe Bay is in the beginning of the project, and wanted the money in the Budget. She said there is a good chance we won't buy it this year, that we might just do the engineering and design work this year. She said there will be plenty for GSD to look at as Depoe Bay moves forward. Jensen said GSD was not expecting to see the proposed budget of \$609,000. He said delaying the purchase this year would give GSD time to sort out how to fund the screw press. Wakeman clarified that their rate increase has already been approved by their Board. Grant said there's always a chance an engineer might see a different solution. Walls said when he proposed this, he stated it was a 12-to-18-month project, and it would take six months just for them to build the machine. He suggested addressing the issue proactively. Baines said in a previous life he bought and sold many presses, and he also used to work in the sheet metal industry and knows dealers of presses that have been surplused from plants that have closed. He said if he had specifications he might be able to find something that could match up very closely with what Depoe Bay might need, and have it retro-fitted. Mayor Leff asked for names for Depoe Bay to research; Baines said he would need specifications first. Walls said he will be meeting with an engineer on Wednesday.

- Gleneden Sanitary District Request – Copied on All Communications (sent/received) between City of Depoe Bay and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Jensen and Mayor Leff agreed that this item had already been discussed. Jensen said it was brought up at the last meeting that GSD would like to change the way they are billed. They find the EDU (Equivalent Dwelling Unit) rate has not proven favorable for the past four-five years or 10-12 years. When they look at flow, they are consistently below 58%. He said they are typically they are at 55% or lower for the past 10 years. Mayor Leff asked Meagher if this was part of the study she is putting together; Meagher responded her study was not based on flows. Mayor Leff asked her to do the same work, based on flows, and compare the two. Jensen said the ideal situation would be instead of doing a percentage each month or each six months, to charge a dollar amount per thousand gallons. This will be discussed after the analysis is complete.

Mayor Leff asked if there were any other items for discussion. Jensen asked how soon the harbor project would be started; Mayor Leff said nothing would happen until the budget process is complete. There was brief discussion. Weidner said he needed to give DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality) an I&I (Inflow and Infiltration) report about what we're doing and what we've got planned, and GSD's information needs to be integrated into our report. Walls said our report was filed in February, without GSD input. A GSD representative said they did some TV work and smoke testing, and found problems with a process they're working on now. GSD will provide input that Weidner will send to DEQ. GSD asked for an annual reminder to be sent in December so they can gather the information for the report. The next meeting will be on July 25.

III. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 4:45 PM.

Emma LuMaye
Recording Secretary (transcribed from audio)