

**OLYMPIC VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT
WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE MEETING
DATE: MAY 25, 2023**

Directors Present: Director Cox,* Director Smolen

*Participated via noticed teleconference.

Staff Present: Jessica Asher, Board Secretary; Brandon Burks, Operations Manager; Mike Geary, General Manager; Aline Henriksen, Administrative Assistant; Dave Hunt, District Engineer.

Others Present: None.

A Call to order: 8:30 A.M.

B Public comment: None.

C Adopting Revisions to the District Administrative Code Chapter 1 – Water Code: The committee reviewed the item and voiced support of Ordinance 2023-03 revising the drought planning elements of the District’s Water Code.

Mr. Hunt reviewed the staff report provided as Exhibit F-5 of the May 30, 2023 Board Meeting. The proposed revisions update Sections 3.20 through 3.23 of Division III of the Water Code addressing the District’s water conservation standards. The purpose of the revisions is to better align the District’s water conservation program with current standards and regulatory requirements, as well as support the implementation of the Water Management Action Plan (WMAP).

As a water supplier serving less than 1,000 customers (approximately 850), the District is required to add drought planning elements to its water conservation program. While the District is not required to adopt a water supply contingency plan (WSCP) or abridged WSCP, staff referred to those guidelines in determining how best to amend the Water Code.

The WMAP defines the need to revise the District’s water conservation ordinance to ensure that appropriate conservation stages are tied to specific preemptive climate based triggers and aquifer performance triggers based on groundwater levels.

There was a brief discussion about master metering vs individual meters for multi-family, hotel, and condominium properties. Staff said that most properties with primarily commercial operations, such as Eveline Resort, are master metered while the others are individually metered.

Staff clarified that the PSD is accountable for the water reductions within the District’s system and is able to enforce the proposed code with District customers, but is not responsible or accountable for private pumpers. The WMAP would address best practices for all the aquifer pumpers, while the code is specific to PSD customers.

The District has always operated on the premise that we are best suited to managing our water rather than County or State partners, and feels that having a collaborative and cooperative plan with the other Valley pumpers is critical to keeping that authority. This is the premise for the Olympic Valley Groundwater Management Plan. As such, the proposed code revisions are designed to align with the State's water conservation program without significantly changing the Districts water management and operational practices.

The code proposes four stages of water conservation which staff believes will allow the District to shift conservation stages carefully without too much granularity, will work with our operational needs, and will align well with the stages in the WMAP. Mr. Hunt reviewed each change, summarized in the revision matrix which was included in the board exhibit. There is also a "crosswalk" in the revised water code that compares the State's six stages with the District's four stages.

Staff clarified that the District works with commercial entities regarding adherence to public health codes (for example for water turnover in pools) but requests delaying water-use intensive and non-critical maintenance, when in drought conditions.

The Directors said the revisions seem very reasonable, align well with the State guidance, and they do not anticipate consistent push-back given the nature of the changes. The Directors thanked staff for their efforts.

Mr. Geary briefly discussed the important of the emergency intertie project with a water provider that relies on water from Martis Valley. He noted that the Project will be politically and economically challenging and will require significant staff time when pursued. However, he believes that due to our infrastructure isolation it must be a priority.

D Adjourn: No further business coming before the Water and Sewer Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 AM.

By, JA/DH