

WATER ADVISORY BOARD MINUTE RECORD
The City of San Angelo
Wednesday, May 13, 2015

OPEN SESSION

BE IT REMEMBERED the Water Advisory Board convened in a meeting at 10:03 a.m., Wednesday, May 13, 2015, in the San Angelo McNease Convention Center, 501 Rio Concho Drive, San Angelo, Texas.

Board members present were Chuck Brown, Kendall Hirschfeld, Ben Wiese, Steve Floyd, Mike Boyd, Jonathan Jennings and Roland Pena. Staff members present were Bill Riley and Ann Pierce. Whereupon, the following business was transacted:

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Riley, as the Secretary of the Board and only officer current, called the meeting to order. He then stated that, on the behalf of the City, he expressed his appreciation for the willingness of the members to serve on the board and work together on the issues ahead.

Election of officers: Kendall Hirschfeld made a motion to nominate Mike Boyd as Chairman and it was seconded by Steve Floyd. The motion carried unanimously.

Ronald Pena made a motion to nominate Ben Wiese as the Vice-chairman and it was seconded by Kendall Hirschfeld. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Boyd gave the opportunity for anyone present to come forward for public comment; there was none.

REGULAR AGENDA: PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT

The first item was the adoption of By-laws. One correction was recommended by Mr. Hirschfeld on Page 2, Section 3, that the quorum should state that it should include at least four "voting" members. A motion was made by Mr. Wiese to adopt the By-laws as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hirschfeld. The motion carried unanimously.

HICKORY UPDATE GIVEN BY BILL RILEY

Mr. Riley began by giving an overview of the status of the Hickory groundwater project. The project which consists of 15 groundwater wells is nearing completion. Nine wells are completed and producing. The remaining six wells are almost complete, with final completion expected in November of this year. The well field pump station is almost complete but is

mostly operational at this time. The Groundwater Treatment Facility which removes both iron and radium is completed and in start-up at this time.

Discussion centered around the 1996 court order providing for the amount of water that the City of San Angelo could produce from the well field on an annual basis. The order allowed for the "banking" of water that was not produced. Currently, the City has approximately 40,000 acre feet of water banked for future use.

Mr. Hirschfeld asked if we were using the Hickory water today. Mr. Riley stated that the plant is on-line and we are using it. As long as we have available surface water, we anticipate only using the Hickory at about a million gallons a day and that's only because the WRT Vessels need to stay wet, so it has to operate continuously. It was also discussed that if the City had to rely solely on the Hickory water, we would not be able to meet all of the City's needs on a daily basis.

Mr. Hirschfeld asked if the six new wells had been tested and if the flow rate is what we were anticipating. Mr. Riley said they had been tested and the flow rates were good and seem to improve with the more westward wells.

Discussion of other water resources.

Conservation:

Mr. Riley briefly discussed ongoing conservation efforts.

West Texas Water Partnership:

The West Texas Water Partnership is a partnership between the cities of San Angelo, Abilene, and Midland to collectively explore the possibilities of a long term water supply. The partnership is active and these efforts are ongoing.

Red Arroyo:

The Red Arroyo is a project that is currently being studied to determine the feasibility of diverting the Red Arroyo water into a constructed basin. Discussion was held concerning the need for additional study to determine the cost effectiveness of the project as well as installing flow gauges in the Arroyo to understand exactly how much water could be expected to be captured under certain rain events. Monitoring wells are currently being installed to measure groundwater levels and will probably need a full 12 months through all the seasons to fully understand the data. Additional discussion was held on the studies conducted to evaluate this project and potential water rights issues.

Reclaimed Water:

The last item Mr. Riley discussed was reclaimed water. The City embarked on a reuse study approximately a year ago to look at taking the water from the wastewater stream and putting that through an Ultrafiltration / Reverse Osmosis process and then reusing it. The study has been completed and we would like to bring it back to the Board at the next meeting and have

that presentation given by the consultants. Mr. Hirschfeld stated that Big Spring is utilizing that process now, and asked how the State feels about permitting these projects. Mr. Riley stated that the State sees this as real water available to solve some of the needs in areas that water is scarce and doesn't think there will be any problems at all to get it permitted. Conversation continued with discussion of the similar projects in Big Spring, Abilene and Wichita Falls. The question was asked whether the water would be put back in the lake or in the river or to take it back into the treatment facility. Mr. Hirschfeld commented that if the water was put back into the lake we would be opening the door for turning all that water that we've cleaned into waters of the State. Mr. Riley said that the best way to avoid that is to not do it. Mr. Riley stated that the draft report is completed and he would like to have the consultants present that to the board on June 3rd, if everyone is available. Mr. Jennings asked about the cost of the water per acre foot. Mr. Riley said he did not know that answer, but this project is about the same cost as the Hickory water. Mr. Riley also informed the Board that the City is conducting a rate study to ensure financial stability of the water utility and hoped to be bringing that to the board for a recommendation in late June or early July.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Michael Boyd at 11:07 a.m. and seconded by Steve Floyd. The motion carried unanimously.

THE CITY OF SAN ANGELO
WATER ADVISORY BOARD



Mike Boyd, Chairman

ATTEST:



Bill Riley, Secretary