

**OTTER ROCK WATER DISTRICT**  
*Approved* MEETING MINUTES  
Board Work Session – January 26, 2021

BECAUSE OF A RECORDING ERROR, ONLY THE LATTER HALF OF THIS MEETING WAS RECORDED. THESE WRITTEN MINUTES ARE THE OFFICIAL MINUTES FOR THIS MEETING. IN ADDITION, THE PARTIAL RECORDING WILL BE POSTED ON THE DISTRICT WEBSITE.

A. Call to Order via ZOOM:

The Board Work Session of the Otter Rock Water District Board was held on January 26, 2021 via ZOOM. The meeting convened at 6:06 PM with Commissioner Elliker presiding.

B. Roll Call:

a) Members In Attendance: Commissioners Hall, Backenstow, Anderson, Gleason and Elliker

b) Members not in attendance: none

c) Staff Members Present: none

d) Public in Attendance: Dale Powers, Jerry Davis, Alan and Wendy Niem, Stan and Patti Hart, Consuelo and Tom Kammerer, Michael Mullin, Daren Linker, Dana Taylor, Amelia O'Connor, Don Chapin, Tim Gross, Keven Shreeve

C) Special statement from the board

With the agreement of all board members, commissioner Anderson read a statement regarding board communication:

"The commissioners of your water district have heard some very valid criticisms lately of the way we have been doing our jobs as well as relating each other and to you. 2020, with CoVid, caring for our own health and that of our families, problems with positive coliform and e-coli tests, and urgent infrastructure needs have pressured all of us. We had not realized how stressful it had become to manage district business via text, email and zoom. We now see that this has created distrust in our neighborhood. We have big decisions to make that must be made with your input and support. This evening, each of us pledges to do better at working together and with you, our community."

D) Agreement to conditions of a possible donation from Cape Foulweather Sanitary District

The board of the Cape Foulweather Sanitary District proposed a donation to the water district at their board meeting on January 21. The sanitary CFSD board requested that two water district board members attend their meeting and sign an agreement on behalf of the ORWD board. The funds were only to be used for construction of the new chlorination facility, and there were other conditions regarding accountability and transparency. Shortly before that meeting, a concern came up regarding two water district board members signing on behalf of the entire board without formal discussion and approval. The CFSD board agreed to wait until the ORWD board could meet and discuss the agreement. The CFSD board will then decide whether they want to proceed with the donation at their next meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Backenstow, to authorize two board members to accept the donation and sign the agreement on behalf of the Otter Rock Water District at the next Cape Foulweather Sanitary District meeting.

Hall Yes / Backenstow Yes / Anderson Yes / Gleason Yes / Elliker Yes  
Motion passed.

E) FEMA infrastructure grant

Timothy Gross and Keven Shreeve from Civil West Engineering presented information about the process of applying for a HMGP-FEMA grant to pay for a portion of our proposed infrastructure project. Civil West has experience writing grants for other municipalities. There is a possibility that the district could apply as a sub grantor for a grant through a hazard mitigation grant available to the state. The grant is aimed at reducing fire hazards, and some components of the district's proposed infrastructure project might qualify - specifically the replacement tank and larger main distribution line to the community- would increase water pressure and fire flow. The process is very involved and the timeline is long, however. Most districts and municipalities hire a consultant firm to assist in the process. Mr. Gross said that the time and expense typically required does not differ a great deal regardless of the size of the project.

The board agreed to schedule a phone conference with the State Hazard Mitigation Officer as soon as possible to get a better idea of what might realistically be available before proceeding further with a grant application.

F) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Submitted by Commissioner Elliker and Commissioner Gleason