

5-2-1- DRAINAGE AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD

February 27, 2008

Grand Junction City Hall, Executive Conference Room
Grand Junction, Colorado

Chairman Jim Doody called roll of the Board Members.

Board Members Present:

Jim Doody, Chairman	City of Grand Junction
Dave Karisny	City of Fruita
Dave Walker	Town of Palisade
Steve Acquafresca	Mesa County Commissioner
Richard Bowman	Grand Junction Drainage District

Also Present:

Eileen List (Grand Junction Environmental Services Manager), **Julie Constan** (Mesa County Engineering), **Sandy Perry** (Mesa County Human Resources), **John Ballagh** (Grand Valley Drainage District, Manager), **Trent Prall** (Grand Junction Assistant City Manager), **Clint Kinney** (Fruita City Manager), **Larry Beckner** (Attorney for the 5-2-1 Drainage Authority), **Yvonne Charlesworth** (5-2-1 Drainage Authority Recording Secretary), **Vohnnie Pearson**, Citizen

Chairman Jim Doody opened the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Tilman Bishop was recognized for all the work he put into the 5-2-1 Drainage Authority, for his contribution to the formation of the 5-2-1 Drainage Authority during the year 2006, and was presented with a plaque commemorating his contribution.

The discussion regarding the Manager position was put before all other business. The County HR Department recognized that there are very few applicants for the Manager's position, with only 2 qualified local applicants at this time. There are rumors that there will be 2 more very qualified applicants before the application period expires on Friday. Due to the type of position it is, someone of the best caliber is needed.

The DATS group will screen the applicants to make sure only those best qualified will come before the Board for an interview. There will be a DATS meeting a week from today when the Technical Staff will go through the current applications and make a determination if the applicants should be interviewed by the Board. Recommendations to the Board can be made next week. If a qualified applicant is not secured this time, the job may need to be posted a second time.

The job has been posted in several industry-specific magazines as well as the newspapers in the cities of Denver, Salt Lake, and Grand Junction. It was decided that the only way a qualified person will be found is if advertising is limited to industry-specific publications.

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Advertising in other more general job posting sites may only bring more unqualified applicants.

The level of response was questioned. Engineers and Planners are in great demand in the state at this time because of the growth being experienced state-wide. The problem is that we are competing with other drainage authorities in the state for this type of position at this time. The feeling was that perhaps those unsuccessful applicants for these other jobs may then be available to apply for this position if it has to be re-advertised. The County HR representative stated that the salary is competitive.

Mesa County HR Department works from a standardized list of questions they ask the applicants. The Mesa County Engineering Department also has a list of questions that may be used. Because the management portion of the job is critical, it was stated that the questions need to also address this aspect of the position. It is critical that the right person be hired the first time.

Sandy Perry, Mesa County HR Department, excused herself from the meeting.

Agenda:

Chairman Jim Doody asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Richard Bowman made the motion with the change that was made to accommodate Mesa County HR. Dave Walker seconded the motion. Motion passed on voice vote.

Minutes:

Chairman Jim Doody asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of January 23, 2008. Steve Acquafresca made the motion to accept the minutes as presented. Dave Karisny seconded the motion. Motion passed on voice vote.

Financial Report:

John Ballagh reviewed the January 2008 financials. The 5-2-1 Drainage Authority is solvent with money in the bank, and the bills are paid. The bank account will continue to have a \$30,000 balance until the URS contract is paid, because their monthly billings are around that amount. It was recognized that we are foregoing interest on this amount monthly because of the need to have the money to pay the URS bills in a timely manner. The reissued check to SDA was required in order to take a 25% discount on the payment of the bill in a timely manner. All items are within budget and there is money to pay the bills.

John Ballagh announced that the web site is up and running. The web site address is 521drainageauthority.org

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Jim Doody asked for a motion to accept the financials. Dave Walker made the motion. Richard Bowman seconded it. Motion passed on voice vote.

Reports:

The draft report on the Lewis Wash Basin Master Plan was received and is in the process of being reviewed for completeness. The City of Grand Junction Utility Engineer is reviewing a copy. Once a final draft is received, it will be forwarded to the Colorado Water Conservation Board. Besides receiving hard copies of the report, the Authority will also be given two discs. The Board requested copies of the report to be taken back to their respective boards. John Ballagh stated that URS is doing a great job. They have asked to come and make a presentation to the Board. It was suggested that the presentation be scheduled for the annual meeting in March.

The Orchard Mesa Floodplain Study RFQ generated eight good submittals. URS declined to submit an RFQ because they review pre-disaster mitigations for FEMA and there was a requirement in the RFQ that provided for the submittal of FEMA pre-disaster requirements. Next time the RFQ will be broken into two steps, one to study the floodplain, and another to provide disaster mitigation if the situation calls for that part. Technical Staff has gone over the RFQ's and four of the team members have rated the same company as number one, with the other team member rating them as number two. It was determined that if one company was chosen above the others that the envelope containing the cost to do the study be opened. The cost from this company was quite a bit higher than it needs to be. Some of the work they were quoting has already been done and will be supplied to them, resulting in a cut in the cost to do the work. Other possible cuts will be negotiated. The consultant chosen has a good reputation for studies of this size. Present funding includes \$125,000 budgeted, plus \$25,000 committed by the Colorado Water Conservation Board.

Other studies in line for the next go around are Adobe Wash and Big Salt Wash. The flooding on Adobe wash may put it ahead of Big Salt Wash. It takes very little precipitation to make Adobe Wash flood. Pictures of the last flood were circulated. John Ballagh stated he already has a draft RFQ started for Adobe Wash.

Action Items:

Annual Meeting date to be set:

The suggestion was made that the annual meeting coincide with the next regular Board meeting in March. Steve Acquafresca offered a room in the County Courthouse if there are any available. We need to place an ad in the newspaper. URS will be invited as will staffers from Senator Ken Salazar's office. The Board was asked to invite their fellow elected officials. Dave Karisny presented a letter that was written to the 2005 state Senator. This letter will be referenced with Senator Salazar's invitation.

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Dave Karisny made the motion that the annual meeting be held March 26, 2008, in conjunction with the regular monthly meeting at the County's facility. Steve Acquafresca seconded the motion. The motion passed on voice vote.

Service IGA with Mesa County:

The final draft of the Mesa County IGA for services was passed around. The Attorney for Mesa County has expressed his concurrence with Larry Beckner, Attorney for the 5-2-1 Drainage Authority, as to the substance of the IGA. Larry Beckner said eight drafts are enough for finalization of this document. He feels it is a great agreement. The escape clause was his big concern and the IGA has one. The document is flexible regarding accounting and can be done by the 5-2-1 Drainage Authority or Mesa County. The IGA is an annual document but will not coincide with the calendar year for the first term. It can be made to coincide with the calendar year for all future agreements executed.

Specifics addressed in the IGA include the following points: if the 5-2-1 Drainage Authority doesn't use up the entire contribution amount from Mesa County, a check will be cut to the 5-2-1 Drainage Authority at the end of the year for the balance. There is a provision for the County not being able to bill the 5-2-1 Drainage Authority for going over their contribution amount unless it is reviewed and approved by the Board. The Board requested a quarterly review of finances and hours contributed. This will enable the 5-2-1 Drainage Authority Manager to set up a budget for 2009. The expenses will mostly be uniform because staff payroll is basically the only expense to be encountered. As staff is not yet on board, the \$237,732 Mesa County contribution in 2008 mentioned in the agreement will not likely be spent.

Although the Manager will be a County employee, he or she will only be working on 5-2-1 Drainage Authority work. Everyone will be striving for a separation of the two entities as soon as possible. The 5-2-1 Drainage Authority needs to stand-alone prior to a utility fee being implemented.

Chairman Jim Doody asked for a motion to approve the IGA. Dave Karisny made the motion. Richard Bowman seconded it. The motion passed by voice vote.

Discussion Item:

Implementation steps for the 5-2-1 Drainage Authority to take over the NPDES Phase II Stormwater Permit:

The annual reports for 2007 are due March 10. Each entity will start 2008 with their own permits until the 5-2-1 Drainage Authority Manager is hired. The Manager will apply for March 21, 2008

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one permit and all the others will be discontinued. The state has been advised and is expecting this to occur. Once the single permit is in place, three other entities will be invited to join the 5-2-1 Drainage Authority. These entities are School District 51, Orchard Mesa Irrigation, and Grand Valley Water Users Association. There will be many issues to work out when this occurs, including funding and whether or not each entity would have a seat on the Board. The 5-2-1 Drainage Authority would need state approval of these other entities joining the group. The cost of the permit will remain the same.

Presentation of Construction Permit Fees to building groups:

Julie Constan made a presentation to AMGD. They understood the need, but were not thrilled at the aspect of paying construction permit fees. They were presented with both a tiered and a flat fee. There was no feedback. It was received well because they realized it was coming. There are three other meetings set up for March for Associated Builders Corporation, Home Builders Association & Western Colorado Contractors Association.

Read Ahead:

The draft IGA for each entity for provision of services to the 5-2-1 Drainage Authority to apply for and hold a single NPDES Phase II Stormwater Permit for the Authority members was passed around.

Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Jim Doody, Chairman

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