

**MINUTES**  
**MOAPA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF BOARD MEETING**  
**HELD**  
**THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 2012**

**PRESENT:** Kenneth Staton  
Jonathan Blackwell, Absent  
Randy Tobler

Joe Davis  
Bryan Mortensen

Vernon Robison, MV Progress

Lindsey Dalley  
Scott Carson

Susan Rose  
Jeannie Poynor

Tom & Elizabeth Taylor

**ORDER OF BUSINESS:** At 4:00 p.m., Chairman Ken Staton called to order the regular meeting of the Moapa Valley Water District Board of Directors. The agenda items were addressed in the following order:

**1. Public Comment (May be limited to five minutes)**

Mr. & Mrs. Taylor were at the meeting because as Mr. Taylor explained, they have had a problem that's been going on since they moved here in 1994. They are getting serious hammering from high pressure which blows their sprinklers apart. This has happened to their neighbors as well. He has heard that there are people in the valley that have the opposite problem. He wanted to know if there was a possibility of taking the high pressure areas and the low pressure areas and merging them together so everyone has the same pressure.

Bryan Mortensen said that we could even out everyone's pressure but we would have to install a new line which would cost millions of dollars so the District's answer to the problem was to install PRV's for everyone whose pressure was high. The Taylors are actually coming off a transmission main instead of a lateral.

Joe Davis explained that the reason that there is a pressure problem is that we have almost a 300' drop in the elevation from one end of the valley to the other. Those living at the upper end will have lower pressure and those living in the lower end will have higher pressure. The sand hills are higher in elevation than the lower valley. The line that the Thomas's are on is the East Logandale line and that line is the one that feeds the tank. In order to fill the tank, it has to be at a certain pressure. From the tank it gravity feeds down to the lower elevations. We do have pressure regulators on that line. If we were to just let the water flow without breaking the pressure, it would be up around 260-270 psi. We have a PRV on the outskirts of Logandale where we break the pressure down to 65 lbs. We have to keep it at that for the tank to fill. Skyline, Dunn and Jensen Streets are all in high pressure zones. It's a hydraulic problem and unfortunately it's not cost effective to break the pressure at every residence.

Mr. Taylor said that he doesn't have problem with 65 lbs but he does have a problem with the hammering that occurs at over 200 lbs. It literally blows his sprinkler valves apart.

Bryan told Mr. Taylor that there is an area in his neighborhood where people are stealing water. We have been trying to catch them for a long time. They hookup to the hydrant and since they're trying not to get caught they turn it on and turn it off really fast. That causes hammering.

Joe explained that our system is setup so that if the pressure rises, our staff will get a notification on their phones that we are having a spike but that only happens if our system has a spike. The gentleman that's at the end of the Taylor's street is stealing water. We've had employees that have been watching that hydrant for a long time. They've even been up there trying to catch him when they're off the clock. We've asked residents in the area to call us if they see him using the hydrant but we haven't heard from anyone. We want to catch him because it causes leaks in our system also.

Mr. Taylor said that he has seen people using the hydrant on Whipple so he thought they were the ones causing the water hammering.

Joe told the Taylor's that we would put a pressure recorder close to their house so that we could monitor what's going on in their neighborhood.

Bryan assured Mr. Taylor that we would see what we could do to help them.

**2. Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting held May 17, 2012 (for possible action)**

On motion of Randy Tobler and seconded by Lindsey Dalley, the Board voted 4-0 in favor to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held May 17, 2012.

**3. MVHS Boys Soccer Team- Donation – Janet Leming (for possible action)**

No one was present at the meeting to request a donation for the MVHS Boys Soccer Team.

**4. Secondary Water System – Phase 1 (for discussion only)**

Joe explained to the Directors that around four years ago the previous Board created a program that allowed people in the valley with small parcels to lease our MVIC shares so that we could help keep the valley green. This is a five year program that is supposed to end in October 2013. Joe wanted to see if the Board would like to change the program or to leave it as is. He has spoken with Scott Millington at MVIC and Scott has spoken with his Board about the program. The irrigation company doesn't see it as a hindrance or a burden. They said they would be amenable to administering the program if we wanted them to. They also said the program could go ahead as is or we could make changes to it if we wanted to. Joe does think that we need to limit it to one acre or larger parcels. Those are the people who aren't going to use potable water to water their property because it's too expensive. We need to do something with the water. If we don't, it just goes down the river to the lake and SNWA gets credit for it.

Scott Carson asked if we could get more per share. Randy Tobler said if we raise the price to high then the farmers aren't going to be able to afford it and they are leasing a big chunk of it. He also said that if we administer the program, we are responsible if one of the people we lease to damages something. If MVIC administers the program, then it will be their responsibility.

Joe said that the irrigation company is happy that we are giving them time to talk about this without pinning them in a corner. If we start talking about it now, we have time to really look at the program and discuss what changes, if any, we want to make without being rushed. Joe asked the Directors to look at the current criteria and see if there's anything they want to change.

Lindsey Dalley would like to see this on next month's agenda. He asked the rest of the Directors to get a hold of Joe or Bryan before the meeting with any questions or ideas they might have.

Bryan suggested allowing MVIC to use the proceeds from the lease of the shares so that they can make repairs to their ditches. Then there would be more capacity on the ditches and more people could participate in the program. We would be making a short term investment in their company since we're not making that much money on the program anyway and it would allow more people to be able use the program.

**5. Manager's Reports**

**Office Manager** - Jeannie Poyner informed the Directors that the budget is looking good. We're coming out of our slow months and heading into the months where revenues go up. Revenues will probably be at 95% at the end of this fiscal year. That's not great news but it could be worse. Last year we were down 10% so being up 5% from last year is good news. Joe said that part of the 5% increase is due to the power line that's being installing up in Moapa and the water they're using.

We've been using Payclix for almost a month now. There have been a few glitches but it's basically working pretty well.

We received a letter from the Dept. of Taxation and they said that the final budget is in compliance.

The last few months we've talked about purchasing new billing software. Jeannie had put together some information on how much time will be saved in the office and what the staff will be able to do with the free time. She explained that time will be saved because everything that has to be

done each day has to be transferred over to Business Works. Also, payroll is very time consuming. It is figured in 15 minute increments. The guys handwrite their time sheets every day. The information is then entered into Excel and then into Business Works.

Joe reminded the Directors that this is not an action item. Last month the Directors had asked how much time would be saved and what staff would do with the time that was saved. One thing that would be done with the extra time is scanning. We have tons of paperwork that needs to be scanned. It's all kept in the vault which is not fireproof. It's valuable information that we don't want to lose. Right now if we are looking for old files we have to go out to the Conex box and dig through boxes to find what we're looking for. We have the scanner and we need to get everything scanned. The new software would free up time so that could be done. This isn't something that has to be decided on right away. Joe wants the Directors to feel comfortable with the new software before they approve the purchase.

Jeannie has called several more companies that use the software company we are looking at. The ones she called have been using them since 2000 & 2001. They raved about the company. They've all said that the customer service is great. We haven't even spent any money with this company and they called Jeannie today and wanted to talk about how we do our purchasing, and inventory because they are going to be revamping their purchasing and inventory programs. They are a little weak in those two areas so they are going to build a new module in those areas based on what we want.

Randy doesn't see how it's going to save money but it does sound like it would save time.

Jeannie thinks it will save about 12 hrs week and that time can be used to do scanning and archiving. Also, Enterprise, UT is going out for auditing services because they don't need to spend as much on auditing anymore. This company helps them with their audits. She said that support is about \$1,500 a quarter.

Bryan said that RVS's support is less but they charge us for every little change we make.

Chairman Staton said that he sees the need and the benefit so if staff feels comfortable with this company, he thinks they should go ahead and put it on next month's agenda for approval.

Randy said that he likes the sheets that are in the board packets and wanted to know if two more things could be included. He asked Jeannie if she could include the wages/benefits, employees and also debt. He would like to see what the percentage is to our current revenues.

Lindsey asked why the cash increased this month and Bryan explained that we used a lot of money last year when we bought media and did other capital projects. We also had bond payments. Jeannie explained that the bond payments are going up every year so this year we will be paying close to \$800,000. We are working with NV State Bank to see about consolidating the bond payments. Hopefully by consolidating them we will be able to drop the payments.

**Interim Water Distribution Superintendent** – Lon Dalley was on vacation so Joe updated the Directors on what the distribution crews did last month.

**1) Leaks** - There were three 1" leaks (Scott St, Embry St & Hardy St) and one 8" leak (Hidden Valley/Kern River Gas Line Crossing). There was a minimal loss of water. **2) Customer Complaints** - We had a low pressure issue up at the NDOT yard. We're still working on a permanent solution. We have monitoring equipment out there so we're able to see more than we did last year. This happens when we turn on the booster station for the 340A water that is coming into our system and dumping into the reservoir. Because the NDOT yard is at the upper end of our system, they only had 6 lbs pressure so now it's under 0. We did some modifications in order to get them some pressure so they won't run out of water. We have boost pumps up there but they are having a hard time sucking the water in. Bryan and Joe went up there yesterday and got something temporary going for them. They hope to have something permanent in a few days.

**3) Omer Street Project** – The line is installed, the pressure test took place today and we will take Bac-t samples on Monday. Once we get the results back and we get NDEP approval, we will start moving the meters over to the new line. The project went really well. The customers that live in that area are really glad that the line has been upgraded because they now have fire protection. When that project is done the guys will start on the Gann project. **4) Upcoming Projects** - We are trying to save money by having the contractor pave the Blvd and Liston Street at the same time as they do the Dollar Store. We're not sure when they will be doing that.

The guys did the outage for the Lytle Street PRV today. The vault is in and the plumbing on the outside is installed. We need to get the plumbing done inside the vault and then the entire Warm Springs area will have consistent pressure. The PRV will allow us to boost it another 10 lbs so they will be sitting good. This project will probably be done in a couple of weeks. All of the paperwork and the encroachment permit are done for the Leavitt St/Doty St/ Gann St. project so we're ready to go on that project. Once the guys are done on Omer, they will move down there. There is so much old plumbing in those areas and so many meters that will have to be moved that the project is going to take a long time to do.

**Water Production Superintendent** – Bryan Mortensen said that we have \$500,000 worth of arsenic media sitting out in the shop. We will eventually put it in the Conex box at Arrow Canyon.

We are still working with SNWA/LVVWD on the wheeling fee. They've been out three times to audit our paperwork to make sure that what we are billing them for is correct. The 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> time they came out they found that they actually owe us more than what we billed them for. The 3<sup>rd</sup> time they were trying to go the other way. We'll see how it ends up.

We are still working with Master Meter on the data log problem. The only answer they have for us is that the batteries are going bad. The batteries are supposed to wear out over 20 years but they are wearing out faster than they thought. They're trying to come up with a solution so we can talk to the meters on a different bandwidth. We can send the meters back which cost us to ship them but they will send us new meters and they will pay the shipping costs to send them back to us. If that happens the warranty starts over. The warranty is a 20 year prorated warranty which is 10 years for full replacement, then 10 years prorated after that. There are about 30-40% of our meters that won't data log anymore. If they can't get it fixed, we will start sending the meters back 100 at a time. They're hoping that we will give up but we're not going to.

We installed a 3" Octave meter at Overton Park. We put it in line with a Sensus meter and so far the Octave meter is doing what is suppose to be doing. It is picking up 10 – 15% more water than what the Sensus is and the Sensus is a really expensive meter. The Octave's are actually paying for themselves in just a few months.

**General Manager – 1) MV Blvd Project** - Joe met with the County this morning for the walk thru on the Blvd project and they are happy with everything. They want NDOT sign off on it so they can close the project. Joe is going to get that to them. They also want CCWRD to sign off on the project. The County wants to make sure that we didn't destroy any of CCWRD's infrastructure. We didn't dig on that side of the road so there shouldn't be any problem getting their sign off. **2) Bond Consolidation** – We've been in contact with NV State Bank Public Finance to see what they can do for us on the bond consolidation. We will talk to some other places also. This will give us an idea of what we might be able to do. **3) Lost and Unaccounted for Water** - It's at 7%. **4) Colorado River Commission** - Joe received a letter from the Colorado River Commission. They passed legislation which required everyone to save power because in 2017 the contract for the power runs out. They are going to offer the excess power to other municipalities. Right after Joe finished reading the letter, Delmar Leatham showed up and wanted to talk to Joe about it. Anyone who is currently getting power thru the Colorado River Commission can't increase the power they take. Delmar thought this would be a great opportunity for us. He said that we could save as much as 30% on our power bill. OPD would transport it and do everything that needs to be done to get the power to us. The Colorado River Commission is having a meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup> in Phoenix so Joe is going to go down there with Delmar and Mendis to find out what exactly the criteria will be in order to get the extra power. If we are able to get some and aren't able to use the whole amount, then OPD would be able to use the excess until we need it. It's a good news story for us and OPD. **5) Coyote Springs Pump Test** – At the last HRT meeting, Rick Felling the chief hydrologist for NDWR, asked for feedback on what people thought about the test pump. There are four or five entities that have a say in the test. Joe feels that the District's stance should be that SNWA needs to continue with the pump test. They should have to pump what they were required to pump in Order 1169 which was half of 16,000 AF for two years to see what it does to the aquifer. They've averaged 4,100 AF a year. They've had two really long shut downs (3 months at a time) in that time. Unfortunately these long shutdowns have been at high temperature times and that's when you'd see the biggest affect. Joe feels that our stance should be that they need to continue on with the pump test since they haven't pumped enough. It's our responsibility to get a better understanding of the Water River Flow System and that will happen with a longer pump test.

## 6. Director's Preference

Lindsey Dalley had a couple of articles he wanted to talk about. He had copies of the articles for each Director. He explained that in Tombstone, AZ, they had a fire in a wilderness area which eroded the mountains. Then they had a big rain storm and it damaged some of Tombstones waterlines that ran through the wilderness area. When they went up to repair the waterlines, they were denied excess them. They've been trying to get a permit to get into the wilderness area to do the repairs. Even though we don't have any infrastructure in wilderness areas, Lindsey feels like there are some common denominators. One of those denominators would be that our infrastructure either goes across or is close to federally controlled areas. This situation is being closely watched. Lindsey just wanted to remind the Directors that we need to make sure that our water rights are maintained.

Joe explained that we are fighting that battle right now in Meadow Valley Wash. We were required to drill some monitoring wells up there in order to fulfill our part of a ruling but we haven't been able to do it because BLM will not give us an easement. It's also going to affect the Riverview Project's water rights they have up there.

Lindsey thinks that we should get together with Virgin Valley Water District and draft a letter to our federal legislature so they understand that what happens on federal land could affect us.

Joe said that it would be beneficial for all of the small utilities to get together and write a letter. It would probably make a bigger impact that way.

**- Review Monthly Expenditures**

Randy Tobler disclosed that he has an interest in a small business that is on the monthly expenditures list.

On motion of Chairman Staton and seconded by Scott Carson, the Board voted 3-0 in favor to refer the monthly expenditures to the auditors. Randy Tobler abstained.

**- Litigation**

**Randy Tobler called a closed-door session at 5:45 pm. This was seconded by Ken Staton.**

**Chairman Staton reconvened the open-door session at 6:45 pm. This was seconded by Randy Tobler.**

**7. Personnel- Closed Door Session**

**8. Approval of the July 12, 2012 Board Meeting**

The general consensus was to hold the next Board meeting on July 12, 2012.

**9. Public Comment (May be limited to five minutes)**

None

**10. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.