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Seal Rock Water District

General Manager's Report:
 Board Meeting October 10, 2019

This report is an executive summary provided with this Board agenda to Commissioners with recommended actions if any. Detailed information, staff reports, and supporting materials are provided within the full agenda packet.

PHASE-4 SOURCE WATER PROJECT:

Phase-4 improvements project continues to move forward with several critical path tasks currently in progress:

- Staff continues working with representatives from USDA-RD, the District's finance consultant, and Bond Counsel in preparation for Phase-4 interim financing.
- Final design has been approved by the State of Oregon, Health Authority (OHA) Department.
- Lincoln County Conditional Use Permit process has been completed, staff and consultants are working with LC Public Works to complete the work in the right-of-way permit.
- US-Corp of Engineers permit for work in the waterway was received on September 30, 2019.
- District counsel and staff are working with property owner to address concerns related to easement access at the intake site.
- Bond Documents have been completed and are in review by USDA-RD General Counsel.

OREGON'S 100-YEAR WATER VISION:

Many parts of Oregon, including the Oregon Coast are recognized for clean and relatively abundant water. However, as you are aware, shifts in population, climate change, and lack of ongoing investment in water stress the quality and quantity of water, and increase the potential for water infrastructure failures and public health, fish and wildlife impacts. These realities place our quality of life, natural resources and economic future at risk.

To address this concern, the Governor's Natural Resource Office and leaders of Oregon's natural resource agencies have identified the need for a 100-Year Water Vision focusing on addressing current and future investment needs around both natural and built water infrastructure. Included below is a draft document that describes the vision and the problems the Governor's taskforce is proposing to address.

The District has been asked to help refine and improve this Vision. This process is in the very early stages of Phase I, which focuses on gathering input about the Vision itself and designing an effective process. As one of the methods to engage and receive feedback around the Vision, the district has been scheduled for an interview with Oregon Consensus, a neutral third party, to conduct an assessment of perspectives on the

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draft water vision, challenges relating to our water needs, and ideas for next steps. This initial outreach effort includes interviewing the District and others - a diverse set of parties that represent a broad range of interests and organizations. In the coming weeks Oregon Consensus staff will be in touch to schedule a one-hour interview with the GM and our organization. District staff are honored to engage in this important opportunity to help shape Oregon's 100-Year Water Vision.

One note of interest for the Board and SRWD Community, you are invited to follow this effort by signing up for the listserv at www.OregonWaterVision.org, you will receive a message about a series of upcoming community water conversations and a technical workshops. The interviews we are participating in will complement the feedback received from the community water conversations. Those conversations are an opportunity for individuals to come together at a regional scale to share their perspectives on the water vision and their community needs directly with the Governor's office.

Draft Document:



Oregon's 100-Year Water Vision

Preparing a Secure, Safe, and Resilient Water Future for All Oregonians

Vision

To address changes in climate and population dynamics, Oregon will steward its water resources to ensure clean and abundant water for our people, our economy and our environment, now and for future generations. Strategic investments will result in resilient natural and built water systems across the state to support safe and healthy communities, vibrant local economies and a healthy environment.

Premise

Many areas of Oregon are known for clean and reliable water. This is due to both favorable climate and the infrastructure we built in the 19th and 20th centuries to effectively move water from its source to where it is used.

As has been identified in Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy, three forces combine to place significant stress on Oregon's water:

- 1) Climate change and associated increases in fire, drought and flooding,
- 2) A half century of underinvestment in built and natural water infrastructure, and
- 3) Our changing population and associated development – growing in some areas, shrinking in others.

These factors impact the quality and quantity of water for our communities, including water in our rivers, lakes, reservoirs and aquifers. Simply put, if we are not willing to roll up our sleeves and work together to invest in our natural and built water systems, we place the safety of our communities, the health of our people and environment, and Oregon's economic future at risk.

Goals

- 💧 **Health** Secure, safe, accessible, and healthy water for current and future Oregonians.
- 💧 **Economy** Adequate and clean ground and surface water to support economic vitality for all Oregonians.

💧 **Environment** Adequate cool, clean water for native fish and wildlife to thrive, and healthy watersheds that can store and filter water naturally.

💧 **Safety** Resilient water supply and flood protection systems that can face natural hazards like earthquakes, floods and drought.

Problem Statement

Oregon's water infrastructure has served us well but is showing its age. We have underinvested in natural and built infrastructure to meet current challenges and have not adapted systems to meet the needs of a vibrant Oregon for the next 100 years.

- ✓ Without modern water supply systems and water conservation approaches that combine to provide reliable access to water, including in emergencies, Oregonians risk not having water available when it's needed for healthy people and communities, food production, tribal treaty rights, and a thriving economy.
- ✓ Without resilient built and natural infrastructure that provides cool and clean water across all Oregon watersheds, our people – and our fish and wildlife – are increasingly vulnerable to the health risks associated with lack of access to adequate, clean water.
- ✓ Without upgraded levees, dams, stormwater systems, tide gates and the natural protection of wetlands and estuaries, our communities will be less safe and at increased risk of damage and economic hardship from localized and catastrophic flooding.
- ✓ Without access to relevant water data for effective decision-making, cross-agency coordination, and intentional approaches to test new ideas, built and natural water systems will perennially fall short of providing for Oregon's in-stream and out-of-stream water needs, including tribal treaty obligations.
- ✓ Without strong capacity across all Oregon communities to plan for their water future, and effective ways to ensure strategic water investment decisions are coordinated across and between local, regional, state, tribal and federal agencies, communities will not be prepared to take advantage of large-scale water infrastructure funding opportunities or collaborative and innovative partnerships.
- ✓ Without coordinated built and natural water infrastructure investments, Oregonians - including Oregon's federally recognized tribes and those in disproportionately impacted and rural communities – may be unable to access adequate clean water and return it to our rivers for downstream users, fish, and wildlife.

Our Shared Water Future

Oregon's water future is already being shaped by climate and population changes. How we choose to steward our water resources now will determine if we pass a legacy of clean and abundant water to future generations of Oregonians so they can enjoy a vibrant economy and live in a quality environment. The investments we make now in natural and built water infrastructure will support a prosperous Oregon in the 21st century and beyond.

OTHER NOTABLE ACTIVITIES FOR THE MONTH INCLUDE:

- Attended Mid-Coast WPP regional meeting in Siletz September 19th.
- Developed progress report for LC-MJHMP Update completed September 30th.
- Attended OWRD Learning Session centered around water September 18th and 19th.
- Reviewed Easement and access agreements related to Phase-4 improvements.
- Received easement from Oregon Department of State Lands for the intake and discharge sites on Beaver Creek, September 2019.

- Met with property owners and consultants involved in the District's source water project September 16th.
- Coordinated replacement of water mainline on Cunard Street in the Bayshore Community.
- Attended Governors 100-year water vision assessment interview October 7th.
- Attended on site Beaver Creek water quality field data collection meeting with consultants.
- Hosted the Mid-Coast Water Conservation Consortium meeting September 5th.
- Attended SDAO Board of Directors meeting in Salem September 12th.