

WEST SOUND UTILITY DISTRICT
Minutes of Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Held in Office Building
2924 SE Lund Avenue, Port Orchard, WA 98366
Monday, September 1st, 2009

Chairperson: Jerry Lundberg
Vice Chairperson: James Hart
Secretary: Bill Huntington
Commissioner: Jeannie Screws
Commissioner: Susan Way (Absent)

Attending: Larry Curles, General Manager
Sue Fowler, Customer Service Manager
Denita Patton, Finance Manager
Deena Carpenter, Customer Service Assist.
Richard Gross, District Attorney

Also in attendance was Connie Reeves-Richardson, Tracy Fantz, Debbie Raymond, John Poppe

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Lundberg at 4:30 PM.

BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION

Ms. Reeves-Richardson Appeal of the \$500 water theft fine

The General Manager's overview was Ms Reeves-Richardson was fined \$500 for unauthorized tampering of the water system by not installing a separate meter for a new home. She had been given District policy in writing several times and the requirement was clearly stated.

Ms Reeves-Richardson's argument was she was given conflicting information and miscommunication over the phone from District staff. She did not act with malice. She felt that the policy was not properly explained to her and she should not be held responsible for incorrectly hooking up and not installing a second meter.

Ms. Reeves also discussed in length the private property matter about the use of a private easement. The General Manager noted that this was not part of the District's decision to issue the \$500 fine for unauthorized tampering of the water system.

Commissioner Hart made the motion to reduce the fine for water theft to \$200 and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Huntington.

In the discussion that followed Commissioner Lundberg made note that General Manager Curles properly defined the District's policy and cost, in writing and early in the process. The error was

on the part of Ms Reeves-Richardson and not the District. He also stated he would be abstaining from voting. With one Commissioner absent, it would be an even number of votes if the Chair participated.

Commissioner Screws wanted it noted that the District's responsibility was from the water main to the meter. From the meter to the residence was not the District's responsibility. This is the homeowner's responsibility. Whatever took place between Ms. Reeves-Richardson and her neighbors could not be addressed by the District.

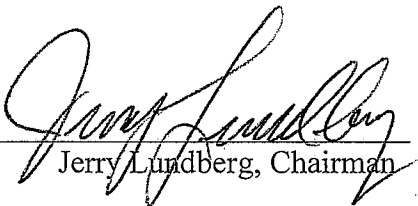
The motion to reduce the water theft fine to \$200 was put to a vote. Commission Hart and Commissioner Huntington voted aye to reduce the \$500 fine to \$200. Commissioner Screws voted nay. The motion passed with two ayes to one nay.

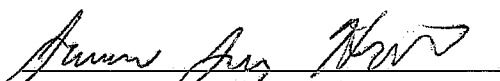
COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

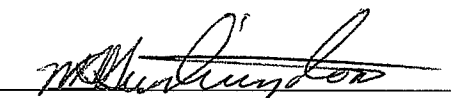
Commissioner Huntington reported on the children's tour of the South Kitsap Water Reclamation Facility. It was very successful and shows the importance of an educational outreach program.


ADJOURN

Commissioner Screws moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Huntington, passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 P.M.


Jerry Lundberg, Chairman


James J. Hart, Vice Chairman


William H. Huntington, Secretary


Jeannie Screws, Commissioner

(ABSENT)
Susan Way, Commissioner