



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

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Agenda Item #11

Memorandum

Date: April 21, 2021
To: Each Director
From: Paul D. Zillig, General Manager
RE: Water Resources Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

The Water Resources Subcommittee met via video/teleconference at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 20, 2021. Subcommittee members participating included Larry Ruth, Chelsea Johnson, John Yoakum, Vern Barrett, Ken Vogel, and Gary Hellerich. Other Directors participating included Deborah Eagan. And others participating included Amy Ostermeyer and Dan Levy of Monolith, Don Blankenau of BWJ, Brian Dunnigan and Jim Schneider of Olsson, Dave Hume of LRE Water, Corey Wasserburger, Steve Seglin, David Potter, Tracy Zayac, Chris Witthuhn, Steve Herdzina, Maclane Scott, Dick Ehrman, Dan Schulz, and myself.

Chair Ruth opened the meeting and introduced those in attendance. The first item on the agenda was for Wasserburger to outline the purpose of today's meeting. Wasserburger reported on our meetings to better coordinate, for everyone involved, the proposed actions required for the Monolith well permits. Wasserburger reported that today the Subcommittee will consider a recommendation on a Variance Request for certain tests required for the two additional wells.

Ruth then called on Maclane Scott, NRD Water Resources Technician, to report on the two additional Monolith well applications (see my April 16th memo for all additional background information on these Variance Requests, including copies of the well permit applications). Scott reported that he inspected the wells last Friday and checked the required well spacing from neighboring wells. An updated map of the well locations is attached (includes OC2 Wells 1, 2 & 3).

Chair Ruth then called on Steve Herdzina, NRD Water Resources Compliance Specialist, to report on the Variance Requests. Herdzina reported that Monolith submitted the Variance Requests (see April 16 memo) for the two additional wells. He reviewed his attached memo.

Ehrman and Hume reviewed their recommendations on the Variance Request as outlined in the attached memo. The Subcommittee had a few questions and discussed the variance

request. The Subcommittee also discussed the current wellfield plan and pumping plans. It was moved by Vogel, and seconded by Yoakum, to **recommend the Board of Directors grant a variance to Monolith Nebraska LLC for proposed wells OC2 #2 (LPSP-210423) and OC2 #3 (LPSP-210422), specifically Section C, Rule 2(c)(i)(A)(3) (“aquifer test”), and Section C, Rule 2 (c)(i)(A)(5) (“hydrogeologic analysis report”), and deny the variance request for proposed wells OC2 #2 (LPSP-210423) and OC2 #3 (LPSP-210422), specifically Section C, Rule 2(c)(i)(A)(2) (“accurate static water level measurement”), and Section C, Rule 2 (c)(i)(A)(4) (“water quality samples”).**

Ostermeyer reported on the efforts to work together on the permitting for this project. The recommendation wasn't exactly what she hoped for but stated it was reasonable and requested a written list of steps remaining, as we move forward. Staff will prepare and provide that to Ostermeyer and the Board.

The Subcommittee had additional questions and discussion on how other applications were handled in other parts of the NRD and the potential for variance requests.

The Subcommittee voted on the motion that was on the floor. **The motion passed on a vote of 5 “yes” (Barrett, C. Johnson, Ruth, Vogel, Yoakum) and 1 “no” (Hellerich).**

There being no additional business the meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.

PDZ/pz

cc: Steve Seglin & Corey Wasserburger