



**Lake Oswego Tigard Water Partnership
Summary of Partnership Committee Meeting
February 27, 2023**

City of Lake Oswego: **Oversight Committee:** Mayor Buck, Councilor Corrigan
Staff: Erica Rooney, Public Works Director/City Engineer; Bret Bienerth,
Water Treatment Plant Manager; Susie Anderson, Administrative
Assistant

City of Tigard: **Oversight Committee:** Councilor Hu, Councilor Wolf
Staff: Brian Rager, Public Works Director

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Lake Oswego Tigard Water Partnership Oversight Committee was called to order at 6:32 p.m. following a tour of Water Treatment Plant. The meeting was held at the Lake Oswego Tigard Water Treatment Plant, 4260 Kenthorpe Way, West Linn OR.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

Mayor Buck moved to appoint Councilor Wolf as Chair and Councilor Corrigan as Vice-Chair. The motion passed unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Wolf asked if it would be appropriate for the new councilors to vote on the minutes since they hadn't attended the October meeting. **Mayor Buck** said it would be ok for them to vote and moved to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2022 meeting. **Councilor Hu** seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

5.1 History of the Partnership

Ms. Rooney stated she would be providing background on the Partnership and directed the groups attention to the display boards on the wall. She explained the process of water traveling from the River Intake, located near the confluence of the Clackamas and Willamette Rivers, through Gladstone to

Meldrum Bar Park. A new pipeline was bored beneath the Willamette from Meldrum Bar to Mary S. Young Park in West Linn. New pipeline was laid down Mapleton Dr. to the WTP, out to Highway 43 and in to Lake Oswego. The original pipeline alignment was planned to go under the lake but bids for the work came in much higher than anticipated so a new alignment was designed to go around the lake through downtown and out to Iron Mountain Blvd then over to Carman Drive to the two Waluga Reservoirs. The second reservoir there was constructed under the Partnership. From the reservoirs pipeline travels along Bonita Road to the Bonita Pump Station which distributes water throughout Tigard and is operated by Tigard staff. Tigard started receiving Partnership water in June 2016. The Partnership was formed because Tigard wanted to have ownership of their water source and Lake Oswego had aging infrastructure that needed to be replaced. Lake Oswego and Tigard staff worked together to figure out the cost of building the infrastructure to send water to Tigard and share in that cost. It was financially more reasonable for Tigard than continuing to purchase water from Portland. The water rights allow for taking 38 million gallons per day (mgd) from the river. The maximum amount taken to date had been 24mgd. There's capacity to supply Lake Oswego's build-out and much of Tigard's. The water rights split is 18mgd for Tigard and 20mgd for Lake Oswego. **Mr. Rager** noted with buildout, Tigard would eventually max out the 18mgd and would also get water from other sources, but 18mgd was enough to supply them at this time. **Ms. Rooney** stated the cost to construct the plant was \$70M, cooperatively paid for by both cities and was designed to withstand a 9.0 magnitude earthquake. The neighborhood was quite engaged throughout the process and as a result, the design included visual buffers and park-like spaces. She pointed out the plant used ozone in the treatment process. **Mr. Bienenrth** added Wilsonville was the only other plant in the state that used ozone and their system was about 20 years old and needed to be replaced. **Ms. Rooney** emphasized the importance of planning and setting funds aside for future replacement costs. Both cities had set up a capital reserves fund. She continued Bonita Pump Station was built at a cost of \$6.3M and moved 16mgd but could be upgraded to 20mgd. During construction the pipeline was broken down in to six different schedules and contracts from Gladstone to Tigard.

Ms. Rooney explained the Oversight Committee was developed during the planning phase of the project to provide both agencies representation through the entire process from planning to project delivery. The committee continued to meet following the completion of construction and were provided information regarding ongoing operations, water quality, etc. The original IGA was construction focused and had eight amendments. It was decided to update the agreement to make it more current and more forward looking. The revision process was completed last fall and resulted in a more current, user friendly document that outlines the operations of the Partnership Committee to receive information that can be taken back to the respective Councils. She added the management teams from both cities meet monthly to discuss the technical aspects of operations. She referenced the ice and snow storm of February 2021 as a great example of the two cities working well together. In that situation the WTP was without power for a period of time and Tigard pushed water back to Lake Oswego. There was great collaboration amongst management and field staff. There was also a chlorine supply shortage in 2021 where staff met daily to successfully work through that crisis.

Councilor Hu asked how water was provided to West Linn. **Mr. Bienenrth** replied there was a pump station with an intertie at the end of Kenthorpe Way that West Linn could access. He noted the Abernethy Bridge, which supports the pipeline that transmits water to West Linn, would be undergoing construction so there would be an undetermined amount of time that Lake Oswego Tigard could be supplying water to West Linn. **Councilor Hu** pointed out West Linn didn't have the funds for the bridge construction. **Mr. Bienenrth** stated they would be deferring other projects and maintenance to fund the

bridge construction. **Ms. Rooney** said the current IGA with West Linn addressed emergencies so it would likely need to be renegotiated for this situation. **Mayor Buck** expressed surprise that only West Linn could control the intertie. **Mr. Bienerth** noted the capacity of the intertie was a maximum of 4mgd. **Ms. Rooney** added it was metered so the flow could be tracked. **Mayor Buck** asked how that would impact Lake Oswego and Tigard during high water use times. **Mr. Bienerth** responded the highest water use day to date was 24mgd and the plant capacity was up to 38mgd. Currently, it would not be a problem but when built out and using 38mgd, there would be an availability issue.

5.2 Operations Committee: Activities Report

Mr. Bienerth reviewed the Operations Report in the meeting packet. He explained each meeting he would provide a summary of customer inquiries, review of work orders completed for the quarter, water production and water use data. Of note, there was a Request for Quotes out to replace a pump motor at the River Intake that had failed. Quotes were due later in the week.

5.3 Budget Report

Mr. Bienerth briefly reviewed the budget and noted the biggest expenses were personnel, electricity, and water treatment chemicals. **Councilor Corrigan** asked if there was an estimate of inflation for electricity and chemicals. **Mr. Bienerth** responded there had just been a 14% rate increase for electricity and over the past year there had been a 25% increase in chemical costs. He explained the cities' participation in PGE's energy savings program. PGE announces an event during an anticipated high use time and asks big users to take a load off the system. During these events Lake Oswego shuts down the intake, plant, and three other pump stations and Tigard shuts down Bonita Pump Station. In return, they send monthly rebate payments. **Councilor Hu** clarified the budget report presented was operating expenses only. **Mr. Bienerth** affirmed and stated it didn't reflect CIP projects. **Councilor Corrigan** asked if there was contingency. **Ms. Rooney** responded \$1M was set aside annually but was not reflected in the report. **Councilor Corrigan** asked if the value of the water could be estimated, what was it sold to customers for? **Mr. Rager** replied in Tigard there was a base rate and tiers based on usage. **Mr. Bienerth** stated it costs less than a penny per gallon to produce the water. **Ms. Rooney** added the plant was just a fraction of the entire system. In Lake Oswego alone there were multiple reservoirs, pump stations, and hundreds of miles of pipe; all part of the costs of the water fund. She referenced the Water System Master Plan that identifies the capital needs based on life cycle, condition of pipes, etc. but capital funds weren't available to repair and replace in the time suggested in the plan. **Mr. Rager** stated after a Master Plan update rate studies and SDC studies are conducted. Rates include cost of water as well as a component for projects. The plans are updated every 5 - 10 years and rates adjusted accordingly.

5.4 Recurring Meeting Schedule

Mr. Bienerth explained historically, the group had been meeting the second Monday after the end of each quarter and stated it was sometimes challenging to gather quarterly numbers so soon after the end of the quarter. The group decided to hold meetings the third Monday after the end of each quarter. The next meeting would be held April 17th in Tigard and the meeting location would alternate between the two cities' Public Works buildings.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Draft budget for FY 23-24 and FY 24-25
- West Linn - exercising intertie during Abernethy Bridge construction
- Lead and Copper Rule Revision and every 3-year sampling
- Clackamas River Water Providers – Overview, Kim Swan

7. ADJOURN

There being no further business, **Chair Wolf** adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susie Anderson
Administrative Assistant

Approved by the Oversight Committee:

April 17, 2023