

**OLYMPUS TERRACE SEWER DISTRICT-MUKILTEO WATER DISTRICT
JOINT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
January 25, 2007
MINUTES**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The special joint meeting of the Olympus Terrace Sewer District and Mukilteo Water District Board of Commissioners was held at the Mukilteo Water District office on January 25, 2007, at 7:08 p.m. Present at the meeting were Olympus Terrace Sewer District Commissioners Dick Andrews, Ed Caine and Tom Rainville; Mukilteo Water District Commissioners Mike Johnson, Bill Allison and Tom Rainville; Olympus Terrace Sewer District staff Patrick Sorensen, Sue Parks, Gil Bridges, Bruce Wickler, Greg Bradley, and Joann Knox; and Mukilteo Water District staff Dan Hammer, Bev Templin, Nancy Killian, Rick Matthews, Jodi Tellefson, and Jared Alexander. Also present were Dave Findlay of consultant from FCS Group, and local developer Chris Chase of Cottage Werks.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda was approved by both boards.

3. DISCUSS JOINT BENEFITS STUDY:

Bev Templin and Sue Parks continued the presentation of the Joint Benefits Study, which had begun at the previous meeting. The presentation included recommendations from the study group. The study consisted of 15 benefit elements; this presentation began at item number 8, Clothing Allowance. The Boards reached consensus on this item. On item 9-Retirement Benefits, clarification of the current benefits was necessary. Discussion followed, no decision was reached. Dave Findlay of FCS Group pointed out that points of agreement, if the parties want them to be binding, would need to be put into the interlocal merger agreement. Only items put into the agreement are binding. On item 10-Disability Benefits, discussion followed, the Boards reached consensus on this item. On item 11-Health Insurance Benefits, discussion followed, no decision was reached. On item 12-Tuition Payment Program, there were questions regarding collecting tuition paid if the employee should leave within a year of completing schooling. The study group recommendation did not include a time period stipulation because of that issue. It was suggested that the policy should say job related education, as well as the education program being pre approved by the General Manager. On item 13-Sick Leave, there were questions and discussion on accrual and payout of the sick leave benefit, specifically at the time of voluntary termination. No decision was reached. On item 14-Jury and Witness Leave, there was some question concerning a federal court case which could possibly last for a long period of time. Discussion followed, the Boards reached a consensus on this item. On item 15-Military Leave, the Boards reached consensus on this item. The Boards both decided they wanted to meet individually to discuss all 15 items rather than going back to the beginning and going over them again jointly at this meeting. The Mukilteo Water District Board decided to call a special meeting for the purpose of discussing the Benefits Study prior to the next joint meeting. They decided to meet February 5th, 2007.

4. MERGER IMPLEMENTATION WORK PLAN UPDATE:

The update document was passed out to the Boards. No discussion followed.

5. MANAGER SELECTION PROCESS:

Johnson stated the MWD Attorney is researching whether the Board can perform interviews for the General Manager position in Executive Session or if the interview has to be in an open meeting. Rainville stated he had learned at a conference that they could interview in Executive Session. Johnson stated the MWD Attorney disagreed and was looking to clarify the law in that area. Sorensen stated the OTSD Attorney had researched the issue and said there was no precedent for the matter. However, he suggested that each individual Board would need to call an Executive Session, and then reconvene separately and either vote or not vote as their individual Boards determined. Discussion followed. Johnson stated he wanted to wait until after the merger to make the decision. Rainville mentioned the decision could possibly wait until later in the process. Dave Findlay stated that would be possible although difficult to do because the direction of post merger planning and organization would depend on the individual chosen for the position. Sorensen suggested the interview take place soon with the option of the Boards announcing their decision at a later date if desired. Johnson stated they should wait to see what the MWD attorney determines from his research. Sorensen suggested they get both attorneys together to discuss some of the issues. No decision was made. Findlay stated that the benefits study decision was also very important and reminded the Boards that many of these decisions should be written into the agreement.

6. OTHER ISSUES/DISCUSSION:

No other issues were discussed.

7. NEXT MEETING CONFIRMATION – FEBRUARY 8, 2007:

The agenda for the February 8th, 2007 will include the Joint Benefits Study discussion and the MWD Building Reimbursement presentation.

8. ADJOURN:

Rainville made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded and approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Richard G. Andrews
President

Edsel Caine
Vice President

Thomas H. Rainville
Secretary