

# SPOKANE AQUIFER JOINT BOARD

# **Meeting Minutes**

December 12, 2024, 1:30pm Hybrid Meeting Spokane County Water District #3 1225 N. Yardley Rd., Spokane, WA

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER Welcome and Introductions

The Board of Directors of the Spokane Aquifer Joint Board (SAJB) met in Regular Session via Teams and in person at Spokane County Water District #3. A total of nineteen (19) attended the meeting including: thirteen (13) SAJB voting representatives, one (1) SAJB voting representative alternate, one (1) SAJB non-voting representative, retiring Program Manager Tonilee Hanson, onboarding Program Manager Meagan Hayes, and two (2) guests.

President Jenkins called the regular meeting of the Spokane Aquifer Joint Board to order at 1:38pm.

#### **Consideration of Regular Meeting Minutes**

President Jenkins called for additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of November 21, 2024. Meagan Hayes reported minor revisions to the IWAC report provided by Suzanne Scheidt. Doug Greenland moved to approve the November meeting minutes as amended; Scott Inch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Minutes approved.

#### 2. FINANCAL REPORT – Treasurer Doug Greenlund Approve Bill Payments for December 2024

Treasurer Greenlund presented the bill payment summary for December 2024. The Wellhead Implementation Program (WIP) bills were paid with check numbers 2735, and 2729-2734. Check numbers 2736, 2737, and 2738 were skipped due to unintentional printing errors.

Education and Awareness Committee bills were Anne Francis Web Design, Inv. 9237 for \$59.40; KSPS, quarter 4-2024 billing, \$10,000.00; GSI Water Solutions, Inv. 00516.004-8, \$307.50; and Spokane River Forum, annual payment-2, \$5,000.00.

SAJB Program Manager Tonilee Hanson was paid \$2,412.01, and SAJB Program Manager Meagan Hayes, dba MJH Consulting, was paid \$1,291.54. Both Program Manager payments included consulting services as well as reimbursements for mileage or other expenses.

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Potential Contaminant Source Inventory bill was for Anne Francis Web Design, Inv. 9236 for \$232.20.

December bills total: \$19,302.65.

A motion was made by Terry Squib to approve the December bill payments; Kelly Williquette seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Treasurer Greenlund reminded board members that an email will be coming in the coming weeks regarding connection numbers. Board members will need to report their number of connections to SAJB can accurately calculate 2025 assessments.

#### 3. OLD BUSINESS

### IWAC Updates – Suzanne Scheidt

Suzanne Scheidt attended the meeting to report updates on behalf of Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative (IWAC). Suzanne reported that IWAC is starting to look ahead at how to fund phase II of the ModFlow update, and that IWAC is working with their consultant, John Porcello, to develop a cost estimate. Suzanne reported they are operating under a compressed schedule, given that the Aquifer Protection District grant application is due March 15, 2025. Suzanne also shared a suggestion to explore Groundwater Vistas training, provided by John Porcello and offered jointly from IWAC and SAJB.

Other IWAC updates: On behalf of IWAC, Suzanne met with Kootenai County to discuss utilizing the ModFlow models when evaluating future land use decisions and planning for future growth. IWAC is meeting on the FY2025 budget in January.

On behalf of North Kootenai Water District – the district has 1,300 unknown material connections. They are exploring using the ElectroScan tool to try and determine what material composition is for service connections and the potential to cost share with other purveyors in Spokane and Kootenai County.

#### 2025 Draft Budget Discussion

Consultant Hayes provided a brief overview of budget discussions and changes to date. Since the last meeting and discussions, a line item has been added under ALL for annual Zoom expenses, and multiple line items were moved out of the EDUCATION committee budget and into ALL to reflect actual use.

Consultant Hanson suggested language changes to media efforts to open this line item up for broader use. Following this, a line item for "Aquifer Protection" was added under ALL for \$15,000 and the NERDS Media Campaign line item under EDUCATION was removed.

A motion made by Bruce Davidson to approve the 2025 SAJB budget as presented with amendments; Kelly Williquette seconded. The motion carries unanimously. The 2025 SAJB budget has been approved.

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#### Spokane County Aquifer Protection Area – Amy Sumner, Spokane County

Amy Sumner provided sampling costs with the board. These costs are in-line with current practice; however, various efforts are underway by Spokane County to bring costs down. SAJB can consider paying for ongoing monitoring on wells consistent with current practice and reoccurrence, or decreased occurrence, etc. No decisions were made regarding SAJB funding monitoring efforts at this time.

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

#### Eastern Washington Regional Science & Engineering Fair – Cash Prize

Reanette Boese shared her interest in funding a cash prize for the Eastern Washington Regional Science and Engineering Fair and requested support to provide this cash prize under the name of SAJB. Overwhelming support from the board was provided. The Board will first continue to explore opportunities to fund this prize directly, versus Reanette paying out-of-pocket.

#### 5. WELLHEAD PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION PLAN – Program Manager Report

Retiring Program Manager Hanson provided her final Program Manager Report. As the years and careers' end report, Hanson provided an astounding update on all of the successes of SAJB through time, and provided gratitude to the Board Members for their efforts.

#### 6. OPEN FORUM

Nothing presented.

#### 7. ADJOURN

There being no further business, President Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 3:15 pm.

President, Jeremy Jenkins

Secretary, Todd Henry