



**Neskowin Regional Water District**  
PO Box 823, 47880 South Beach Rd  
Neskowin, OR 97149  
Phone: (503)392-3966  
Email: [nrwd@neskowinwater.com](mailto:nrwd@neskowinwater.com)  
Web: [www.neskowinwater.com](http://www.neskowinwater.com)

**MINUTES**  
**THE NESKOWIN REGIONAL WATER DISTRICT**  
**PUBLIC HEARING FOR A PROPOSED RATE INCREASE**  
**June 30th, 2022**

Commissioners Present: Steve Rubert, Gary Dunn, Frank DeMars, John Metschan and Brenda Freshman

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Troy Trute and Joy Neufeld

Public Present: Candice Polisky

**CALL TO ORDER:** (00:01:10)

President Steve Rubert called the public hearing for the proposed rate increase meeting to order at 1:06 pm; this meeting was hosted by Zoom Meetings remotely.

1. The Board reviewed the draft minutes from the Public Hearing for the Proposed Rate Increase Meeting on June 23rd, 2022. **\*\*Motion\*\***: John Metschan moved to accept the minutes as revised. Frank DeMars seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
2. Steve opened the proposed rate increase topic to the public and Board for discussion.
3. Troy and the Board discussed the proposed rate increase of 8.5% or 11%.
4. Steve said that Troy had demonstrated that an increase of 8.5% on a \$200.00 quarterly water bill would be \$17.00 more per quarter (\$5.66 per month) and \$22.00 more per quarter (\$7.33 per month) with an increase of 11%.
5. The Board discussed a spreadsheet/graph that Troy had sent them. Frank said the District didn't increase rates last year to account for inflation so raising the rates to 11% would help make up that loss. Troy agreed with Frank.
6. Candice Polisky of the Forestry Department joined the meeting at 1:31 pm (00:25:46) via zoom and the Public Rate Hearing for a Proposed Rate Increase Meeting was put on hold as the Board switched to discuss the Watershed Land Purchase topic.
7. The Board and staff introduced themselves to Candice Polisky and Candice introduced herself to the Board and staff.
8. Candice said she works for the Forest Service and technically her duty station is Portland and her geographical responsibility is Washington, Oregon and Alaska.
9. She said that she will be discussing the "Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Acquisition Program."
10. She said that she provides services in some capacity for everything west of the Mississippi.



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11. Candice said the “Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Acquisition Program” is a land acquisition program. It isn’t tech assistance, or stewardship, or reforestation or anything that happens post acquisition. The funds are for acquisition of property only.
12. This program is within the Forest Service, and the US Department of Agriculture. State and Private Forestry is the grant-making arm of the Forest Service, and does the majority of their work through the State.
13. Candice said that the program is unique in that funding is directly granted to three main eligible entities: Local units of government, land conservation nonprofit organizations and federally recognized tribes.
14. Candice said that the project’s funding limit for each awarded applicant is \$600,000.00. She also said that 10 to 12 projects are funded per year. There are 19 to 23 projects nationally competing against a set of national scoring criteria. The national scoring criteria comes in every application.
15. Candice said that one really good benefit of this acquisition program is that the federal funding is awarded in the same year that it is available. You can get the funds in advance or at the time of acquisition.
16. Candice said that she could send the Board all the information about the program she is discussing today.
17. Candice said that she also has some comprehensive guiding documents that the program has available for review.
18. Candice said that there is a 50% match requirement to obtain the funding.
19. Brenda asked Candice about the three main eligible entities and asked that since the District is not a nonprofit should they work with the NCLC North Coast Land Conservancy, or is the Water District considered a local government entity?
20. Candice said that the Water District would be considered a local government entity, but could also collaborate with the NCLC for technical, land adjustment and realty work.
21. Frank asked Candice if the District would need help with the application process or would the district be able to do it without assistance.
22. The District would need to get a DUNS number. The scoring criteria has 30 points. The different scored criteria are:
  1. Community benefit
    - a. Economic benefit
    - b. Environmental benefit
    - c. Forest education, or vocational or replicable model of forest stewardship.
    - d. Recreation
  2. Public participation
  3. Threat to conversion to non-forest uses.
  4. Strategic
23. Candice said they would be happy to work with the district if they would like her to.



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24. Brenda asked Candice about funding requirements and how far along in the process of the purchase of land does the District have to be to receive funding. Must you spend the money in the year that you receive the funding. Candice said that the grant is from the federal assistance program that that grant is available for five years. Candice said the program prescribes that from the time you receive the grant you have a two-year performance period to close sale the property.
25. Troy said that submitting a grant application for land acquisition through Candice is in the District's future. Candice said that she and her colleagues strongly believe that direct communications with her and her colleagues, that do this work, will enhance the District's likelihood of receiving funding. She said she would be happy to work with the District and answer any other questions the Board or Troy may have. The Board thanked Candice for her time and efforts. Candice thanked the Board and staff.
26. Brenda asked Troy if the NCLC North Coast Land Conservancy had signed the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) Troy said they had not. Brenda asked who should she contact about someone wanting to make a donation. Troy said Amy or Morgan Bender.
27. The discussion with Candice Polisky ended at 2:12 (01:05:57) and the Board then rejoined the Public Rate Hearing for A Proposed Rate Increase meeting.
28. The Board decided to raise the water billing rate 11% to save for another employee in the 2023-2024 budget cycle and to keep up with inflationary costs.
29. **\*\*Motion\*\***: Frank DeMars moved to adopt an 11% rate increase beginning July 1, 2022. John Metschan seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
30. Steve thanked the Board for all the time and thought they put into this issue.

**ADJOURNMENT:** (01:13:49)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:19.49 pm. **\*\*Motion\*\***: Brenda Freshman moved to adjourn this rate increase meeting. Frank DeMars seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**MINUTES**

**THE NESKOWIN REGIONAL WATER DISTRICT**

**2022-2023 PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING**

**June 30th, 2022**

Commissioners Present: Steve Rubert, Gary Dunn, Frank DeMars, John Metschan and Brenda Freshman

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Troy Trute and Joy Neufeld

Public Present: None



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**CALL TO ORDER:** (01:14:18)

President Steve Rubert called the Public Hearing for the 2022-2023 Budget meeting to order at 2:20.18 pm; this meeting was hosted by Zoom Meetings remotely.

1. The Board reviewed the draft minutes from the Budget Committee Meeting for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Meeting on May 19, 2022. **\*\*Motion\*\***: Brenda Freshman moved to accept the minutes as revised. Frank DeMars seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
2. Steve opened this topic for discussion to the public and the Board.
3. Steve reviewed the discussions, recommendations and motions made at the Budget committee meeting.
4. Steve Rubert read aloud Neskowin Regional Water District Resolution 2022-04 Budget Adoption Fiscal Year-2022-2023 Adopting the Budget.
5. **\*\*Motion\*\***: Frank DeMars moved to accept Neskowin Regional Water District Resolution 2022-04, Budget Adoption Fiscal Year 2022-2023, Adopting the Budget as revised. John Metschan seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40.19 pm.

**MINUTES** (01:34:19)

**THE NESKOWIN REGIONAL WATER DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING  
June 30th, 2022**

Commissioners Present: Steve Rubert, Gary Dunn, Frank DeMars, John Metschan and Brenda Freshman

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Troy Trute and Joy Neufeld

Public Present: None

**CALL TO ORDER:** (01:34:31)

President Steve Rubert called the regular Board meeting to order at 2:40.31 pm; this meeting was hosted by Zoom Meetings remotely.

**REVIEW MINUTES:** (01:23:54) reviewed during the last meeting

The Board reviewed the draft minutes from the Regular Board Meeting on May 28th, 2022.

**\*\*Motion\*\***: Frank DeMars moved to accept the minutes as presented. John Metschan seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.



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**OPERATORS REPORT:** (01:34:42)

1. Troy said there is a lot of water currently being used.
2. Troy said the water plant is running well.
3. Troy said that Tillamook PUD has said they take no responsibility for the negligence in their operations that caused power related issues and costs to the District. Troy handed the whole thing over to the Water District's lawyer to see if he thinks it is worth the Water District pursuing this. Special Districts insurance, who covers liability insurance for both the Water District and Tillamook PUD has decided it should be the Water District's insurance policy that covers this issue and has sent the Water District a check for \$23,651.68. Troy said that he has not deposited the check yet as he would like to hear back from the District's lawyer.
4. Troy said that Danny resigned June 7, 2022 as he got a position with the NRSA. Troy said he was unsuccessful in getting Danny's District uniforms back as the personnel policy states. Troy said that both he and Joy called Danny multiple times and asked him to return the District uniforms. Steve said that Troy and Joy did their due diligence in trying to get Danny's District uniforms back.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** (1:39:09)

Troy went over the financial reports for the end of May 2022.

**BILLS TO BE PAID:** (01:40:42)

Troy presented the bills to be paid. **\*\*Motion\*\***: Frank DeMars moved to pay the bills as presented. Steve Rubert seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The last check number was 13858.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**WATERSHED LAND PURCHASE:** Discussed this topic earlier.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**LATE FEE APPEALS:** (01:40:42)

1. Joy reviewed Mr. Stein's appeal. **\*\*Motion\*\***: Frank DeMars moved to grant Mr. Stein's appeal as presented. John Metschan seconded the motion, with Steve Rubert approving and Brenda Freshman opposing the motion. The motion passes. Brenda said that she doesn't like approving these kind of appeals as she feels it allows customers to not oversee their properties enough.
2. Troy said that Mr. Stein has sold his property and he and the Board discussed whether the



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appeal's ten-year limit should be on the property's address or per the customer. Currently it is per customer but needs to be defined in the billing resolution.

**FUTURE MEETING DATES:** (01:57:24)

The NRWD Regular Board meeting is set for Thursday, July 28th, 2022 at 1:00 pm.  
Subsequent NRWD Board meetings are tentatively set for Thursday August 25th, 2022 at 1:00 pm and Thursday September 29th, 2022 at 1:00 pm.

**ADJOURNMENT:** (01:59:00)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:07.43 pm. **\*\*Motion\*\*:** Frank DeMars moved to adjourn this board meeting. John Metschan seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joy Neufeld  
Recording Secretary, Neskowin Regional Water District

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Steve Rubert, President

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Gary Dunn, Secretary