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# Seal Rock Water District

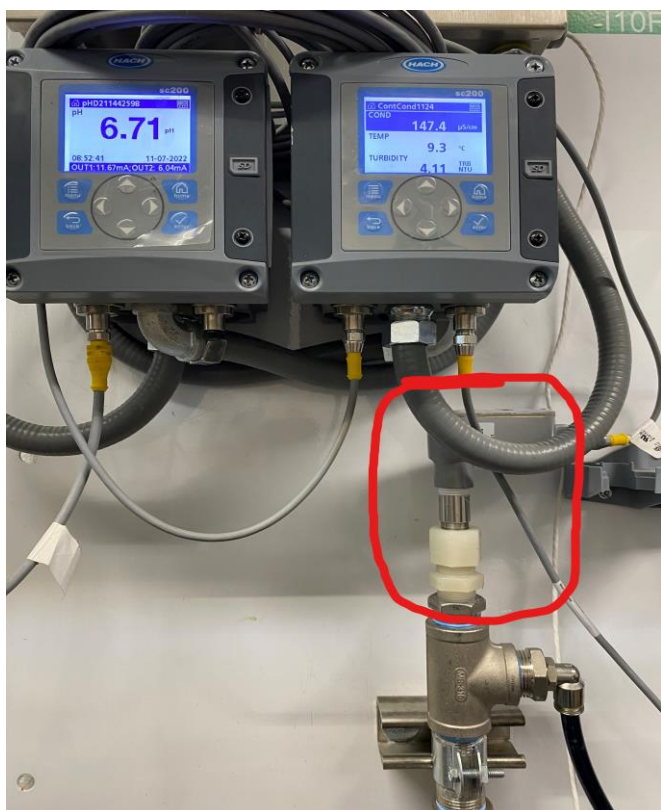
General Manager’s Report:  
Board Meeting November 10, 2022

*This report is an executive summary provided with this Board agenda to Commissioners with recommended actions if any. Detailed information, staff reports, and supporting materials are provided within the full agenda packet.*

## PHASE-IV BEAVER CREEK SOURCE WATER PROJECT:

Jacobs engineers continue tracking final punch-list items necessary to certify substantial completion. Engineers along with district staff continue to support R&G Excavation along with their subs to satisfy compliance with the contract on Operation and Maintenance Manuals necessary to certify substantial completion. Several O&M Manuals have been submitted and are in review by the engineer.

We recently discovered that the instrument (in-line conductivity probe) at the Beaver Creek Intake which measures salinity in the raw water was not functioning properly and was out of calibration. However, we learned this after the system had brought in salinity at levels thought to be acceptable at the time.



Probe sensing unit below screen:



HACH Conductivity readout panel:

The intake is designed to operate at conductivity levels of 500 uS/cm, but not more than 600. Last Thursday just before reaching 300 uS/cm during a high tide and 15 ft sea-swale event, operators shut down the system.

On Tuesday, November 1, 2022, the district began receiving water quality complaints from customers complaining that the water has chlorine and a salty taste. After evaluating/troubleshooting the conductivity probe it was discovered that the probe may not be positioned correctly, and/or is out of calibration. As a result, an isolated area of the distribution system had to be thoroughly flushed to correct this issue.

Measurable salinity at the intake site cleared within a couple of days and is now at levels safe to treat. Staff is recommending continuing operation on the secondary source until instrumentation can be replaced/calibrated correctly.

Staff and engineers have determined that the instrument (*HACH* in-line conductivity probe) at the Beaver Creek Intake which measures salinity (TDS/conductivity) in the raw water malfunctioned and was out of calibration. Staff is working with analytical technicians from *HACH* the manufacturer of the probe to determine if the probe needs to be replaced or if it can be recalibrated.

District operations staff successfully switched to our secondary sources of water (Newport/Toledo) and have worked around the clock to effectively flush in a concentrated area of the distribution system between 118<sup>th</sup> Street to the north, and Legion Road to the south.

District operations staff are working with the community and providing public notice to our customers as we flush to remove the salinity taste in the water which has been very effective and will be completed by the end

of the day today. Salinity is measured in TDS (Total Dissolved Solids) and is subject to EPA's secondary drinking water standards (page 5 of the attached). After consultation with the state, actions taken by the district in response to this condition *follow best practices, and no action is needed by Oregon Health Authority.*

#### **Proposed Preventive Measures:**

1. District staff will work with *HACH* technicians this week to recalibrate or replace the existing in-line conductivity probe.
2. District WTP Operators are working with engineers to design/install a secondary conductivity probe located in the creek to be used as redundancy and verification of calibration. This effort could take a few weeks.
3. District staff is also working with engineers to design/install a third salinity probe located at the WTP on the finished water system before it leaves the plant to monitor TDS before water is sent to the first customer.

Proposed measures along with standard operating procedures for monitoring raw water conditions affected by the environment, including; tides, sea swells, and precipitation will serve to eliminate salinity from entering the system in the future.

#### **Fire Hydrant Maintenance:**

Following a visit from a community member at the October Regular Board Meeting regarding concern for fire hydrants adjacent to 123rd Street and Paradise Lane. SRWD field operations crews visited the area and flow-tested two fire hydrants on 123rd Street and one fire hydrant located at 12368 SE Paradise Lane. All three FH's function well for their age and flow at a rate of 1,200 to 1,500 Gallons Per Minute (GPM) respectively.

The hydrant located at the intersection of 123rd and SE Paradise Lane was bagged upon the crew's arrival. However, this hydrant was fully functional and did not need to be bagged. This hydrant had a missing bonnet bolt which has been replaced securing the bonnet and operating nut. FH maintenance performed by SRWD crews was performed as a courtesy to our customers and the community. Properly considered normal annual service and FH testing should be completed by NRPFD staff. The district has reached out to representatives from NRPFD to coordinate a meeting to discuss management responsibilities with respect to hydrant maintenance. However, emails have gone unanswered.

#### **Other notable activities for the month include:**

- Attended the October Regular Monthly Oregon Water Utility Council (OWUC) meeting hosted by the City of Bend.
- Attended meetings with engineers, contractors, and USDA to discuss substantial completion and schedule for work on the Beaver Creek Source Water Project.
- Participated in HB 5006 the State Supported Water Planning and Management meeting in Salem.
- Attended Mid Coast Water Conservation Consortium Meeting.
- Attended SDAO/LOC Legislative Conversation with Representative Mark Owens.

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- Met with several property owners in the district to discuss water quality.
- Reviewed results of HR Answers Salary Survey.
- Participated in SDAO Awards Nomination Committee Meeting.
- Attended Oregon Water Data Portal Listening Session hosted by Oregon Water Resources Department.