

**BATTLE GROUND**  
**CONSERVANCY DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING**

**January 18, 2023**

Attendance: Chairman Rick Oliver, Vice Chairman Carol Watson, Andrea Agree, David Bisher, Ron Holladay, and Joe Kline.

Also present: Dan Gemmecke (Superintendent), Georgia Jones (Financial Clerk).

Guests: Bill Jones, Becky Dunker, James Miller

Rick Oliver called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Director Election**

The Conservancy received one nomination for each of three director chairs: Carol Watson for the area south of CR600N, Joe Kline and Rondell Holladay for Historic Battle Ground. Phil Baer moved to approve the nominations by acclamation. Second of David Bisher, motion carried with unanimous vote. The oath of office was administered by Georgia Jones, Clerk-Treasurer of Battle Ground, and oath documents were signed for submission to the Tippecanoe County Clerk.

**2022 in Review**

Rick Oliver mentioned major projects that were addressed this year:

- Customer Service Committee and monthly reports
- Improvements to Muni Link billing
- District Plan Committee progress
- Revenue Committee and revenue study
- Adjustment of hydrant fees and tap fees
- Meter exchanges
- Tower 2 coming online

**Financial Report**

Revenue from property taxes was 16% of total revenue, up 1.2% from prior year. The adjusted hydrant fees contributed .4% for the partial year billed. Water fees contributed 77% of operating revenue. The category "Other" revenue includes reimbursements and interest on investments. There were two new commercial taps added to the system this year.

The 2023 appropriations budget includes an increased contribution from property tax, which moved from 6 cents to 9 cents per \$100 of assessed value. The change was implemented to pay both tower loans from this revenue category. The total budget approved is \$812,861 which uses operating balance in addition to charges and fees to cover anticipated costs of a major infrastructure upgrade project on Main Street.

After questions and comments were addressed, Joe Kline moved to close the annual meeting. Second of Ron Holladay, motion carried with unanimous vote.

**District Plan Update** – At this time only one property owner remains to submit their petition. Carol Watson will verify that all petitioners still own their properties prior to advancing the collection of documents to the attorney to start the court process.

**Old Business -**

The rate and charges committee briefly discussed the number of other utilities that have taken steps to adjust rates to maintain revenue in the current period of economic inflation.

Internal Controls 2022 audits by directors were reported complete. A schedule for 2023 will be confirmed at the February meeting.

**New Business – none at this time**

**Guest comment**

James Miller, Town Council President, shared several items the town is developing that may be of importance to the Conservancy:

- 1) Potential annexation of commercial area north of CR 600
- 2) Solar and Resiliency Project to address rising costs of electricity for both town and conservancy
- 3) Commercial development at SR 43
- 4) Tippecanoe Township and Battle Ground Land Use Plan

Motion to adjourn at 6:58 p.m. by Joe Kline with second of Ron Holladay.



Georgia Jones, Financial Clerk



Carol Watson, Chairman of the Board

## Memorandum of Open-Door Law Compliance

Date: January 18, 2023

Location: 112 North Street, Battle Ground

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Members Present in Person: Rick Oliver, Carol Watson, Andrea Agree, David Bisher, Ron Holladay, Philip Baer, Joe Kline

Member Present Virtually on screen: none

Member Present by Telephone: none

Also Present in Person: Dan Gemmecke, Georgia Jones

Guest Present in Person: Bill Jones, James Miller, Becky Dunker

Guest Present virtually: none

Electronic Means of Communication Used For Members and Public: Zoom.us

Attest:



Georgia Jones, Financial Clerk