

GORE HILL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
406-761-6528
Minutes of the Public Board Meeting
Public Meeting
January 28, 2025

Board Members present: Dennis Peppenger, Dave Schuler, Jerry Ulmen
Conducting: Dennis Peppenger
Recording Secretary: Christy Walter
Operator: Excused
Bookkeeper: Arny Schandelson
Guest: Jan Jones

The Public Meeting began at 7:05 pm

Motion to open the meeting: Jerry
Second: Dave Passed

Motion to accept the minutes of 1/14/24: Jerry
Second: Dave Passed

Jan & Mercy had some questions about the results of the audit which the board addressed. She also had questions on the O&M, Construction Savings, and Bond Repayment monthly transfers. This was discussed. They also had questions on #603 motion to be removed from the district. 1/14/2025 ~ Jan reviewed the audit was concerned about some of the findings. She read some findings and was asking questions. This was discussed with the board and Arny. Jan has offered to review with Arny and try to help. 1/28/25 Closed

Old Business:

#603 ~ was asking about opting out of the water district and the pros and cons of that. 10/8/2024 ~ Brian has received a text from the home owners requesting to withdraw from the Gore Hill Water District. 10/22/2024 ~ Dennis is going to contact Montana Rural Water to find out what the current procedure is for someone to be removed from the district. 1/14/25~ By a vote of the majority of the district members present, account # 603 will not be allowed to be removed from the district. Christy will determine what needs to be filed with the county. 1/28/2025 ~ Arny will mail out an itemized statement

#705 ~ Homeowner was questioning what the status of the generator was. He offered to help us sell the generator Dennis said he will ask Grant to start the process of selling the generator for \$16,500. 11/12/2024 ~ Homeowner has placed the ad on craigslist with Dennis's phone number. 12/23/24 ~ Dennis had a request to purchase the generator. This was refused because it was a low-ball offer. Dennis is waiting to hear back. 1/14/2025 ~ Dennis is still waiting. 1/28/2025~ It was suggested to re-run this ad.

12/10/2024 ~ MT Rural Conference registration is out. Conference dates are 3/12/25-3/14/25. Dave will not be able to attend.

1/14/2025~ Colette Phillippe passed away on 12/24/2024. It has been posted that this position needs to be filled. This is posted on our website and in our quarterly newsletter. We are asking anyone interested to contact a board member for more details. Board to decide on 2/28/2025

Dave will not be available for any of the meetings during February and March due to a scheduling conflict with his job.

Going forward any and all claim forms must be turned into Arny by the 4th Monday of each month for payment on the last business day of said month. This will allow the board to review all payments at the meeting on the 4th Tuesday.

New Business:

Motion to increase mileage to \$.70 per mile as of February 1, 2025: Jerry
Second: Dave Passed

Bookkeepers Report:

8/27/24~ # 580 sent an email asking about the attachments we should be sending with the emailed bills. Army and Christy will get an email list together to and will send out the CCR and Quarterly Newsletters. We will continue to send out enclosures in bulk emails blind copied to those who received emailed statements. 9/10/2024 ~ Army will provide Christy a list. 10/22/24 ~ Army has provided Christy a paper list. He is working on an electronic list.

Army has paperwork from the credit union to update the signatures for the board members. We had board member's sign. 1/14/2025 ~ Rochelle contacted Dennis and Army. She requested that we have all members sign and one time and return. Dennis will call Rochelle and let her know we are out 2 weeks since Kristie is out. 1/28/2025~ All 4 board members signed the new forms and Christy notarized.

11/26/2024 ~ #509 stated that they paid \$137.00 several months ago that we have never received. They will repay an additional \$35 from the billed amount in each of Jan, Feb, Mar and April 2025.

1/14/2025 ~ #567 has some sort of excessive water usage issue. Army has asked Brian to follow up on this. 1/28/2025 ~ Brian has checked with homeowner's daughter and they have hired professional cleaners to clean the house. The daughter asked the board via email if she could make \$200 per month payments until this is caught up. The board approved.

1/14/2025~ #617 called Army to let him know that he had submitted 2 bill pay checks (Nov and Dec) and they have not cleared the bank.

1/14/2025 ~#723 told Dennis that they are not receiving paper bills. That is because they had had elected to have email bills. Dennis has asked Army to send both email and paper bills. Closed

1/28/2025 ~ We have received the lost bond repayment check back from US Bank. US Bank has asked us to set the semi-annual payment up as ACH. Board approved and signed the forms.

The following bills were read for approval:

City of Great Falls	\$ 26.00	Water Testing
AT&T Wireless	\$ 109.89	Monthly Cell Phone
McAfee	\$ 149.99	Annual Anti-Virus
Hawkins	\$ 30.00	Chlorine Cylinder
Anderson's Backhoe	\$ 1,795.00	Excavated Electrical Trench PH #2
Northwest Pipe Fittings	\$ 112.38	Supplies
Montana Rural Water	\$ 300.00	Jerry's Conference registration
Arnold Schandelson	\$ 65.48	Reimbursement: Epson Ink Cartridge
Christina M Walter	\$ 105.95	Reimbursement: Great Falls Tribune & Cascade County
	\$ 2,694.69	

Claim statements hourly employees received 1/28/2025 Payroll gross amounts:

Royce Shipley \$204.02 Gary Humble \$512.22

Salaried employees to be paid approximate amount, on 1/31/2025

Gerald Ulmen: \$138.53 Kristie Blackford: \$138.525
David Schuler: \$108.52 Arnold Schandelson \$1,084.79
Chrisina Walter: \$378.38

Motion to Pay the Bills as Read: Jerry
Second: Dave Passed

Delinquents: Payment is due 1/13/2025 Termination is 1/15/2025

#625 Total owed \$1,727 Money due \$90.00 plus some extra (Dennis is encouraging 50% of monthly payment)

# 507 \$ 237.17	# 556 \$ 154.31	# 571 \$ 176.72	# 635 \$ 125.13
# 646 \$ 138.40	# 667 \$ 1014.47	# 672 \$ 261.66	# 687 \$ 259.50
# 707 \$ 476.56	# 625 \$ 155.48	# \$	# \$

Treasurer's Report: Excused

Operator's Report:

- 12/10/2024 ~PH #2 is down. We will either need Cascade Electric or Aqua Source to check, Brian is estimating this will cost more than \$500.00. Brian is hoping to have this fixed within the next 2 days. Board Approved
 - Wires burned out underground and had to be dug up and replaced. Soft start was also damaged and looks like it will need to be replaced. Brian is waiting on Nash Electric for price and availability. Board Approved. Closed
- We had observed low water pressure when one of the distribution pumps at PH #1 is on. Brian has contacted Nash Electric to test pressure sensors. Board Approved. 1/28/25~ fitting to pressure sensor is clogged. Fitting has been replaced and now reading properly.
- Brian is continuing to fill the cisterns at PH #2 manually to reduce stress on PH #1 if it were to run 24/7. Closed
- Water main leak on 43rd. Investigated and determined to be private line.
- Check valves at PH #1 are acting up again. Brian has ordered supplies for a long-term solution. Board Approved.
- Gmail having issues. Will have tech support up.
- Ordered chemicals for testing of Poly ortho phosphates to maintain compliance with MT DEQ.
- Lead and Copper paperwork was signed and will be submitted to DEQ.

Motion to adjourn at 8:13
Second:

Dave
Jerry Passed

Dennis Peppenger
President

Christy Walter
Secretary