

GORE HILL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
406-761-6528
Minutes of the Public Board Meeting
Public Meeting
Oct 22, 2024

Board Members present: Dennis Peppenger, Dave Schuler, Kristie Blackford
Conducting: Dennis Peppenger
Recording Secretary: Christy Walter
General Manager: Brian Blackford
Bookkeeper: Arny Schandelson

The Public Meeting began at 7:00 pm

Motion to open the meeting: Kristie
Second: Dave Passed

Motion to accept the minutes of 10/08/24: Kristie
Second: Dave Passed

Checks received at the meeting: #539 \$200.00 ck # 1141

Old Business:

3/12/24 ~ Dave reported from Joel on 2/27/2024 that MJD is six weeks out on equipment for the Poly Phosphates. 9/10/2024 ~ the activation date is 9/19/2024. Joel is working with Chemical Montana to complete this. 10/22/2024 ~ Poly Ortho Phosphates have been installed and operational!! Brian is scheduled to meet with the Hawkins Rep to calibrate feed rate. Brian was able to determine that there was a break in signal wire. He will monitor for 2 to 4 weeks to verified system continues to operate properly.

Jerry mentioned that because of the excessive water flooding the homeowner on the east side of Pumphouse 1 has had pump his septic twice and needs to have another pumping. The board approved paying for the next pumping, the homeowner will provide us with the statement for that pumping. 7/9/2024 ~ homeowners will have the third pumping once the ground dries out. 8/27/2024~ Septic was pumped on Saturday 8/24. Jerry will get a copy of the invoice for that pumping. 10/8/2024 ~ Jerry is trying to get ahold of the homeowner. 10/22/2024~ Invoice was received and paid 10/22/2024. Closed

~~Per Dennis's request there will be a Board Members Only meeting immediately following the 9/10/2024 meeting. Since Colette was unable to attend 9/10 or 9/24 this has been postponed to 10/1 at 7:00. 10/8/2024 ~ 4 of 5 of the board members met. The part time meter readers and maintenance people will be under Brian's jurisdiction. Arny and Christy answer to the board. At that time, it was decided that Brian can not spend more than \$500.00 at a time. Brian mentioned to the board that very rarely can he go to Northwest Pipe and spend less than \$500 to fix an immediate problem. He asked for a spending limit of \$1,500.00 specifically at Northwest Pipe. It was decided to continue with the \$500 limit. 10/22/2024 Closed~~

#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. Christy will research and report to the board on 10/22/2024 the next steps. 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.

#705 ~ Homeowner was questioning what the status of the generator was. He offered to help us sell the generator. He was confused on how the minutes read regarding the generator. He stated that he read that a motion to sell the generator was passed on 5/28. Why hasn't it been sold yet. He also offered to help write up a pilot study on whether we could remove the water restrictions and how the district could sustain that. 10/8/2024~ Dennis asked for verification of the minutes of 5/14/2024 that stated that the generator was to be fixed and sold. Dennis was provided with those minutes. Dennis said he will ask Grant to start the process of selling the generator for \$16,500.

New Business:

No New Business

Bookkeepers Report:

8/27/24~ # 580 sent an email asking about the attachments we should be sending with the emailed bills. Arny 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 ~ Arny will provide Christy a list. 10/22/24 ~ Arny has provided Christy a list.

8/27/2024~We will need to send the county the delinquent accounts and amounts due to turn people over to tax billing. We need to get those numbers together by the next meeting (9/10) 9/24/2024 ~ Arny needs to call and verify.

5/14/2024~ The gal who was doing our Audit went on emergency maternity leave. **Audit is complete.** Arny is working on finding out if we need an additional audit prior to calendar year end 2024. The question is "did we spend less than \$750,000 this year". 10/8/2024 ~ Arny heard from Cyd stating that we do not need to have a 2023-2024 audit. This will be every other year audit.

#625 has not made a payment since June 2023. 9/24/24 ~ we received \$215 cash at tonight's meeting.

The following bills were reviewed:

Black Mountain Software	\$	3,016.00	Annual Utility Subscription
Terry Liggett Construction	\$	300.00	Septic Tank Pumping #501
City of Great Falls	\$	26.00	Water Sample Testing
Hawkins	\$	1,153.28	Chlorine and Cylinders
Cascade Electric	\$	450.00	Relay
Northwest Pipe Fittings	\$	96.36	Meter Blanket
Northwest Pipe Fittings	\$	901.39	Check valves
Northwest Pipe Fittings	\$	569.58	NC Valve 2 Way
	\$	6,512.61	

Transfer fm Main to Bond Repayment: \$6,000.00
Motion to Pay the Bills as Read: Kristie
Second: Dave Passed

Delinquents:

Payments are due 11/11/2024 Termination will be 11/13/2024

# 507	\$ 321.17	# 556	\$ 146.24	# 564	\$ 352.55	# 571	\$ 245.85
# 593	\$ 278.09	# 664	\$ 393.98	# 673	\$ 265.37	# 687	\$ 376.68

Treasurer's Report:

Nothing to Report. Kristie finally has access to Black Mountain but has not had an opportunity to review.

General Manager's Report:

- Both check valves at pumphouse #2 connected to the distribution pumps failed to function over the weekend causing the cistern to overflow. PH #1 was temporarily shut down until the board could approve parts. 10/22/2024~check valves at PH#2 are fixed. During the repair 3 valves were found to be non-operational.
- #532 received a new meter
- Winter distribution pump timers are set.

Motion to adjourn at 8:00 Kristie
Second: Dave Passed

Dennis Peppenger
President

Christy Walter
Secretary