

GORE HILL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
406-761-6528
Minutes of the Public Board Meeting
June 25, 2024

Board Members present: Dennis Peppenger, Kristie Blackford, Jerry Ulmen, Colette Phillippe; Dave Schuler
Conducting: Dennis Peppenger
Recording Secretary: Kristie Blackford
General Manager: Brian Blackford
Bookkeeper: Arny Schandelson

The Public Meeting began at 7:07 pm

Motion to open the meeting: Jerry
Second: Colette Passed

Motion to accept the minutes of 6/11/2024: Colette
Second: Dave Passed

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.
4/9/2024 ~ Chemical Feed MT (polyphosphates) is waiting on materials/equipment before they complete install. 5/28/2024
~ Good News - We received an email from Marty at MJD Contracting saying the materials are in Billings being delivered to Helena early next week. Hopefully the install will be complete by July 1st. 6/25/2024 ~ no updates on phosphates

3/26/24 ~ Dennis reported that the Lead and Copper rule has changed. We will need to inventory and report by October 1, 2024. Royce and Brian will work on this. 4/9/2024~ Royce reported that GHCWD will have to report our inventory service lines using a spreadsheet DEQ has provided us. We will need to verify the incoming service line to the meter. 5/28/2024~ Testing was completed the weekend of the 18th- 19th. Inventory is 80-90% complete. Gary and Royce will work on contacting residents during their meter reads within the next few meter reading cycles. This will consist of them knocking on doors as they do meter reads and asking if the resident knows what the service is to their house, such as copper, plastic, galvanized, etc. 6/11/2024 ~ Test results back high on copper at 632. Royce will work with DEQ to determine how to proceed. 6/25/2024 ~ Letters have been printed and will be hand delivered tonight. Royce provided the certification to Dennis for signature. Royce also provided the testing site change form that needs to be sent in to DEQ. Lead and Copper manager is aware of the results. No action is necessary, just an awareness notice. We test again in November 2024.

Dave brought up the generator – he suggests selling it. Jerry said he thinks it needs to be in working condition to sell it, and that it needs a new battery. Motion to spend up to \$400 to get it up and running and sell it: Colette Second: Kristie Passed 5/28/2024~ The board discussed and Dennis will get a battery for the generator. Once the battery is in we will discuss further. 6/25/2024~ Dennis purchased a new battery. Nothing is wrong with the generator; it was low on antifreeze and oil. Dennis has completed the maintenance. We need to start it annually and log it.

We need to determine the 2024-2025 budget for the July public meeting. Brian, Kristie and Arny will work on those numbers. 5/28/2024 ~ Public Meeting will be July 9. There will be a budget meeting Wed 5/29 at 6:00. 6/11/2024~ Lori emailed out an updated budget. Board received hard copies and will review 6/25/2024. 6/25/2024~ Board has reviewed the resolutions and will present those at the public meeting 7/9/2024.

Motion to accept the resolutions: Kristie
Second: Colette Passed

New Business:

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.

Bookkeepers Report:

5/14/2024~ The gal who was doing our Audit went on emergency maternity leave. Arny is meeting with Clayton, Wednesday 5/28/2024 to determine the findings. Another audit will need to be completed by 12/31/2024 since our project was not completed in one year. 6/11/2024 ~Arny will have hopefully a final meeting 6/13/2024 with WIPLI6/25/2024~ Nothing from Clayton since June 13.

Insurance of approximately \$7,700 due by July 1,2024. 6/25/2024 ~ no invoice has been received as of today.

6/25/2024~ Black Mountain emailed out the April statements without letting Arny know. He then emailed out statements and caused a lot of confusion to our members.

6/25/2024~ Arny provided the Profit and Loss statements from Black Mountain. He explained the breakdown do the board.

The 2nd Loan Payment has been made. This payment was approximately \$6,000 more than the 1st payment.

#625 has not made a payment since June 2023. Current balance due is \$1,605.01 for water. That does not include the money that we forwarded her in 2020 for the leak. She is being notified that she will be terminated on 6/27/2024. She will not be turned back on until funds are received.

The following bills were read for review and approval:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|
| Northwest Pipe Fittings | \$ | 189.19 | Floats |
| Wendy Weissman CPA | \$ | 183.75 | QB and Payroll & bank rec issues |
| Hawkins | \$ | 40.00 | 4 Chlorine Cylinders |
| Hawkins | \$ | 30.00 | Past Due Cylinders? |
| | \$ | 442.94 | |
| | | | |
| # 4981 | US Bank Trust | \$ 34,401.37 | 2nd Payment Loan |
| # 4982 | USPS | \$ 1,020.00 | Reissue check 15 Rolls of Stamps |
| # 4983 | Dennis Peppenger | \$ 223.76 | Reimburse Generator Battery |
| | | \$ 35,645.13 | |

Transfer from Main to Admin: \$17,443.00 could be for next audit
Transfer from Bond Repayment to Main Checking: \$ 30,000.00 pay 2nd Loan Payment
Motion to Pay the Bills as read: Jerry
Second: Colette Passed

Treasurer's Report:

Nothing to Report

General Manager's Report:

- We have had 2 floods and 2 service disruptions at PH#1 because the floats are not properly working. Cascade Electric will be up this week to check. Brian is manually turning them on and off until then. Currently the problem is intermittent and has been difficult to troubleshoot.
- Cisterns at PH#1 have been a ongoing challenge due to an intermittent problem with either the cistern running dry or overflowing. Cascade Electric has been out multiple times troubleshooting the intermittent problem. Floats, relays and timers appear to be working. Currently, timers that kick on the well pump at the end of each duty cycle of the distribution pump so that the cistern is full when the distribution pumps turn back on have been isolated from the system in an attempt to determine if that is the cause the problem.
- The distribution pump and PH #1 pump #2 is leaking at a seal and will need to be replaced. Thankfully we have a pump on standby that can installed. 6/25/2024 ~ Distribution pump at PH #1 pump #2 has been replaced. The old one is being rebuilt so that we have a spare.
- Brian is working with his Tech person to upgrade our office tower, monitors, etc. Total cost should be about \$150.00
- #709 had his water line replaced. Brian did a courtesy shut off.
- PH#2 chlorine solenoid is not operational. We have a high chlorine level, not out of range. Brian will replace the solenoid 6/26/2024.

Upcoming absences: Brian and Kristie will be gone June 28 thru July 5.
Brian and Kristie will be gone Aug 9-19.

Motion to adjourn at 8:27 Dave
Second: Colette Passed

Dennis Peppenger
President

Christy Walter
Secretary