

UNOFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES

Original Version Approved at 10/05/2022 Meeting

WILL BE REVIEWED AND APPROVED AT NEXT BOARD MEETING

08/04/2022 Blue River Water and Sanitation Board Monthly Meeting

Called To Order @ 6:00PM

Board Members Present: Tony Casad, Melanie Stanley, Jim Parks, Josh Cloke

Board Member Absent: None

Superintendent: Al Artero

Consultant: Jason Carman (Absent)

Approval of Agenda

Jim motions to approve agenda and previous months minutes, Tony 2nds , All in favor, Passes Unanimously

Minutes were sent to Board ahead of meeting for review, available to public upon request

Public Present: Jeffrey Chapek, Tim Herrera, Lane Tompkins, and Judy Casad

Public Comment:

Tim Herrera: previously e-mailed the Board regarding the Google number that had been set up for the district, and that it was getting ready to expire. Tony let him know that contact goes through Rainbow Water District currently. Tim says that he still has the information and can provide it to the Board so that we have it and can use it for future uses.

Josh asked Al if he was aware that the Google number was still being forwarded to him, Al said he was under the impression that when the new website had been set-up there had been no connections to that number so it would be “going away”

We will be discussing it in more detail after the information is sent to the rest of the Board.

Jeffrey Chapek: Questioned about the sudden rate increase. Feels that being able to keep the grass and vegetation around his property green is more expensive then is reasonable at this point. His bill has almost doubled with the warmer weather and needing to water more often.

Josh explained that we are finally reading meters, which hasn't been done in a significant amount of time and that is contributing to the “excessive rates”. Based on rate research we did and consultants we've engaged regarding the cost increases.

Jeffrey also wants to know if there is a way to get a meter moved closer to his property rather than on the neighbors and up the hill further.

Josh, we can talk to you later regarding getting the meter moved but that will have to be a conversation at a different time.

Tony C., there is information on our website and on the Rainbow website regarding the rate increase and the base rates we are using. If we need to look at your property and possible leaks we can have that discussion too. We are in the middle of hiring an engineering firm to re-do the water system etc., so that might be an issue that will be addressed during that re-do.

Tim Herrera: Is seconding what Jeffrey is saying about the rate structure, that there needs to be a tiered system, and that the flat fee rate structure isn't working for the regular customers. There were 6000 gallons included originally and now we get nothing in the base rate, so people are not very happy. So we looking at the rate structure again is something that would be good, and if there needs to be a petition circulated that is signed by the residents or what needs to happen to cause us to re-evaluate.

Tony C., we are still lower then every other small district. Josh C. we do have our proposed budget and we are still trying to work through the process and will be looking at everything in that process.

Jeffrey says he's bought 4 pumps in the 20 years he's lived here and he still seems to be losing pressure consistently.

Al says he thinks there was a problem when connections were initially placed there was too much elevation placed on the piping and strain on the system and there needs to be re-evaluations.

Jeffrey said he was at one point looking at putting in a larger meter to service the property, he was told at no cost to him, then was told it would cost him. Both Tony and Josh agreed that we would replace what was there if it were at our fault, but to replace with a larger meter that would be at homeowners cost and we are also trying to keep residential lines at ¾ inch.

Judy Casad: suggested that in her previous place of residence that a holding tank might be what's needed, she had a neighbor that had to do that for a similar issue.

Working with engineer to ensure the district will be in-line with fully functional operation and best practices.

Superintendent Report:

of active services 78

3/4 inch 67

1 inch 7

2 inch 2

3 inch 2

of inactive 9

of turn ons 3

of turn offs 1

of applications 0

of installations 2

Total water produced (well meter) gals 3.83

Total meter consumption / gallons 1.3

Total water sales \$ 5485.00

Unaccounted for water (Loss) gals 2.53

Meters Read on the 15th 67

of meters tested and repaired 1

of leaks repaired 2

Looking at the run times over the days following the 2 major repairs that were done could account for about a ½ million of that loss.

The larger gain in loss of water might be accounted for by lost meters, leaks that could not be found until the weather changed, people have reconnected, Tony wants to know if there is a huge leak that we obviously cannot find, and wants to figure out why we're looking at that number in a month's time? It's gone down consistently since Feb. and then it suddenly spikes.

Al has given his official notice and will be leaving his position 8/19/2022.

Pump #1 Repair Status: Parts will be sent out November 28th, we need to figure out a different distributor to see if we can get that sooner. Tony says that Eric at Rainbow says that it will hold for as long as we need on the patch, but we'll need to adjust the patching to be more "permanent". Jim will be following up with the vendor.

Al will be dropping off keys tomorrow so Josh can get duplicates made.

Reservoir #2 is still full

Tony C., is asking what are we going to do as an interim? He wants to have Jim installed as our interim Water Superintendent, All in favor, Passes Unanimously

Edited 10/07/2022: Additions to the minutes to include that Tony C. motioned to approve Jim Parks as the interim superintendent, Josh called for a 2nd, Melanie said she'd 2nd but asked if Jim had the proper certifications to be the interim, Tony C., said that he (meaning Tony) was certified, and that Jim could be certified easily enough, Josh again asked if Melanie would 2nd, Melanie 2nd, All in Favor (including Jim Parks voted to pass the motion), Passed Unanimously.

Tim H., added his comments that Jim can get certified relatively easily. Had reported to Al that there had been a missing meter that was found, he took pictures several hours apart and that it doesn't look like it's running and he's one of the people who's watering his lawn daily and not paying more then the \$25 a month cause his meter isn't working. There isn't a fair level at this point because the district isn't tracking down the broken meters and everyone needs to be held to same standard.

Items from Commissioners:

Water District Building Update: Nothing new, will be getting in touch with Jamie to see if there is anything he can do to help move it along.

Budget 2022-2023

Annual Budget was approved by the Budget Committee and is being presented to the Board tonight for Final approval.

Changes that were made:

Bulk Water Sales, Maintenance/Repairs, Fire Insurance, and Contract Labor

Josh C., motions to approve the 2022-2023 BRWSD operating Budget, Tony C., All in favor, Passes Unanimously.

Leak on Echo St. has been repaired, School meter is being coordinated to be repaired with Contractors.

Fencing around Reservoir Tank #1, Tony is going to look and see if there is money from FEMA or Insurance to cover that repair.

Water District needs to set up an account with HD Fowler Co. for parts so that if other supplier is unable to provide parts that we have a back-up.

Jim P., motions to open account with HD Fowler, Tony C., 2nds, All in Favor, Passes Unanimously

Need something to store equipment in, TAG trailer cost seems like too much. TAG is being reimbursed by insurance, so it's alright for now until the building gets rebuilt.

Jim is going to do research on what size or type of shed might be the best option and will go from there.

Chairs Report:

Nothing to report

Treasurer's Report:

Water Sales \$3139.00 Savings: \$216,834.00 Checking: \$14,998.00 GIP: \$110,050.00

Deposits: \$3139.00 Bills: \$7868.79 Tax Funds: \$0.00

Insurance: \$0.00 Balance After Bills: \$7,129.21

Tony asked Al about his mileage reimbursement amount, Al stated that it was for numerous trips back and forth to town in excess of his normal trips because of repairs to lines and meters that required quicker turn around.

Will have to add

Jim P., motions to accept Treasurer's Report, Josh C. 2nd , All in Favor, Passes Unanimously.

Secretary's Report:

Nothing outside regular meeting minutes

NEXT MEETING IS SEPTEMBER 7, 2022 6:00PM

Melanie motioned to adjourn, Tony C. 2nd, All in Favor, Passes Unanimously

Adjourned @ 7:05pm