

FLATHEAD COUNTY WATER DISTRICT #101

POB 1141, Columbia Falls, MT 59912

*** Meeting Minutes April 3rd 2018 ***

Public Hearing:

- I. Call to Order / Roll Call.
 - a. Harold Herman called the General Meeting for FCWD #101 held April 3, 2018 to order at 7:04pm.
 - b. Directors present include: Harold Herman, President, Aaron Anderson, Vice President, Russ Barnett, Brian Rohletter.
 - c. Also present, Carole Rohletter, Shane Pierson, Certified Water Operator, Tina Bondy, Board Secretary (by telephone), Matt Nerdig, A2Z Engineering and Lyle Coney, Rural Development
- II. Discussion of the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER), including comments from Rural Development and A2Z Engineering.

Currently, Rural Development is evaluating against other similar Montana state water systems of a similar community and similar size/area. Though not too many to use as comparison. RD is working on the underwriting as well. Looking at the loan payments and the debt service reserves that will be necessary. Discussion with the Board that if we are not able to get at least 50% grants/loans that this will not be feasible.

Lyle mentioned that the Program Director has been to the district and recognized the very big need. After the Income Survey, learned the average income in the district is approximately \$15,000.

Next steps, get the PER approved, do an Environmental Report and then the application is submitted for project funding.

According to Matt, the Environmental Report is in process. Given that there are not a lot of inherent risks in the area, no flood plains, no wetlands, this should not be a significant challenge.

Discussion with Lyle and the Board around the prospect of doing this in multiple parts, and the mention that at some point the rates may need to raise. The Board needs to have a workable system, and in the future, we will

need a manager, other costs will raise as well, but the rates should remain where they are currently. Discussed whether there was really a potential for growth in the district, and down the road that may be a possibility. As it is, the district has outgrown the boundaries and will need to be redrawn.

Discussed with Lyle that the District has been in the process of annexing some of the outlying properties in.

Once we get the comments back from the Senior Engineer for Rural Development, the Board will need to vote on the PER. Anticipate hearing back from RD in the next week.

Following these comments, Lyle departed.

- III. Time for public comment and questions, however, there being no questions, the Board moved onto the General Meeting.

General Meeting:

- I. Reading and approval of the minutes from previous meeting.

Sec. reviewed the March 6th meeting minutes with the Board. Harold made a motion to approve the minutes as prepared. Brian seconded and all voted in favor.

- II. Operator's report.

Mr. Pierson provided the information that all of the DEQ exception letters had been submitted. The CCR was completed.

Water readings: 3/3-4/2 - Well 1: 1,293,400 gal / Well 2: 175,000 gal. Totaling 1,468,400 gal, which was over 230,000 gal less than last month.

Well 2 - hour meter is still on backorder.

Have identified 5 households that are willing to do the necessary water tests. When Shane hands out the bottles, will provide simple instructions. For these lead tests, we are not anticipating any problems.

- III. Financial report.

Secretary reviewed current financials and provided reports on all including aging account report.

- IV. New business.

1. Water leak - Junction Gas. March 24, there was a large leak reported by Harold behind the Junction Gas Station. $\frac{3}{4}$ " line spigot insulation and bucket over the top. Harold capped it, though this may have leaked before.
 2. Annexation of additional lots. Annexation letters have gone out to most of the relevant properties and all but 1 have been returned. There are a few remaining properties to also receive Annexation letters.
 3. Property Sales – Aaron Anderson has sold his property and will be moving out of the District. A new Board Vice President will need to be appointed and will also have a vacant Board seat.
- V. Old business.
1. Discussion of delinquent accounts.
 2. Status of loan payments to be made; next payment due August 1, 2018.
 3. Status of payments owing to Streeter for tank house meter.
 - i. Paying quarterly at April meeting. Next payment will be June.
 4. May 2018 elections – Info to property owners regarding election votes. Review the District Bylaws to determine what, if any, publications or postings are required.
- VI. Correspondence
- a. Discussion of any correspondence the FCWD Board has received this month.
 - i. There were two property owners that had water lines freeze during a 4 hour power outage / storm last month. One of the owners has requested a back up generator so this doesn't happen again.
- IX. Additional items for discussion
- X. Adjournment at 8:26pm.
- President to announce the next General Meeting of the Board is to be held on May 1st 2018, 7pm, at the Badrock Fire Department.
- President to say, "This completes our business for this April 3rd Public Hearing and General Meeting. This meeting is now adjourned."