

FLATHEAD COUNTY WATER DISTRICT #101

POB 1141, Columbia Falls, MT 59912

*** Meeting Minutes March 7, 2023 ***

General Meeting:

I. Call to Order - 7:00 pm

II. Directors present include Harold Herman, President, Brian Rohletter, Nicole Bond

Also present – David Baltz, Certified Water Operator, Water District Customer John Toftum, and Tina Bondy, Board Secretary

III. Minutes

a. Reading and approval of the December 6, 2022 Minutes.

After one noted correction, Harold made Motion to accept the Minutes of the December Quarterly Board Meeting as presented by the Secretary. Nikki seconded the Motion and all voted in favor.

IV. Time for Public Comment and Discussions

a. No public discussion topics

V. New Business

a. Cold Weather Water Leaks

i. There were 5 meters that read high this past month.

One meter knew there was a leak, a plumber checked it, ordered parts and turned it back on. The others were unaware of leaks. These were extremely high usage, between 48k-59k gallons. Board discussion about how to handle these.

b. DEQ – Emerging Contaminant Projects Request: Potential grant money for installation of filtration to reduce manganese.

i. Dave Krop called and explained that DEQ has grant funds available for a filtration system in our tank house. David Baltz added that in addition, may also need a chlorination system. Harold called and talked with A2Z engineers about this, and they would check whether we could have filtration without chlorination.

The District did come in under the limits that would necessitate the system. If they are going to force us to put in a filtration system down the road – they will force us to do chlorination, too. Don't know timeline, Dave Krop didn't give an exact date. We also don't know whether we would get the funding/grant.

Board discussion that this is probably worth pursuing as DEQ is going to likely start mandating this, particularly for babies and older people. Though again, at this point, we are under the state threshold, for babies 300 parts, and elderly 1000 parts.

Harold wants to know whether there is time for the rest of the Board to know and vote about this as he would like more Board members involved.

David B will make sure the District is in for the funding if available, but we can step back if we don't end up wanting to do it.

c. Discussion about Unused Meters due to fire

- i. Nikki brought up the question to the Board, whether we do something for those that due to "Acts of God" the property and water service, is unusable. Board discussed that the concern is that the district has bills to cover as well, so we can't afford to not have the monthly flat rate covered.

d. River Bridge Remodel Status

- i. Brian Tipton is the manager of the project. Harold ordered parts for installation, and got all except the pit, which should be in by end of March. All parts in the tank house for now. Tipton is fine with that timing, Harold gave him the bill from Core & Main, which he paid and was deposited in the bank separate from our regular deposits.
Tipton will hire John Toftum and T5 to install.
Should have water flowing there by April unless the weather doesn't change.

e. DHHS - Energy Services Program - Low-Income Home Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) - FCWD 101 is an approved vendor.

- i. Is there a chance - could we send out to people? If they need help, they can fill out this application?
Discussion about putting an email out to the District that we are an approved vendor with LIHWAP, and put that on the website as well.

VI. Old Business

- a. **406 Consulting** - Board asked secretary to contact Jason at 406 Consulting about online payments.
- b. **Spare Booster Pump** - Harold ordered this following vote last quarterly meeting. Still hasn't received. That should arrive by the end of the month. We should take up again

later this year to buy a well pump – especially for the one by the River Bridge. From Ferguson the cost will be about \$3k. This was tabled for a future meeting.

- c. **Unauthorized / Unmetered hookups** – Board discussed a new Resolution for the Bylaws addressing how to handle unauthorized/unmetered hookups with the language provided by the DEQ. Board Secretary to have this prepared for next meeting.
- d. **811 - UDig Enrollment** – Board Secretary has documents to finalize enrollment and will do this in the coming weeks.
- e. **District Insurance** – District needs to obtain new insurance as the prior insurance company is no longer insuring water districts. Deadline to have new insurance lined up is July.

VII. Operator’s report – presented by Dave Baltz, CWO
(see attached)

VIII. Financial report

Secretary provided and reviewed financial reports as of February 28, 2023.

Revenue to date this calendar year: \$ 10,637.37

Expenses to date this calendar year: \$ 1,234.04

Checking account balance: \$ 20,192.47

Reserve/ Asset Replacement bank balance: \$ 66,280.79

Checks written / Payments issued in December, January and February from Glacier Checking Acct.:

December 2022

Check # 592 to David Baltz for monthly service: \$500.00

Check # 593 to 406 Consulting: \$350.00

Check # 594 to Tina Bondy for Board Secretarial: \$400.00

Check # 595 to M.E. Lab: \$360.00

Check # 596 to M.E. Lab: \$343.00

January 2023

Check # 597 to David Baltz for monthly service: \$500.00

Check # 598 to 406 Consulting: \$350.00

Check # 599 to Tina Bondy for Board Secretarial: \$400.00

Check # 600 to Bad Rock Fire Dept: \$100

February 2023

Check # 601 to David Baltz for monthly service: \$500.00

Check # 602 to 406 Consulting, Accounting: \$350.00
Check # 603 to Tina Bondy for Board Secretarial: \$400.00
Check # 604 to M.E. Lab: \$35.00
Check # 605 to MT Rural Water annual charge: \$250.00

Flathead Electric Bill for December - \$ 134.04
Flathead Electric Bill for January - \$ 259.58
Flathead Electric Bill for February - \$ 258.66

IX. Correspondence and Additional Discussion

David received an email from Montana Rural Water about credit card payments - he will forward to the Board for review and consideration.

Board discussion about residential meter for lot behind Outfitter's Supply is full of manganese and didn't pick up on the meter reading. It is at the end of the water line, so collects manganese. Once weather warms up this can be fixed.

Board discussion about President role for this next year. Nikki said she would be willing to take on that role if Harold wanted to step down. Further discussion about some of the routine duties, such as checking the mail. Will need to provide Minutes from when Nikki was voted onto Board to update the Glacier Bank accounts. May also need the Minutes showing Linda's resignation, in case her name is still on the accounts.

X. Adjournment - 7:48pm

-- President to announce the next General Meeting of the Board is scheduled on June 6, 2023, 7pm, at the Badrock Fire Department.