

# FLATHEAD COUNTY WATER DISTRICT #101

POB 1141, Columbia Falls, MT 59912

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\*\*\* Meeting Minutes June 6, 2023 \*\*\*

## General Meeting:

### I. Call to Order - 7:00pm

Directors present include Harold Herman, President, Nicole Bond, Shannon Henson, Brian Rohletter

Also present – David Baltz, Certified Water Operator, Tina Bondy, Board Secretary and Jeff Soyland, backup CWO

### II. Minutes - *Discussion and approval of the March 7, 2023 Minutes.*

a. Board discussion as to the Minutes from the March 7, 2023 meeting that were circulated electronically to the Board before the meeting.

Harold made a Motion to accept the Minutes from the March 7, 2023 quarterly Board Meeting as presented. Brian seconded and all voted in favor.

### III. Time for Public Comment and Discussions

a. No public in attendance.

### IV. New Business

#### a. District Insurance

Board discussion about the need for insurance since MAACO is no longer supporting utility districts. There is a new rep from PayneWest and Board asked Secretary to connect with him.

#### b. 406 Consulting – Credit card / Online payments

Board discussion about whether online payments and/or electronic invoices are an option. According to 406 Consulting, they can send invoices electronically with an email address, and the customer can pay electronically or print out and send check in. Further questions from Board about the logistics. Discussed having Secretary send notification to the customers about this option.

#### c. Unauthorized / Unmetered hookups – Discussion of Bylaws Resolution

Discussion with Board about a proposed resolution and that it must be published in the Daily Interlake and circulated to all customers. Board asked Secretary to prepare the needed Resolution as well as contact Daily Interlake to publish this notice.

#### d. Annual Appointment of Board Positions

Board discussion about Board positions. Harold Herman has been President and that position is open for a new appointment. Nicole said that she would be willing to take on the role for the next year if Harold wanted to step down. Shannon advised that he has both of his properties in the district up for sale, so he cannot take on a leadership role given that he will likely have to step off the Board once he no longer holds property in the district.

Harold made a Motion to appoint Nicole Bond as Board President for FCWD 101. Brian seconded the motion and all voted in favor, none opposed.

Board had some further discussion about the logistics of banking and being able to sign on checks. Asked Secretary to provide a copy of the Minutes for Glacier Bank to make the change to add Nicole Bond as Board President.

**e. Certified Water Operator Position**

Dave Baltz has advised he would like to step aside as the primary water operator for the district, though he has already begun training a replacement for the role, Jeff Soyland.

Board discussion with Dave about the fact that he would not be stepping completely away, would still be willing to be a backup to Jeff. Also discussion about level of certification that Jeff holds for water operators. Jeff will need to provide evidence of insurance and a W9.

Harold made Motion to have Jeff Soyland step in as primary Certified Water Operator for the FCWD 101 District. Nicole seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

**f. Aging Accounts - Property Tax Liens**

Board discussion about whether there were any properties that have continued not paying the bill. At this point, all are either up to date, or have made arrangements to pay. If the district needs to attach a property tax lien, there is a deadline of the end of June to do so for the annual Flathead County taxes.

**V. Old Business**

**a. Spare Booster Pump / Spare Well Pump**

Harold advised the Board and the CWO that the spare booster pump that had been ordered finally arrived. Further, he had discussed with Ferguson the concerns over other spare parts and the advisability of having them on hand. Clark at Ferguson gave Harold a quote for the district of \$4968 for an extra well pump for the well at the River Bridge property, and one for the Gordon Avenue well, as well as a motor to run them and a control box. This would enable the district to have on hand all spare parts that we would need to maintain the system.

The District does have the cash on hand in the checking account now, to get this package ordered. Board was in favor of doing this, given supply chain issues and concerns with being able to get items when they are needed.

Harold made a Motion that the District order and purchase this package of parts that would maintain operation of the water system. Brian seconded the Motion and all voted in favor, none opposed.

Harold advised he will contact Clark at Ferguson to get this ordered.

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

Dave has submitted the paperwork for the District to potentially be in line for some of this grant money, but has not yet heard anything. Exploring whether in addition to the filtration we would also have to add a chlorination system. If this is the case, we would need to employ a full time CWO to take samples daily.

Board discussed the pros and cons of having this type of system. Would be great to have filtration for the manganese, but without the chlorination / secondary treatment. Even if the District installed the filtration system itself, without grant money, there is still a mandated secondary treatment system. Board decided we can see what the grant would do, but if it will cost more and have to do this daily, the district should pass unless / until there is a mandate.

**c. DHHS - Energy Services Program - Low-Income Home Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP)**

We are listed as an approved vendor though now with LIHWAP. Community Action Partnership - though for now, the program payments are on hold.

**d. 811 - UDig Enrollment Status**

Board secretary has the application and will complete this enrollment.

**VI. Operator's report - Quarterly Report presented by Dave Baltz, CWO**

Dave provided an oral Operator's Report for the quarter. All samples have been fine, and he has the list of tests that the District will have to eventually conduct.

There is a Nitrate test that he will do next month, this is only required for this year. Lead and Copper tests are coming up although we have 200-300 days still to get that one taken.

Discussed that the District is required to conduct a lead and copper survey, Dave completed the questionnaire and submitted.

There is no lead in this system, so received back an acknowledgement that the District was in compliance. Nothing further at this time.

There is a meter lid that is broken around the rim. A metal lid would be better. Harold will talk to John Toftum to get those replaced with steel.

## **VII. Financial report – Secretary reviewed financial reports as of June 6, 2023**

Revenue to date this calendar year: \$ 67428.42

Expenses to date this calendar year: \$ 22155.82

Checking account balance: \$ 20,735.14 (as of 6/1/2023)

Reserve/Asset Replacement bank balance: \$ 67,336.79 (as of 6/1/2023)

## **VIII. Correspondence and Additional Discussion**

a. No additional correspondence to discuss.

b. Pump house entry roof. Harold and Shannon discussed construction of a small roof over the door to the Pump House that would keep the ice and snow off the approach. They will handle building this.

c. Water leaks / high bills: Seaman’s water bill was exceptionally high, the report showed 119k gallons for the month. Harold went to the lot and the pit was spinning like crazy. The renter said they didn’t have water running, but apparently the toilet had been. Joanna Adams also had a very high usage in her rental of 33k gallons for the month. Reminder that toilets running 24 hours a day can use/waste a significant amount of water.

d. Nicole brought up a proposed rezone of property adjacent to hers. This is not in the District, but she is vocally opposing this rezone and wanted to let the rest of the Board know.

e. River Bridge is up to par, they are tearing out the bar portion and may have some sort of Farmer’s Market / food services up there.

f. Mitch Hoerner is using A2Z to add 5 units under 1 roof and a 1” service line at his property. This will still be commercial, rather than having to put in 5 separate pits.

g. Jay Wolfe commercial property has added about 8 spigots to the line there. May be a concern with having to be licensed by state of MT as an RV park. Need further info on this.

## **IX. Adjournment 7:47pm**

President announced the next General Meeting of the Board is scheduled on September 5, 2023, 7pm, at the Badrock Fire Department.