



## **Board Meeting**

**August 19, 2021 – 2:00 p.m.**

**Call to Order at 2:00 p.m.**

**Roll Call**

**Board Members: Charles Bogle, Steve Lasswell, Greg Smith, Randy Wilhelm, Peter Ewing via phone call.**

**Staff Members: Dave Schneider, Peggy Quint, Jackson Malcolm**

**Public: John Van Doren, representing Adams Subdivision and Planning Commission of Westcliffe**

**Pledge of Allegiance led by Greg Smith**

**Additions to the September 9, 2021 Board Agenda – Please note change in date**

- 1. Gap Audit Presentation by Second 61**
- 2. Audit Presentation by Christy DeNardo**

### **Administrative Reports**

- 1. District Business Manager – Peggy Quint**
  - a. Second 61 – Cameron has resigned from Second 61 – Update on GAP Audit; Chase responded with the update on the site visit findings. He will be presenting to the Board at the next opportunity. Chase is most interested in being a part of our move to the new WWTP.**
  - b. Audit – will be presented on September 9, 2021 at Board Meeting. This audit had some bumps and challenges, mostly due to the transition from Billflash to Invoice Cloud and Freedom Printing. Payments are processed via JP Morgan/Chase. Deadline is September 30, 2021 to file the approval of the audit.**
- 2. District Operation Manager – Dave Schneider**
  - a. Project updates;**

**Soil analysis on the reservoir has been done and we are waiting on the results report.**

**Colorado Rural Water Association has offered some on-site training for our Field Techs. This is scheduled for Wednesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. They are interested in hearing more about our Wastewater Treatment Plant. Perhaps another set of eyes on our project will be helpful.**

**Last water tank cleaning will take place on September 2, 2021. This is the final clean that was on our contract with this company. This is only if we can allow that tank to be off the supply on that day. Cleaning will be rescheduled in that case. Cleaning is required every three years. Dave will shop around for companies that provide this service at a lower price.**

- b. **Water Augmentation:** at the end of July, we were at full pool. Water is flowing and we have satisfied our uses and evaporative losses. At the end August, we should still be at full pool. This is the best shape we have been at this time of the year for several years.
- c. **Water Agreement with LRE Water (Leonard Rice Engineers LLC).** Justin Korkus is now working for LRE Water. LRE Water is a multi-state firm with more than enough experience to take care of our needs in the future. Board will need to sign the agreement to hire them. Dave entertained a motion to approve this letter of agreement. This will be addressed later on the agenda. Justin is completing the dry-up report for the Johnson Ranch and is going to talk to someone on LRE staff to see if they have any ideas regarding the area of the ranch that is not draining.

## Consent Agenda

- 1. **Approval of the Minutes of the July 15, 2021, Regular Board Meeting**
- 2. **Approval of the Minutes of the July 21, 2021 and July 28, 2021 Workshop**
- 3. **Financial Report and Approval of Checks for July 2021**  
Motion to approve with a correction on 2-a, stating that the PV system will be about 2/3 the size of a football field, was made by Greg Smith, seconded by Steve Lasswell. Vote was 4-0 in favor, due to Peter not being within service to vote at this time.

## Old Business

- 1. **USDA funding discussion:** Dave needs direction on discussions with USDA. Board is not completely sure that de-obligation is the final decision. Dave has sent the required information and USDA is waiting to hear for a decision from the board. They will not commit to loan/grant, interest rates etc. As the district waits for a decision from Washington DC regarding the funds that could go to infrastructure, the definition of infrastructure is still being discussed. It is possible that DOLA might pull the \$1M grant if we are going to de-obligate because there is no matching grant. We would have to start over with that also. Dave feels that since we are shovel ready, that if we de-obligate, there would be a better chance to get USDA money. This offer is good only until Spring of 2023. We cannot stack Federal money on top of other money. Dave will talk to Christy about our Mineral Impact monies. Deadline for this decision was discussed. Charles feels that more conversations need to take place with our representatives and Sara with Action 22 prior to making a final decision. Dave recommends a decision in the next 30 days. Dave will talk to DOLA regarding the \$1M grant. We have already extended that grant since 2018. RMWSD would benefit from that grant. Charles feels that both Town of Westcliffe and Town of Silver Cliff should be offering letters of support for this situation. John Van Doren offered to inform the entities that he is involved with as soon as he could.
- 2. **Iconergy project update –** Loan was approved, SRF Grant was approved. Dave is working with Christy to get the DOLA grant approved. We have had kick-off meetings with Iconergy and SRF to discuss the protocol billing and payments. At this point, the meter installation has not started yet. Treatment concept designs on the new well and treatment system will be received soon. Weekly meetings with Iconergy will be held with staff to keep everyone in the loop. Staff is excited about this great program! Jackson did a great job on the information that he put on social media to let the district customers know what is taking place and what to expect.

## New Business

- 1. **Attainable housing exempt from Water and Wastewater tap possible moratorium;** Charles requested this item to be put on the agenda. The County Housing Board had a kick-off

meeting with Chaffa Technical Assistance Grant. The group spent time with the consultants that are under contract to support the community. We are one of six communities that have received support from Chaffa. They suggested that RMWSD consider an exemption from the moratorium on taps fees for attainable housing. Dave stated that this would be a PR nightmare. The majority of the board felt strongly that there should be no exceptions to one group – no matter what the need is.

2. Board decision on whether workshops will be paid. Due to an increase in workshops this Summer, it was brought up by Randy that the time spent in workshops should be addressed. Greg stated that moving forward, board members should be paid. Once the board member has reached their \$2400.00 limit, there is no more stipends paid until the next year. Peggy stated that the validity and the value of a board member should never be minimized. Board members are always out in public, not just when attending a RMWSD BOD meeting. Attendance requirements are in place in order to be on the board and there is a limit on what can be paid. We will continue to pay as in the past. Dave will draft a policy on this item and put it before the board at the next meeting. Peggy will check to make sure that the board members have received the Board Manual.
3. Approval of Resolution 2021-8 Authorizing attendance to the 2021 SDA Conference by Dave Schneider and Peggy Quint. Motion made by: Randy Wilhelm Second by: Greg Smith  
Vote: 5-0
4. LRE Letter of Agreement – Motion to accept the agreement: Steve Lasswell and Second: Greg Smith, Vote was 5-0

#### Wrap-Up

Charles will talk to Action 22.

A letter to our elected officials will be drafted.

Request for letters of support from Silver Cliff and Westcliffe. Individual towns will compose their own letters.

Greg may assemble a list of topics to cover in support letters.

Adjourn at 3:53 p.m.