

ROUND MOUNTAIN WATER AND SANITATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

THURSDAY, November 17, 2022

2:00 P.M. – 3rd Street Gallery Building Conference Room

In-person or via zoom – Please call for Invite to Zoom

Please silence your cell phones – and mute your mic on Zoom

Call to Order at 2:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Board Members present were Charles Bogle, Steve Lasswell, Connie Thompson, Randy Wilhelm and George Mowry. Staff present were Dave Schneider, District Manager and Peggy Quint, Assistant District Manager

Pledge of Allegiance led by Charles Bogle

Additions to the December 15, 2022, Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

- 1. Audit Presentation if completed or a Special Meeting will be held**
- 2. Resolution 2022-06 District By-Laws Amendment**
- 3. Use of district property by employees for personal use**
- 4. Resolution 2022-13 Budget Amendment if needed**

Administrative Reports

- 1. District Business Manager – Peggy Quint**

**Audit is almost complete and ready to present by the December 15th Board Meeting
Staff Vacancy**

- 2. ORC – Steven Koch**

Steven is on vacation this week; however, the other Field Techs have been working hard on projects that needed to be wrapped up. Most major projects have been completed.

- 3. District Operations Manager – Dave Schneider**

- a. Smith Well – Electrical is about halfway completed. Pump should be installed after Thanksgiving. Piping for the drop pipe to the well is backordered, but it may be delivered next week. The well pump will be put in the week after Thanksgiving. Dave needs to get electrical on-site so that the well can be shocked once the well pump is installed. Once that is flushed out, testing the water quality will begin as soon as possible. Due to shortage of materials, there are delays. Electric meter boxes are 50 weeks out. Mark Stetz with Iconergy may have located another box that Black Hills will need to approve. Some of the lighting for the building is 60-90 days out. The generator is 10 months out for delivery. It will probably be late Spring before the well will be up and running.**
- b. Meter Project – about 30 meters remain to be reprogrammed. MSPS will be asked to return to train Field Techs and provide the tool needed to complete this phase of the project, which is to have temp data points that will alert staff in the event of a frozen meter. Any additional meters moving forward will already be programmed.**

- c. **Reservoir Project** – the Intergovernmental Agreement has been looked at by the district attorney, Jeff Parker. The agreement will be sent to Upper Ark and should be finalized by the end of the month.
- d. **Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade** – the Electro Coagulation process has been tested to the point that it is clear what it can accomplish. We have teamed up with a microalgae lab in Texarkana, TX. A gallon of our testing product was sent to them. The lab broke it down to find out what type of waste the district needs to remove. The lab made a recipe of 12 different microbes and had tremendous results. We are achieving phosphorus removal to .018, and we need to have a result of .025. The microbes will absorb arsenic, and the EC unit will zap the microbe out. We were able to reach .08 parts per billion. Dave is extremely happy with this result. He does not think that CDPHE will have an issue with this result. Being able to reach this without a mechanical process is really exciting. We have proven that we can tailor every little wastewater system out there and boilerplate the design and then tailor it to whatever their specific need might be. This is great for RMWSD and rural Colorado and the rest of the rural areas in the United States. We are planning on sending the official response to CDPHE before Thanksgiving. We have been holding off intentionally to get real numbers for them to reduce the amount of back and forth with them. The report should arrive very soon. It was a bit of a challenge when we realized that the district could not afford the hydrogen peroxide because it was our “go to” treatment. Now, we are thankful because it forced us to fine-tune the process with microbes. We will grow most of our own bugs, about \$150 to \$200 per month for the bugs, which is much more affordable than the \$30K/mo that the hydrogen peroxide would have cost. Although microbes slow down in the Winter, the microalgae is harvested in Estes Park, so it is used to being in a colder climate. Some of the microbes won’t die from the cold but will slow down. In the Winter months, more will need to be added to get the same effectiveness. In our case, we have less wastewater to treat because a lot of our community leaves for the Winter. Dave met with the new DOLA rep, and it appears that we should be able to amend our \$1m request that is allocated to this project. USDA is waiting in the wings to see what the state will say. They are ready to move forward once that is approved.
- e. **Haga Project** – the water and wastewater project is finishing up. Testing was done on the water main, and it passed. Those lines have been flushed and are now in use. The sewer extension is almost completed. Repair on the trail has been done that was caused by the project. Connie asked about the lot by Subway and whether or not they have a water permit. The lot straight across from Subway does have a water permit, the other lots at that location do not have water and wastewater permits. The excavation south of town is a propane company that is installing a 30K gallon propane tank. The negotiations were that the tank could not be buried. Dave was not concerned with water contamination because propane released in an uncontrolled situation, it turns to gas. The fire department requires a large cistern for firefighting water. The owner will buy bulk water and will not purchase a tap and will fill the cistern with bulk water. Stipulations were that any uncontained spills were to be handled as OSHA requires. Any additional building will have to be connected to our system.
- f. **Nolan Project** – most of the wastewater lines have been installed. The water service will be installed after Thanksgiving. There is a 2” water tap and each house will have a 4” collection service line that will drop into an 8” collection pipe that will drop into a wet well. There will be a grinder lift pump that will pump up to a manhole up the hill behind The Cliffs Auto

Repair shop. That will be all their private system. Our responsibility will be from the meter back to the water main and the sewer will be the owner's. The tiny homes are available to purchase; only the foundation for each one will be provided.

- g. DOT project in Silver Cliff – includes two upsized storm water culverts (one that is 30” and the other 24”) across the highway from South to North. RMWSD has a water main that is right in the way and a fire hydrant is in the same location. This will be monitored so that our property will not be damaged.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the Minutes of the October 27, 22, 2022, Regular Board Meeting
2. Financial Report and Approval of Checks for October 2022

Connie Thompson moved to approve the Consent Agenda; Randy Wilhelm seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

New Business

1. Staff vacancy – Dave Schneider and Peggy Quint explained the vacancy and what they would suggest being done to fill the vacancy. By consensus, the board agreed that an ad in the local papers and social media would be a good starting point. After a few weeks, then we can contact outside entities for suggestions or advice. Connie Thompson has offered her expertise if it is needed.
2. Change to sick time benefit policy – It is suggested by management that the policy states that there is a limit to how much sick time employees can roll over. Employees have been encouraged to build up their sick time so that they are covered until the Short-Term Disability starts, which is after 7 days. If you are injured on the job, it starts immediately. Short-Term Disability will pay up to 180 days at the rate of 66.66% of what the employee earns. After that time, Long-Term Disability will take over for up to four years. Long-Term Disability pays 60%. Management would like employees to be able to bank 80 hours and anything over 80 hours can convert to personal or vacation leave. They can accrue up to 160 hours of sick time. Dave will look at the verbiage again and make some clarification.

Old Business

1. Resolution 2022-06 Amended District By-Laws – Tabled until another meeting
2. Tap Extension Resolution 2022- 14 Motion made to approve the resolution. The proposed verbiage change was sent to the board. The challenges that we are having in our own project made Dave aware that others could be having the same issue. Adding an extension to four years would be fair and logical. Dave also had the plan of action for the staff to take for notifying customers once this is approved. Motion was made to approve the resolution by Connie Thompson, was seconded by Randy Wilhelm and passed with a 5-0 vote.
3. Resolution 2022-13 Budget Amendment- This resolution is tabled at this time. It appears that an amendment may not have to be written. There is revenue that is covering our expenses and the sale of the Johnson Ranch has been beneficial as well. The latest that a resolution could be approved is the December 15, 2022, board meeting.

4. **Audit Update** - there are a few items that the auditors and the management company will complete, and the audit should be ready for presentation. Peggy will let the board know when that will be scheduled.

Adjourn at 3:28 p.m.

