

RMDW
Board Meeting
August 25,2016

Present: Wink Davis, Ross Allen, Dan Schultz-Ela, Fred Johnson, Cassandra Shenk, Diane Perry

Diane requested that two board members visit Doug Davis as he is a habitual non-payer.

Wink requested that the minutes be sent out by email within several days of the meeting.

Dan gave a brief overview of the company accounting now that we have capital income and expense categories set up.

Discussion of finances followed.

Fred asked about interest income from our recent investments. Dan said that it was not included in the statements and that it would take a while to recoup the cost of the initial fees.

Wink points out that we do not need to sell taps to cover operation or capital expenses.

We also have reserves in CD's that were collected for capital improvements.

This was an unusual year for repairs, expenses were low. There were two capital projects. The telemetry system upgrade and the master meter at Stingley Gulch and L Road.

The next capital improvement will be to put in a meter and replace the 10" pipe from the Town. The meter will cost about \$5000.00 and there will be about \$3000.00 in labor and other parts.

The biggest disaster would be a failure of the tank, but it has recently been inspected and is in good shape.

Cassandra reports that the telemetry system is working well.

The possibility of digital meters was brought up. If it is decided that this is a priority for the company then further research needs to be done into the actual expenses and benefits to the company.

Even though there is no financial need to sell taps Ross would like to offer at least two taps to assess the need within the community. Fred and Dan agree.

Ross made a motion to offer two taps with the same terms and conditions as last year. Dan seconded. No objections.

Discussed the possibility of an ad in the High Country Shopper for existing homes within our service area - applications due Nov 15. Perhaps an ad in the DCI as well.

Cassandra points out that the membership fee is not just for water, but also for service.

Don Grant is having some issues crossing the canal with his water line. Wink presented a letter from Mr. Grant outlining his plans for installation of his water line. He proposes a temporary line across the canal to be used in warm weather and then he will switch to his well in winter.

This brings up the issue of cross-contamination. This is likely going to come up more often as other homeowners with wells acquire water taps.

An air gap is required in the design of the system and Cassandra has to take pictures for our files and will need to inspect every year. We might need to have an inspection fee, if this is going to become common.

Talk turned to discussion about a customer communication plan. How to reach our customers in an emergency. Talked about Robo Calls using a service called Call 'em All. This requires a credit card or debit card to set up through the internet. Wink will check to see if the company can get a card, so that company expense don't have to go on personal cards. Other methods of communication included sandwich boards on the highway and a website.

Cassandra again suggested trying to use the Town of Hotchkiss website. She will attend the next Town Council meeting to see if it is feasible, if they can host our website, how much it will cost, how fast they could post messages in an emergency, and can they post pdf files.

Cassandra requested a letter from the board backing her plan for the research station – 80 acres to education, food security for poor in the county. She will draft a letter and give it to the board for approval.

Wink talked about the BLM Management Plan and how it might affect our watershed. The Hotchkiss Watershed Protection Plan was totally ignored by the BLM. The board should write a letter and submit it to the BLM during the comment period.