

Rogers Mesa Domestic Water Company

Annual Membership Meeting January 10, 2022 Rogers Mesa Research Station

Minutes

Minutes approved by the members at the January 10, 2023 Annual Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 2:07 pm by Paul Schmucker, Vice President

Determination of Quorum - According to the By Laws, a quorum is defined as the members present at the meeting. There were 22 people present in the room and Dan Schultz-Ela was attending by phone. The people in the room represented 33 memberships and proxies had been submitted for an additional 26 memberships.

Proof of due notice. Meeting notices were published in the below manner.

- Delta County Independent December 29, 2021 and January 5, 2022
- High Country Shopper online 12/29/2021, print 1/5/2022
- Letter sent with water bills, mailed 12/31/2021

Approval of previous meeting's minutes

There was no meeting last year due to CoVid

Report of Board of Directors by the Vice-President. Nicole Sacchitella, president, was not present due to exposure to CoVid. Paul Schmucker gave an overview of the current water/snow pack situation. He then explained some of the water saving improvements that Rogers Mesa Domestic Water and Leroux Creek Water Users have made over the past year. These improvements have lead to a significant conservation of our water resources.

Report of the System Operator. Since we did not have a meeting last year, Jim Firor gave an overview of the major things that have happened in the last two years.

We have had 3 major breaks in the last two years, one on the highway, one of 3100 Road and one on L Road. There have been other smaller leaks, but these were the major ones.

We have replaced all but 8 of our water meters with new remote read meters. This project has also led to water conservation. We are discovering leaks much sooner, so they are getting fixed faster.

A tank mixer was installed at the water tank on 3100 Road to alleviate the problem we were having with thermal stratification.

There were many new members in the room, so Jim gave an overview of our system and how it interacts with the Town of Hotchkiss. There was a question about the number of taps on our system. At present there are 394 taps.

Installation of backflow preventers is the next big project. Not all taps have backflow preventers, they are good things to have to prevent cross-contamination, but not required by current statutes, except in commercial situations.

Divers cleaned and inspected the inside of the tank in the fall. Jim was a little disappointed at the amount of corrosion that they found just two years after we resurfaced the inside of the tank. But it turns out that the recommendation is for resurfacing to occur every 5 years.

Ross Allen talked about the courses that are required to be a certified operator. Courses are required to obtain the license and regular continuing education is also a requirement.

Ross also prodded Paul Schmucker to talk about the repairs that have been made to the reservoirs to increase water storage and delivery to our system. Leroux Creek Water Users has done work on the Good Enough, Gray and Willow this past year. Paul asked Marvin Carr to talk about those projects. These improvements will keep these reservoirs from failing.

Paul Schmucker told the group that the year before last we almost ran out of water. This led to a general discussion about water and selling taps.

The board is considering bidding on available Fire Mountain Canal shares as a way to extend our water supply. There was a question about Overland water, is it available and can it be used for domestic purposes?

Getting water from Overland to the High line ditch would be very problematic.

Projects like the remote gate that we installed last year and the overflow gauge at the pond for the Town of Hotchkiss, are the biggest water savers. There was a question about how we can let taps without requiring members to bring water to the company.

Ross Allen commented that this is why we have only been allowing for a few taps. There is a wide range of opinions on the board from no taps to more than the two we allowed this year.

Greg Krush and Barrett Funka both thought that a few taps a year seem like a reasonable, until you look ahead, in ten years we will have added another 20 taps. Barrett suggested contracting for a water study.

Paul said that the board was always on the look out for ways to get more water and mentioned the possibility of a second Town of Hotchkiss water treatment plant on the river. Might be possible for us to help with that project in return for additional water rights.

Report of Treasurer. Diane Perry gave a short overview of the financials Dan Schultz-Ela, treasurer, was available by phone if there were any questions. The company is in good financial condition. We seem to hold fairly steady in our cash reserves. Where we spend our money from year to year seems to vary a little bit, but the bottom line seems to remain fairly constant.

Unfinished business. No unfinished business

New business. Approval of changes to the By Laws. The board recently reviewed the by laws to see if they needed to be updated. The only change that they wanted to make was to the job description for the Treasurer. Sharon Armstrong made a motion to approve the changes as written. The motion was seconded and all present were in favor.

Nominations for vacancies on the Board of Directors.

Paul Schmucker and Cynthia Houseweart are up for re-election.

Larry Head made a motion that Paul Schmucker be retained on the board. The motion was seconded.

Jim Firor made a motion that Cynthia Houseweart be retained on the board. The motion was seconded.

Dion Luke made a motion that nominations for board members be closed. The motion was seconded.

Election

Cynthia Houseweart and Paul Schmucker were retained as board members by unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 pm.