

**WORDEN BALLANTINE YELLOWSTONE CO.
WATER & SEWER DISTRICT**

P.O. BOX 217 • WORDEN, MONTANA 59088 • 406-967-2550

WBYC WSD March 8, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order by President Dan Ewen. Other board members in attendance were Gary Fredericks, Scott Schelm and Marc Larson.

Others in attendance were: Daniel Krum, Sandra Kust, Joey Oltrogge, Katrina McNiven-YCN, Rep. from Tru Pipe and Chad Hansen-Great West Engineering.

Approval of the Feb. 8, 2021 meeting minutes: Gary Fredericks made a motion, Marc Larson seconded the motion to approve the minutes as distributed. The motion passed 4-0.

Tru Pipe made a proposal to clean sewer lines in the system at \$1.05 per foot up to 10,000 ft. per year for four years, on a rotation basis. The first year would be \$25,000.00 to get the troubled lines cleaned right away. A written plan would be sent and then acted on at the next meeting.

Chad Hansen discussed the funding plan for the water project and is:

RD Loan	\$2,621,000.00
RD Grant	\$2,119,000.00
Loan Payoff	<u>\$104,000.00</u>
Total	\$4,844,000.00

\$850,000.00 of the loan would be paid by special assessment on property of users. If 50% of users protest this plan we would not be able to proceed. Assessment would be put into effect when the project is complete. Revenue bond on balance of loan. A rate increase would be put into effect probably in July 2021 and another in July 2022, depending on progress of project.

The drilling of the permanent wells could be done in June or July and then there would be a protest period. Project schedule was discussed. Marc Larson made a motion to accept the funding package and the Letter of Conditions. Gary Fredericks seconded the motion and it was approved 4-0.

There was discussion on House Bills 255 and 287 which would put a financial burden on districts if they were sued by a user. The protest time would be raised to 45 days and the protest time for assessments would be raised from 60 days to 75 days. Everyone was urged to contact their representatives in Helena to protest against this bill.

Approval of Bills: Gary Fredericks made a motion to approve the bills as presented, Marc Larson seconded the motion and it was approved 4-0.

Correspondence: None.

Operators reports: on file with the minutes. General Manager reported working in the office, working with Springline Const. on curb stop replacements and working with Sandra on the Water Project.

Bookkeepers Report: The Net Income for February was \$22,115.59 and for the year \$34,572.36. The total income was \$39,979.54 and the Expenses were \$17,863.95. The emergency grant from SRF was received in the amount of \$8,000.00. The total income is down because a grant from SRF has not been received in the amount of \$15,000.00. The expenses are also less than the budget shows.

Old Business: 1. Water Project-Discussed earlier in the meeting.

2. Hail Loss Claim: Contractor is working on the office building and should be done by early April.

3. New Board Member: Prospect was unable to make the meeting.

4. TSEP Grant: The \$15,000.00 grant has not been received.

5. Response to Public Hearing: Gary Fredericks will put together the response and it will be sent out with the next billing.

6. Well Easements & Owner Agreements: Dan Barham well prospect will not proceed as financial agreement could not be reached. There is a need for another well site now.

7. By Laws Review: This has not been completed.

8. Officer Appointment: Scott Schelm made a motion to appoint Marc Larson to the position of Sec/Treas.. Gary Fredericks seconded the motion and it was approved.

New Business: No new business.

Past Due Accounts were reviewed and there were 14 notices sent to past due users.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted By Daniel Krum

Minutes of Special Meeting

March 1, 2021

7:00 P.M.

A Special Meeting was held at the WBYC office to discuss our pending easement purchases for the new water wells that we will be drilling and incorporating into our water system. Board Members present were Mark Larson, Scott Schelm, Judy Becker, and Gary Fredericks. President Dan Ewen attended by telephone. Guests attending were Neil and Joey Oltrogge, owners of one of the easement properties. The purpose of their appearance was to discuss the purchase price for their grant of an easement in and through their property for the drilling of a permanent well, erection of a well house, and pipeline installation for our new water system project.

After much discussion between the Board and the Land Owners a price was determined and set by the Land Owners for Board consideration. After the Land Owners had left the building the Board discussed the purchase price with Board President Dan Ewen by speakerphone and a Motion was then made by Gary Fredericks and seconded by Mark Larson that we accept the price of \$22,000.00 for the permanent easement. The President put the motion up for a vote of the Board and it was unanimously passed.

Further discussion was held concerning another property we are seeking an easement for but since negotiations have not yet completed with that Land Owner no further action was determined and the matter will be brought up at the end of the next regular meeting in Special Session. At that time the meeting was adjourned.

Recorded by Gary Fredericks in Special Session, by written notes.

WBYC WSD Special Meeting 3/22/2021

Meeting was called to order by Pres. Dan Ewen. Other Board members in attendance were Gary Fredericks, Judy Becker, Scott Schelm and Marc Larson.

Others in attendance were Dan Krum, Sandra Kust, Crystal Bennett-Great West Eng., Chad Hanse-Great West Eng. Katrina McNiven-YCN and Richard Martin.

The assessment of property in the District to cover the Special Assessment Bond was discussed. Chad Hansen summarized the assessment method, as to how it is done. The property receiving benefits and those where water lines are running in front of the property would be assessed. Those with sewer only would also be assessed, as water lines run by their property and they have the opportunity to hook up plus they have fire protection. Gary Fredericks made a motion to assess the property as discussed above. Marc Larson seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

The need for a 4th well was discussed and we would advertise in the Yellowstone County News for any prospects from current owners.

Great West Engineering will put together steps that need to be taken to move the project forward. They would start, as of now, then steps to be taken in order to complete the project.

Gary Fredericks said there was a possibility of turning the Ballantine Park lots over to the County Parks Dept. More work will be done on this idea.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted By Daniel Krum