

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

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

WBYC W&SD November 9, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order by Pres. Dan Ewen. Other board members in attendance were Judy Becker, Gary Fredericks and Joey Oltrogge.

Others in attendance: Dan Krum, Sandra Kust and Jeff Mrachek with Mracheck and Associates.

Approval of the October meeting minutes: Judy Becker made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Gary Fredericks seconded the motion and it was approved.

Delegations: Jeff Mracheck was at the meeting to review the just completed 2 year audit, for the years 2018 and 2019. The highlights of his comments were that the cash balances are in good shape, the bond reserve balance is sufficient and there was a strong position moving forward for any major projects.

Approval of Bills: Gary Fredericks made a motion to approve the bills as presented, Joey Oltrogge seconded the motion and it was approved.

Correspondence: Maguire Iron had sent a maintenance plan for the water tower and it will be discussed later in the meeting.

Operators reports: Operators report is on file with the meeting minutes. The General Manager reported he had worked in the office, worked on getting the solar panels repaired or replaced on the big water tank and working with Maguire Iron on the tower water tank repair and worked with Sandra on getting info for the RD grant application.

Bookkeepers Report: The October Net Income was \$678.91 and for the year \$172,891.10. The October total income and expenses were \$30,650.67 and \$29,971.76 respectively. The budget was running close to the operating income and the expenses were higher due to higher maintenance and repair costs. The water testing costs were also higher. Past dues showed there were 8 shutoff letters sent and 3 past due letters sent. Amanda Duvall owed \$93.00 for the past 58 months and she had moved to Helena and was not responding to any correspondence. The board voted to charge off the \$93.00.

Old Business: 1. Drinking Water status: There was a phone conference with Rural Development and Great West Engineers and it was decided that someone needed to visit with Dan Swartz and Allen prop (Gary Karst, Renter) in regards to spraying crops near the well site.

2. Hail Insurance Claim: Contractor was contacted and will be down in the next few weeks to start the repairs.

3. New Board Members: No response was received from our advertising for a board member.

4. TSEP Grant: final paperwork will be completed within the week.

5. Part-Time Employee: This is an ongoing problem, with no responses for the job.

6. Public Meeting: Information was sent to all members, with three responses to date. All responses dealt with what would we do if our wells drew down their wells? The answer would probably be our wells would be shut down, if that is the case.
7. Water Tank Solar Repair: Working with Sundance Solar Systems, out of Red Lodge, to get the work done.
8. General Manager Status: Much discussion was held, both pro and con, with no decision at the meeting.
9. RD Grant: The grant application had been sent in, with more information being asked for. Hopefully a decision will be made sometime in December.
10. Maguire Iron: They had submitted a maintenance plan to clean and paint the tower tank and then so much per year to check it and fix any problems. The initial cost would be \$92,500.00 and then from \$7,300.00 to \$9,000.00 for the next five years. Gary Fredericks made a motion to agree to the maintenance plan, Joey Oltrogge second the motion and it was approved.

New Business: Dan Krum brought up the subject of paying Sandra Kust something extra for putting the RD Grant application together. He had suggested \$6,000.00 as she already had over 60 hours in this process. If a grant writer was used it would probably have been over \$15,000.00. Gary Fredericks made motion to approve this request. Judy Becker seconded the motion and it was approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by: Daniel Krum