



Worden/Ballantine  
Yellowstone County  
Water & Sewer District

September 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order by Board President, Daniel Ewen @ 7pm

**Roll Call Attendees:** Board Members: Daniel Ewen, Judy Becker, Joey Oltrogge, Gary Fredericks;  
Employees: Sandra Kust, Don Dvorak; Engineer: Chad Hanson (Great West Engineering); Public: Teddy Krein (Maguire Iron), Kal Tucker (Maguire Iron), and Katrina McNiven (Yellowstone County News);  
Bookkeeper/General Manager: Dan Krum attended via phone

**Approval of August Meeting Minutes:** Motion by Gary Fredericks to approve the minutes as printed, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Judy Becker, motion carried unanimously

**Approval of Bills:** Total bills to be paid for the September meeting: \$27,903.24, Judy Becker questioned the increased amount to be paid to the General Manager, Dan Krum stated the increased amount was due to being onsite at the test wells and dropping off samples at Energy Laboratories; Motion by Gary Fredericks to pay the bills, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Judy Becker, motion carried unanimously, breakdown of the bills is on file with monthly correspondence

**Correspondence:** Sandy Kust stated she took online classes for her Continuing Education Credits (CEC's) and received 10 hours for 2020 and the additional 3.5 hours will go towards her CEC's for 2021

**Delegations:** None

**Operators Reports:** Operator Reports for Sandy Kust and Don Dvorak are on file with the monthly correspondence, regular daily duties of checking pumps, taking chlorine residuals, and sampling were completed in addition to being on site for the test wells, filling out paperwork and taking additional samples for the test wells, checking out the vandalism at the 200,000 gallon tank, contacting Solar companies, correspondence with DNRC for the emergency grant as well as the reimbursement of \$15,000, correspondence with TSEP for the reimbursement of \$15,000, and working with USDA RD and Great West Engineering on funding with USDA RD. Sandy Kust stated the chlorine residuals have been anything but consistent and asked for approval to have Hawkins come out and see if there is a different way to inject the chlorine into the system, the board stated to have Hawkins get down here to see if they can figure out what is going on, Sandy Kust will contact Hawkins and get set up

**Delinquent report:** Sandy Kust will get updated address for account #: 1050; 5 past due letters will be sent out; 7 past due accounts were paid; 1 account to be placed on tax lien; and 1 account needs to have the meter checked out, which Sandy will work on when she gets back from vacation; past due account total as of 9/1/2020: \$7,574.69

**General Manager:** General Manager report for Dan Krum is on file with the monthly correspondence, regular daily routine of deposits and phone calls, onsite for 6 test wells, checking out the vandalism at the 200,000 gallon tank, phone calls to Harvest Solar, phone calls to security systems and set up appointment with Rick Thomson, SMS, at 9am on Tuesday, September 15, 2020 to get a plan for the tank, Don Dvorak, Gary Fredericks, and Don Dvorak will meet with Rick, work with Don Dvorak to try and find a water line to the Waudby property, and talk to new owner of property and fill out paperwork



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**Bookkeepers Report:** Bookkeepers report for Dan Krum is on file with the monthly correspondence, monthly income as of August 31, 2020: \$38,5556.69 monthly expenses as of August 31, 2020: \$11,520.33, net income as August 31, 2020: \$27,036.36; Year to date income: \$326,913.09; Year to date expenses: \$159,958.78; Year to date net income: \$166,954.31

**Drinking Water Status-PER and Well Drilling:** Chad Hanson, Great West Engineering, was in attendance to give an update on the water project, he stated the 4 test wells have promising flows, the quality was similar to the current well but that the Oltrogge well has high iron, manganese, and high turbidity, but not over the maximum contaminant level; Barham well has high total dissolved solids and sulfates, but not over the maximum contaminant level, the Ballantine and BP2 wells were good, and that all wells could be used for production wells depending on the outcome of the 72 hour pump test, He stated there will be a phone conference with USDA RD on Thursday, September 17, 2020 @ 4pm to discuss the application to USDA RD. Chad also said he worked with Sandy to revise the contract with the District to proceed with only the engineering of the 4 wells as USDA RD does not want the District to move forward with any other work until a funding package is in place. Great West Engineering has revised the contract to only proceed with the design of the wells at a cost of \$19,000 and would not proceed unless the District and USDA RD are both in agreement. Chad stated getting started on the design of the wells will keep the project moving forward and not hold up the project. Chad discussed that once a funding package is received from USDA RD, the loan funds have to be used before any grant funds can be used and the District will have to apply for interim financing until 100% of the loan is used up, he also stated they are looking at only having 1 well house for the 3 wells in Ballantine and 1 well house for the well in Worden, instead of having 1 well house at Barham, 1 well house at Oltrogge, and 1 well house at Ballantine Park. Chad stated the PER is in draft form and will remain that way until USDA RD approves the PER and then would be moved to final PER, and the Environmental Report has also be submitted to USDA RD for approval. Motion by Gary Fredericks to approve the contract to have Great West Engineering proceed with the design of the 4 wells, contingent upon approval with USDA RD, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Judy Becker, motion carried unanimously

**Hail Loss Insurance Claim:** check from the hail loss has been received and Dan Krum is working on getting bids

**New Board Members:** The board stated they are working on getting new board members

**TSEP Grant Application:** Sandy stated this is not an application but a reimbursement and she has completed all the paperwork and has submitted for approval to both TSEP and DNRC, she said it usually takes about 2 to 3 weeks for reimbursement but due to all employees working remotely is not sure how long it will take

**Part Time Employee:** this was tabled



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**Public Meeting Feasibility:** Discussion took place on having Great West Engineering put together a power point presentation for the website and perhaps putting in the mail as well, this will be discussed more at the next meeting

✦ **Landowner Agreement-HPID and Oltrogge:** The District has not received the agreements from the HPID or Oltrogge properties, Dan Ewen will take over the landowner agreement to HPID and Joey Oltrogge will bring hers in as it is signed

**Emergency Grant for Water Tower:** Maguire Iron was present and stated they would have team out here in the next 2 or 3 weeks to clean the inside of the tank and to repair the tank, the board previously approved the inspection and repair contract. Kal stated a tank should be inspected and sand blasted and painted every 12-15 years and the cost for this would be approximately \$38,000 for the exterior and approximately \$45,000 for the interior, he will put together a maintenance agreement contract with exact costs for the board to review, he stated payments for the maintenance agreement contract can be spread out over a 2 year period, ½ would need to be paid upon completion and remaining balance would be paid over a 2 year period with no interest charged, or another way to pay for the maintenance agreement contract would be monthly and Maguire Iron would take care of all the maintenance. He also stated maintenance on a tank is important as a new tank like ours would be approximately \$600,000 and this cost does not include engineering.

**Water Tank Vandalism:** One of the solar panels as well as some of the razor wire was vandalized, 1 maybe both solar panels will need to be replaced as well as putting in a security system, Dan Krum will continue to work on both the replacement of the solar panels as well as getting quotes for the security system

Meeting adjourned @ 8:30pm by Board President, Daniel Ewen