

GORE HILL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
406-761-6528
Minutes of the Public Board Meeting
Public Meeting
April 28, 2026

Board Members present: Dennis Peppenger, Dave Schuler, Kristie Blackford, Susan Bersuch
Conducting: Dave Schuler
Recording Secretary: Christy Walter & Kristie Blackford (Training)
Operator: Brian Blackford
Bookkeeper: Ashlee Liedle

The Public Meeting began at 7:00 pm

Motion to open the meeting: Dennis
Second: Jerry Passed

Motion to accept the minutes of 04/28/2026: Jerry
Second: Dennis Passed

Old Business:

This will be effective June 1, 2026. This will be included in the March newsletter. This will also be included in monthly statements. Arny requested clarification on deadlines for billing and late fee being applied. 3/10/26 Dave wanted to place mitigating circumstances clause for special circumstances regarding late fees. 3/24/2026 Dave Posted updated bylaws on the website. District Property fines have been updated on the website. Identified typos have also been updated. Website is almost completed to be ADA compliant. Closed

3/10/2026 – Jerry requested that we put the generator for sale on Facebook market place, Dave agreed and will post. 3/24/2026 – Dave confirmed that the listing had been created on Facebook market place. 04/14/26 Dave had an inquiry on the generator and provided Brians contact information to discuss the specs of the generator.

04/14/2026- Dave discussed moving all our business software over to Black Mountain and the cost was reviewed by the board.

04/14/2026- Motion to renew Black Mountain subscription to include Payroll and Payment portal: Susan
Second: Jerry Passed Closed

04/14/2026-An emergency board meeting was held. Board Members present: Dave Schuler, Kristie Blackford, Susan Bersuch:
Conducting: Dave Schuler: Recording Secretary: Ashlee Liedle. Motion to open the meeting: Kristie
Second: Susan Passed Closed

An emergency quorum of the Gore Hill Water District Board was convened on March 31, 2026, at 12:51 PM for the purpose of updating authorized signers on the district's bank account.

Motion to remove Arnie Schandelson and Mercy Padgett as authorized signers on the Gore Hill County bank account and to add Ashlee Liedle and Susan Bersuch as authorized signers: Kristie
Second: Susan Passed Closed

04/14/2026- The board discussed upcoming staffing changes and the need to fill a vacant board position. Upon submission of Board Member Kristie Blackford's formal resignation, the Board will begin advertising for a new board member. Board Member Kristie Blackford has provided a verbal resignation from her board position in order to assume the role of Secretary to better meet the needs of the district. This transition is tentatively scheduled to take effect on May 1, 2026. 04/28/2026 Dave will start advertising for a new board member. Decisions will be made by 06/09/2026.

Motion to put Account #625 to put back to a zero balance until audit is conducted: Kristie
Second: Dennis Passed Closed

04/14/2026- Book keeper Phone and Computer are outdated and a discussion was made to look into the price of upgrading.
Motion to upgrade the book keeper mobile phone: Susan
Second: Dennis Passed

New Business:

04/28/2026 Arnie Schendlson has applied for unemployment. Dave has a questionnaire to fill out.

04/28/2026 Discussion about the bank card: Dave is going to the credit union tomorrow and ask about a new debit card. The previous card was deactivated.

04/28/2026 Christy Walter will work in a consultation with Kristie to train her as the new secretary at \$30.00 an hour starting in May.

Bookkeepers Report:

Black mountain had mis-communicated with Ashlee/Arnie and the wrong quote on the renewal was given. The actual annual amount will be \$9962.03

#577 Wrote a note stating that they had zero usage for the month of March. Brian will re-read the meter and check on it.

Townsend Electric submitted two separate bills on the variable speed drives. One bill was paid and the second was not. Ashlee will call them and check on the status of this bill.

The laptop will not stay charged and will shut off randomly. She checked on the price of a new Laptop and the cost is approximately \$629.00 up to \$700.00. Motion to purchase a laptop: Jerry
Second: Susan Passed

The following bills were read for approval:

Wendy Weissman CPA	\$ 176.22	Quick Books
Utilities Underground Locate	\$ 8.90	Locates
KDS Networks	\$ 54.95	Internet
Hawkins	\$ 60.00	Chlorine cylinder
City of Great Falls	\$ 26.00	Water Samples
AT&T	\$ 102.03	Phone
	\$ 428.10	
5037 VOID	\$	
5038 Gerald Ulmen	\$ 138.35	Director's Fee March
5039 Gerald Ulmen	\$ 138.35	Director's Fee April
5040 USPS	\$ 858.00	11 rolls of stamps

04/28/2026 Transfer Main Checking – To Bond Repayment \$17,862.00 – Funds to pay Bond

Transfer Main Checking-Deposit Savings \$150.00 #726

Transfer Main Checking-O&M \$2100.56 04/16/2026 Deposit

Transfer Main Checking-Bond Repayment 04/16/2026 \$1397.07 Deposit

Transfer Main Checking-O&M \$1706.14 04/22/2026 Deposit

Transfer Main Checking-Bond Repayment \$1118.77 04/22/2026 Deposit

Checks received at meeting: Check # 1887 \$50.00 Acct. 691 \$192.17 Acct. 645 Same land owners

Motion to Pay the Bills as Read: Dennis

Second: Susan Passed

Treasurer's Report: Kristie has been assisting the bookkeeper with the transition process, including organizing accounts, obtaining access to various programs and accounts, and completing necessary account cleanup.

Operator's Report:

- #708 was given a new meter
- #577 is going to get a new meter
- Gas regulator failed and it was sent to Hawkins to be rebuilt.
- Ordered Hypochlorite
- Performed backwashes

Planned absences: Ashlee Liedle (04/23/2026-04/26/2026 & 04/30/2026-05/04/2026)

Motion to adjourn at 8:08: Dennis

Second: Susan Passed

Dave Schuler
President

Kristie Blackford
Secretary