

**GORE HILL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**  
**406-761-6528**  
**Minutes of the Public Board Meeting**  
**Public Meeting**  
**Nov 12, 2024**

Board Members present: Dennis Peppenger, Dave Schuler, Kristie Blackford, Jerry Ulmen, Colette Phillippe  
Conducting: Dennis Peppenger  
Recording Secretary: Christy Walter  
General Manager: Brian Blackford  
Bookkeeper: Arny Schandelson  
Guest: Elaine Becker

The Public Meeting began at 7:00 pm

Motion to open the meeting: Jerry  
Second: Kristie Passed

Motion to accept the minutes of 10/22/24: Jerry  
Second: Kristie Passed

**Checks received at the meeting:** #502 \$200.00 ck # 12332

**Old Business:**

3/12/24 ~ Dave reported from Joel on 2/27/2024 that MJD is six weeks out on equipment for the Poly Phosphates.  
9/10/2024 ~ the activation date is 9/19/2024. 10/22/2024 ~ Poly Ortho Phosphates have been installed and operational  
11/12/2024 ~ Joel sent an email to DEQ 11/5/2024 providing the certification of the project. This should finalize the payment to MJD and complete the project.

#603 ~ was asking about opting out of the water district and the pros and cons of that. 10/8/2024 ~ Brian has received a text from the home owners requesting to withdraw from the Gore Hill Water District. 10/22/2024 ~ Dennis is going to contact Montana Rural Water to find out what the current procedure is for someone to be removed from the district.  
11/12/2024 ~ Dennis provided the procedures from MCA to all board members. This will be sent to the homeowners as well. The account must be brought current prior to them submitting the letter asking to be removed.

#705 ~ Homeowner was questioning what the status of the generator was. He offered to help us sell the generator  
Dennis said he will ask Grant to start the process of selling the generator for \$16,500. 11/12/2024 ~ Homeowner has placed the ad on craigslist with Dennis's phone number, however the generator is not working because it was incorrectly connected to commercial power. Dennis has talked to the Cat Dealer and they believe that the generator has been fried.  
Jerry will take his battery charger over on Saturday and charge the battery to see what the status is on the battery.

**New Business:**

#586 was questioning if there was any way they could have a reduced monthly maintenance fee. They do not use the water, but do not want to be removed from the system. The board explained the 2 options available thru MCA. Petition the board and go thru the process to be removed, or pay the monthly maintenance fee.

**Bookkeepers Report:**

8/27/24~ # 580 sent an email asking about the attachments we should be sending with the emailed bills. Arny and Christy will get an email list together to and will send out the CCR and Quarterly Newsletters. We will continue to send out enclosures in bulk emails blind copied to those who received emailed statements. 9/10/2024 ~ Arny will provide Christy a list. 10/22/24 ~ Arny has provided Christy a list.

8/27/2024~ We will need to send the county the delinquent accounts and amounts due to turn people over to tax billing. We need to get those numbers together by the next meeting (9/10) 9/24/2024 ~ Arny needs to call and verify.  
11/12/2024~ We missed the deadline for 2024.

5/14/2024~ The gal who was doing our Audit went on emergency maternity leave. **Audit is complete.** 10/8/2024 ~ Arny heard from Cyd stating that we do not need to have a 2023-2024 audit. This will be every other year audit. 11/12/2024 ~ Wiplfi has agreed to do our 2025 audit. The board has question on the last bill of \$10,000. Arny is working on this.

#625 has not made a payment since 9/24/24. She is being hung again tonight. Payment due 11/25 Term 11/27.  
\$ 257.34 (current bill plus \$100.00)

Army has paperwork from the credit union to update the signatures for the board members. We had board member's sign.

#570 has sold. Army has sent out the welcome letter to the new owners.

The following bills were approved for payment:

|                              |                    |                      |
|------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Energy Labs                  | \$ 504.00          | Water Testing        |
| Northwestern Energy          | \$ 1,123.50        | PH # 1               |
| Northwestern Energy          | \$ 1,217.37        | PH # 2               |
| KDS Networks                 | \$ 54.95           | Monthly Internet     |
| Utilities Underground Locate | \$ 24.08           | 14 locates           |
| Hawkins                      | \$ 325.00          | Labor and freight    |
| Wendy Weissman CPA           | \$ 160.10          | QB & Payroll         |
| Energy West                  | \$ 32.02           | PH # 2               |
| Energy West                  | \$ 23.36           | PH # 1               |
| Northwest Pipe               | \$ 125.38          | Supplies             |
| City of Great Falls          | \$ 26.00           | Water Testing        |
| AT&T                         | \$ 111.26          | Monthly Cell Phone   |
| Brian Blackford              | \$ 1,484.80        | General Manager Wage |
| Kristie Blackford            | \$ 138.53          | Director's Fee       |
| Gary Humble                  | \$ 266.39          | Wages, Mileage Misc  |
| Arnold Schandelson           | \$ 949.05          | Bookkeeper's Wage    |
| David Schuler                | \$ 108.53          | Director's Fee       |
| Royce Shipley                | \$ 445.58          | Director's Fee       |
| Christina M Walter           | \$ 378.40          | Secretarial Wage     |
|                              | <b>\$ 7,498.30</b> |                      |

|        |                   |                                    |                                       |
|--------|-------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| # 4993 |                   | Stuck in box. Saved for future use |                                       |
| # 4994 |                   | Stuck in box. Saved for future use |                                       |
| # 4995 |                   | Stuck in box. Saved for future use |                                       |
| # 4996 |                   | Stuck in box. Saved for future use |                                       |
| # 4997 | Dennis Peppenger  | \$ 14.97                           | Reimburse new office clock 11/12/2024 |
| # 4998 | Colette Phillippe | \$ 138.53                          | Director's Fee 11/12/2024             |
| # 4999 | Gerald Ulmen      | \$ 138.53                          | Director's Fee 11/12/2024             |
|        |                   | <b>\$ 292.03</b>                   | <b>11/12/2024</b>                     |

Motion to Pay the Bills as Read: Jerry  
Second: Colette Passed

**Delinquents:**

Payments are due 11/11/2024 Termination will be 11/13/2024 #664 494.41

**Treasurer's Report:**

Nothing to Report. Kristie finally has access to Black Mountain but has not had an opportunity to review.

**General Manager's Report:**

- Synthetic organic compounds sample was at Energy Labs when the sample was due. It had been submitted, but not finalized on the due date.

Motion to adjourn at 8:10 Kristie  
Second: Colette Passed

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Dennis Peppenger  
President

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Christy Walter  
Secretary