

**GORE HILL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**  
**406-761-6528**  
**Minutes of the Public Board Meeting**  
**Public Meeting**  
**Sep 10, 2024**

Board Members present: Dave Schuler, Jerry Ulmen, Kristie Blackford  
Conducting: Dennis Peppenger  
Recording Secretary: Christy Walter  
General Manager: Brian Blackford  
Bookkeeper: Arny Schandelson  
Guest: Marvin Blodgett  
Cierra & Shyler Torstenbo

The Public Meeting began at 7:00 pm

Motion to open the meeting: Jerry  
Second: Kristie Passed

Motion to accept the minutes of 8/27/24: Kristie  
Second: Jerry Passed

Checks Received at the meeting: #541 \$65.76 ck 13908 #502 \$200.00 ck # 12311

**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.  
4/9/2024 ~ Chemical Feed MT (polyphosphates) is waiting on materials/equipment before they complete install. 5/28/2024 ~ Good News - We received an email from Marty at MJD Contracting saying the materials are in Billings being delivered to Helena early next week. Hopefully the install will be complete by July 1<sup>st</sup>. 6/25/2024 ~ no updates on phosphates.  
7/9/2024~Brian received a text from MJD saying he should have the remaining supplies by the end of this week?  
7/23/2024 ~ Hawkins will be delivering the phosphates. It is supposedly in route. 8/27/24 ~ Equipment is being installed and should be completed by the end of next week. 9/10/2024 ~ the activation date is 9/19/2024. Joel is working with Chemical Montana to complete this.

Jerry mentioned that because of the excessive water flooding the homeowner on the east side of Pumphouse 1 has had pump his septic twice and needs to have another pumping  
The board approved paying for the next pumping, the homeowner will provide us with the statement for that pumping.  
7/9/2024 ~ homeowners will have the third pumping once the ground dries out. 8/27/2024~ Septic was pumped on Saturday 8/24. Jerry will get a copy of the invoice for that pumping.

Per Dennis's request there will be a Board Members Only meeting immediately following the 9/10/2024 meeting. Since Colette was unable to attend 9/10 this has been postponed to 9/24.

**New Business:**

#603 ~ was asking about opting out of the water district and the pros and cons of that.  
#597 ~ was wondering about the odd and even watering days with the smaller amount of people watering on their days. He mentioned that the even days are "shorted" 2 days during the summer watering times. He was wondering if watering day restrictions could be removed to generate additional revenue on the basis that those people who are not watering are not going to start watering on the odd day.

Motion to discontinue water restrictions for one year: Dave  
Second: Kristie

This was tabled until 9/24 until we had all 5 board members are present.

**Bookkeepers Report:**

8/27/2024~ 36-month CD expired at the credit union the first of July. Dennis wants to know what the interest rate is for the money market at the credit union. Arny will find out and let him know. 8/27/2024 ~ Arny was provided information that we could roll the expired CD into a 7-month CD at 5%. 9/10/2024 ~ This was purchased.

9/10/2024~ profit and loss sheets were handed out.  
9/10/2024 ~ #564 purchased #614 and will be using that as a rental.  
9/10/2024 ~ #636 has sold. We have no info on new owners.

9/10/2024 ~ Dennis asked to have the statement message box give notice to state if you are moving you need to contract the district.

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

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)

5/14/2024~ The gal who was doing our Audit went on emergency maternity leave. Arny is meeting with Clayton, Wednesday 5/28/2024 to determine the findings. Another audit will need to be completed by 12/31/2024 since our project was not completed in one year. 6/11/2024 ~Arny will have hopefully a final meeting 6/13/2024 with WIPLI 6/25/2024~ Nothing from Clayton since June 13. 7/9/2024 ~ Arny needs to contact Clayton with Arny's bio. Arny will call him again tomorrow. 7/23/2024 ~ Clayton told Arny that the audit is in review. He doesn't know why we need another audit 24-25. Arny will call DNRC and verify. The board is under the impression an audit is needed each fiscal year. 8/27/24 ~ Nothing new to report.

#625 has not made a payment since June 2023. Current balance due is \$1,605.01 for water. That does not include the money that we forwarded her in 2020 for the leak. She is being notified that she will be terminated on 6/27/2024. She will not be turned back on until funds are received. 7/9/2024 ~said she is working with Neighbor Works. Board decision is unless we get confirmation from Neighbor Works or payment, she will be terminated 7/17/2024. 7/23/2024~water was turned off on 7/17/2024. Water was turned back on 7/20/2024. She stated that she will be receiving a check from Neighborworks on July 29. She she will contacting a board member once she has it. She will be hung on 7/29/2024 5:00 pm if we have not received this partial payment with termination on 8/1/2024 along with another turn on fee. 8/13/2024 ~ \$1,000.00 cash was received on 8/6/2024. 8/27/2024 ~ current payment due \$200.00

The following bills were reviewed:

Utilities Underground Locate	\$	17.20	10 locates
Northwestern Energy	\$	1,830.21	PH # 1
Brian Blackford	\$	1,609.84	General Manager Wage
Kristie Blackford	\$	138.53	Director Fee
Alice Christensen	\$	483.28	Mowing
Gary Humble	\$	332.06	Wages, Mileage Misc
Arnold Schandelson	\$	939.07	Bookkeeper's Wage
David Schuler	\$	108.53	Director Fee
Royce Shipley	\$	168.19	Wages, Mileage Misc
Christina M Walter	\$	378.39	Secretarial Wage
Hawkins	\$	10.00	Chlorine Cylinder
Northwestern Energy	\$	3,653.37	PH #1 Past due
Wendy Weissman CPA	\$	141.25	QB and Payroll
AT&T	\$	109.68	Monthly Cell Service
KDS Networks	\$	54.95	Monthly service
	\$	<b>9,974.55</b>	
# 4989 Colette Phillippe	\$	138.53	Director's Fee
# 4990 Gerald Ulmen	\$	138.53	Director's Fee
	\$	<b>277.06</b>	

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

#### Delinquents:

Payments are due 9/23/2024 Termination will be 9/25/2024.

# 603	\$ 428.36	# 625	\$ 1121.92+	# 635	\$ 705.91	# 648	\$ 931.45
# 660	\$ 867.81	# 672	\$ 400.57	# 691	\$ 1175.54	# 707	\$ 260.76

#### 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:

- #509 has a billing issue. 8/27/24 ~ Issue unresolved due to an event like this happening about 18 months ago. No action to be taken until 9/10/2024 at which time we will request resubmittal of payment.

- #600 needs a new meter. Brian has been trying to gain access to change.
- PH #1 filter house backwash cycle has been erroring out. Brian backwashed and drained tanks in an attempt to reset the cycle.
- #603 ~Dave received a complaint via the county about Brian allegedly threatening the homeowners by placing a hang notice on their home stating that non payment will be turned into the county for back taxes. Dave visited with the homeowners and Brian. They attended tonight's meeting and options have been discussed.

Motion to adjourn at 7:45      Dave  
  Second:      Kristie      Passed

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Dave Schuler  
Vice - President

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Christy Walter  
Secretary