



## Board Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2021 – 2:00 p.m.

Call to Order at 2:01 p.m.

Roll Call: Charles Bogle, Randy Wilhelm, Steve Lasswell, Greg Smith (via zoom), Peter Ewing (via zoom)

Dave Schneider, Peggy Quint, Jackson Malcolm, Laura Ippolito (via zoom), Tracy Ballard (The Valley Beat – via zoom), Chase Weber, Second 61. No Public in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Charles Bogle

Additions to the November 4, 2021 Board Agenda

1. Public Hearing
  - a. 2022 Budget
  - b. Water and Sewer Rate Increase
  - c. Bulk Water Rate Increase
2. Letter of support from Town of Westcliffe, Town of Silver Cliff and BOCC for Solar Farm on RMWSD's 40 Acres

Randy will not be in attendance on November 4, 2021.

### Administrative Reports

1. District Business Manager – Peggy Quint

Lots of work being done on the meter replacement project with Caselle and Aquahawk. Goal is to have it all in place when the October billing is scheduled to go out.
2. District Operation Manager – Dave Schneider
  - a. Last Objector to the water case has stipulated out. Water Attorney is somewhat unhappy that this case is not being pursued.
  - b. Johnson Ranch dry-up report is still needed to move forward in selling the property.
  - c. Christmas bonus/Christmas party needs to be discussed. Board will respond later in December.

### Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the Minutes of the September 23, 2021, Regular Board Meeting
2. Financial Report and Approval of Checks for September 2021

Motion: Randy Wilhelm Second: Steve Lasswell Discussion: CHFA is Colorado Housing Finance Authority. Public Meeting should be Public Hearing as all meetings are public After discussion, vote was 5-0 in favor of accepting the Consent Agenda.

### Old Business

1. 2022 Budget Update on Draft Copy – Dave Schneider covered the changes in the original draft budget. Dave will fine tune the numbers and have the budget ready for presentation at the public hearing on November 4, 2021. Discussion regarding what all should be included in the presentation, i.e., all that the district has done to reduce costs to operate and supply water to our customers and why rates are increasing.
2. Second 61 Presentation – Chase Weber presented the results of the Gap Audit that was completed a few months ago. Chase stated that RMWSD looks pretty good for a district of this size. His biggest concern was the Shop computer is running on Windows 7 and needs an upgrade. Replacing the computer would be beneficial. The district has a weak backup strategy. A 3-2-1 backup strategy, including off site backups was recommended. Chase will send a cost estimate for the districts needs. Peggy Quint will let the board know as soon as that information is received.
3. USDA funding continued discussion – Dave Schneider sent USDA \$14.1M WWTP update. He has not heard anything back from Joe Montgomery. RMWSD has been approached with a new design idea called Electro Coagulation. This would be substantially less to build and operate. Dave is meeting with the company on Friday, October 22, 2021. This process could be an alternative for rural Colorado. We are not the only district in Colorado that cannot afford \$14.1M for a plant.
4. Iconergy project update – project is running quite smoothly!
5. Board Stipend Policy – Board was given a proposed policy. Board will review and approve on November 4, 2021.

**Reminder... There will be a Board of Directors Meeting November 18, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.**

Adjourn at 3:50 p.m.