

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Board of Directors of Timberon Water and Sanitation District
Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 4:00 P.M.
Timberon Community Center, "Lodge"
1 Bobwhite Circle, Timberon, NM 88350

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Mark Harding at 4:00 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Salute to the New Mexico Flag *"I salute the flag of the state of New Mexico, the Zia symbol of perfect friendship among united cultures."*

ROLL CALL

Vice-Chair Mark Harding, Director Paul Hagemann and Director Ed Hardesty were all present for roll call. Treasurer Terri Borzoni was absent. Chairman David Cruvey arrived during the Managers Report.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice Chair Harding asked if there were any corrections or additions to the agenda. There being none, Director Hagemann made a motion to approve the agenda as written. Director Hardesty seconded the motion. A vote was taken. All voted to approve the agenda, none opposed. The motion carried.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Vice-Chair / Interim General Manager Mark Harding gave his report:

1. Total water production for last month was 4,801,882 gallons. Total sold was 989,284 gallons. Total loss was 3,812,598 or 79.4% (last month loss was 70.5 %) so it's starting to climb back up, which is typical for the winter months.
2. Fiscal Year 2023 Audit is on track to be completed by the auditor on January 15th.
3. Update on Well #2 Activation: I talked to Preston (I&C Solutions) today, and we are on his schedule to do the SCADA modifications for next week. Test results have been submitted, and we are just waiting on DWB for authorization to run the well. Should have this by the time I&C Solutions is here to do the SCADA upgrades.
4. Our new billing clerk trainee Jessica Roberts started work on January 3rd. She is working from 1:00 – 5:00 Mon-Fri learning the job. Nan says she is working out fine.
5. We've received the new Level 4 contract proposal from Ray Ramos. We will need to have a special meeting to approve the contract.

There are no work-order updates today because our internet has been down for the last 2 days and I can't get into the database to run the work order reports.

There was some discussion on the details of the Ray Ramos contract. An inquiry about the status of the new GM (she is still looking for a house to buy). And a question on the depth of the new well (just short of 800 ft).

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Discuss / Approve Regular Meeting Minutes from December 26, 2023

Chairman David Cruvey asked if there were any changes or additions to the meeting minutes. Having none, Director Hagemann made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Director Hardesty seconded the motion. A vote was taken. All voted to approve the minutes of December 26, 2023, none opposed. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Swearing of oath for newly elected TWSD Board Directors Paul Hagemann and Mark Harding.

The Swearing in and Oath of Office for the newly elected TWSD Board Directors was accomplished.

2. Discuss/Approve/Disapprove Employee Base Pay Increase.

Vice-Chair / Interim General Manager spoke on the proposed pay raise. The employees have not received a pay raise for the past 2 years. Union negotiations are stalled. He suggested the raise be done in 2 parts. It was decided on a 4% increase effective now and another 4% increase in June after the water rate increase is approved or disapproved so we can factor the raises into the Cost Of Service Study.

Director Hagemann made a motion to approve the base pay increase in 2 parts the first part being an increase of 4% and a proposed adjustment of another 4% at mid-year.

Director Hardesty seconded the motion. A vote was taken. All voted to approve the base pay increase, none opposed. The motion carried.

3. Discuss TWSD Water Rule Change: New water service meter may only be installed on Timberon residential lots with an approved New Mexico Environment Department septic system permit.

There was much discussion. Vice Chair Harding explained that this issue was not a new requirement of the state, a resident asked for this to be added to the agenda for discussion. Several audience members weighed in with their opinions on the ramifications of this type of action which would severely affect many property owners, including people that come up in campers or RV's with holding tanks that need water. Campfire concerns were raised. It would take away revenue (meter sales and use) from the District. Current property owners would be disenfranchised, especially those with half-acre lots. Environmental concerns were raised, and it was agreed that the EPA – not the TWSD - is responsible for policing illegal waste dumping. Chairman Cruvey stated that this was just more intervention into people's personal rights that the TWSD does not need to get involved with. Chairman Cruvey called for a motion and a voice vote so everyone's opinions can be recorded. Director Hagemann made a motion to disapprove a TWSD water rule change regarding the installation of a water meter only on lots with an approved NMED septic system permit. A vote was taken. All directors voted to disapprove. None voted to approve. The motion to disapprove the proposed water rule change for a requirement for a NMED Septic Permit on new meter installations carried.

Vice-Chair Harding requested a motion to schedule a Special Meeting on Friday at 4:00 to approve Ray Ramos Level 4 Operator contract. Director Hagemann made a motion to have a Special Meeting on Friday 4:00. Director Hardesty seconded. A vote was taken. All voted to approve the special meeting, none opposed. The motion carried.

Public Question and Answer Session: Have a question and want an answer? Ask the Board.

An audience member inquired about his particular situation where he is paying Standby fees for a line that is empty (no water). It was explained that if there is an existing line, empty or not, and someone is paying Standby fees and wants a meter installed, then TWSD is required to perform the installation and the lines would have to be put into service for a water hookup.

An audience member asked about the current configuration of the board. The board configuration is the same with Dave Cruvey Chairman, Mark Harding Vice-Chair, Terri Borzoni Treasurer and directors Paul Hagemann and Edward Hardesty.

DIRECTORS REMARKS

Director Hagemann made a motion to adjourn. Vice Chair Harding seconded. A vote was taken. All voted in favor of adjourning, none opposed. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 4:28 PM

Approved 1-23-24

Chairman David Cruvey 

Secretary Nanette Thorell 

{SEAL}

