

Rim Trail Domestic Water Improvement District Board Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2020

Held – Telephonically

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT BOARD MEETING

1.The teleconference board meeting was called to order at 12:02 PM

2.A roll was called – Chairman Bruce Johnson (BJ), Parliamentarian Judy Scott (JS), Treasurer Ray Tanner (RT) and Secretary John Tanner (JT), Vice Chairman Will Regg (WR) were present, and a quorum was established.

District Manager: Don Ascoli (DA)

Public: Harry Jones

3. RT moved to approve minutes from 11-2–19 Board meeting, BJ seconded. Minutes were approved

6-1). RT reviewed the Treasure Report – Total Income \$57,828, Total Administration expenses \$19035, Total Water Operations expenses \$59,749, Net Ordinary Income -\$1,921 and Total Cash \$108,086. RT asked DA that going forward that DA , in addition to Acct. Payable, show Acct Receivable Past Due on District Acct. Current estimate of Past Due Acct Rec is \$300-500. DA will work on getting that on report. RT pointed out new budget of fiscal year is coming up we need to consider budgeting for a “rainy day or emergency fund”. We need to accept that this should be in our budget whether it is for 3 to 6 months expenses kept aside for emergency; Board should give guidance to District Manager and Treasurer on what this amount should be. Discussion followed on process to develop budget ideas with a “work study session” coming up with ideas for budget, followed by a later meeting to establish what should be on the proposed budget, followed by a telephonic meeting to determine the proposed budget for the Budget and Rate June meeting. It was decided that DA would email Board and the public to get ‘work study ideas’ over email. We can respond individually with feedback. DA and RT would take that feedback and put together a proposed budget. DA to try and get email feedback from Board and public by end of this month. New budget proposal should include “rainy day or emergency fund”.

6-2). DA on District Manager report: For this last period, we had one ownership change 217 Belluzzi Blvd. (Bengert purchased Rayner Home). We added a new customer to the water system: John and Sharon Osborne, 402 Rim Trail Rd. We now have 95 water connections to our system. There was 5 Blue Stake request since the last Board Meeting: 292 and 402 Rim Trail Road, 217 E Belluzzi Blvd, 897 Whitetail Knob Rd and 3095 FSR 32.at 158 Rim Trail Road. There was one broken water meter replaced and one new meter installed this period. There are at least 3 other non-functioning meters in the water system that need replacement in the next 30 days. Curtis Palace Electric installed the new float inside the main water tank. He also repaired the wiring on top of tank and the top of our electric service box so we can again run the filter plant on automatic mode. Installed new electronic timer at well #3 so we can program on/off times down to the minute. Since well #3 is not pumping water at its historic rate of 11 gpm, we have to change the pump on and off times to accommodate this lower volume of water. On New Year’s Eve there was a dramatic drop in our main tanks. Investigation led to excessive water flows at property on Belluzzi Blvd. Shut off the meter and notified the owner and plumber was hired to fix the leak on their side of the line. 20,000 gallons of water was lost. DA made contact with a well driller at the RWAA conference in Tucson last week. He will come out to Rim Trail and pull the well #3 pump then run a camera down the well casing to find out if the casing slots are plugged or what might be causing the low water production rate for the well. He will be charging \$900 to camera well #3. Unable to run water treatment plant due to turbidity – will discuss as part of the agenda item at Katadyn filters. New Well purchase updates to follow. Nothing to report on District Water Rights (SRP)

BJ recalled it is customary at the first meeting of year to confirm roles of the Board members. It was an over site on the Agenda but it was decided to go ahead and confirm the each member’s role for the year. BA proceeded to confirm with each Board member and Board members agreed to maintain their curtain role – Will Regg as Vice Chairman, Judy Scott Parliamentarian, Ray Tanner as Treasurer, John Tanner as Secretary and Bruce Johnson as Chairman.

7a. Update on purchasing new well. The County has approved variance. Land survey was completed by Northstar and they completed survey map which was signed by owner Mark Parish. That was submitted to the County and is waiting for their final approval for minor Land Split and final recording. DA expects to have it done by end of March. ADEQ requires 99 tests for new well. So far we have half of the results back and they are ok. The coliform test has to be retested. DA sent out bids to three local Engineering firms (for drawings and application showing property, well housing and lines connected to the system as required by ADEQ) to Verde Engineering, Sunrise Engineering and Painted Sky Engineering. Should receive quotes by end of month. Closing of the land purchase is set for 3/31/20. Ray confirmed that the test by ADEQ will be completed and approved by the closing. DA confirmed that they will not be approved by ADEQ at that point but we will know they passed and will be approved.

7b. Update on engaging Katadyn Filtration System – after Nov. meeting Katadyn filters were tested – we experienced leaks on valves, pressure gauge and gasket. After multiple efforts we could not get under the proper 0.3 average NTU level. Plant has not been run since that time and fortunately we have got the water we need from the wells. DA is working on identifying problem with the filter system – in spite of filtering natural water flow from river; it is not giving us the lower readings we use to get with turbidity. RT pointed out the importance of getting this filter system working properly to preserve our wells – we don't know the recharge rate on wells and we don't want to stress the wells for our summer use. DA felt if we don't have a catastrophic event with leaks – the wells will maintain our summer water requirements. It came into question that we should speed up the process of getting the Parish well up and going so we have appropriate back up during the summer. The original plan was to get the final funding to complete the Parish well in the new budget year. Discussion followed on ways to get Parish well up and running by summer time. RT brought up the idea that ADEQ should offer us an exemption on meeting requirements so we could use the filter plant.

7c. Discussion of impact on water resources with increasing number of Rental properties: DA indicated there is 6-8 rentals currently renting plus the new ownership of the Rayner property and a couple of others will be coming on soon. DA pointed out that the AirB&Bs use 3 times the water of normal use. Noting our own rules challenge the use of water for commercial use or use by Bed and Breakfast or ABB's. DA proposed that we consider applying another rate for Air B&B's, creating possibly a new commercial rate. WR suggested we focus on water use rather than approaching it from commercial or rental use. RT pointed out we need to address this in next rate hearing. DA reminded Board – he needs clarification on our own rules of commercial use. Going forward DA will present data (regarding AirB&B's) that Board could evaluate and consider for alternate rate structure based on water use. HJ pointed out we should focus on supply side and recommended getting the two wells running better and the new well running. RT brought up the question to DA about obtaining WIFA money to help pay for the new well. DA was under the understanding from previous board meetings that we would be using our District money to finance the new well. RT made the point that we already have enough items that need attention (Water Rights issue, new tank, water line replacements). BJ suggested a two prong approach and we should proceed with the new well efforts and at same time look into obtaining WIFA funding for the new well. RT moved to have DA investigate and get back to the Board the possibilities of getting a WIFA Grant to pay for new well and pay to hook it up to our system, JT second the motion. After discussion the Board took a vote - WR no, JS abstain, RT yes, JT yes, BJ yes. Motion passed. DA will also report on timing, cost and what it would take to get WIFA Grant. RT also asked DA to verify if reimbursement of a loan can be done through the WIFA Grant. HJ added that it would take 5 to \$10,000 to obtain the Grant.

8. Call to public: HJ reminded us about the call for election by June. RT suggested that with all the items we have to cover on our meetings we should use the telephonic meeting like this and that it works out well in saving travel time.

9. Call to Staff and Board Members for non-agenda items: Future topics

11. Schedule Date for next Board Meeting: Need to schedule meeting for budget and our next quarterly meeting. DA will send out email to the Board and Public to get feedback on budget ideas and based on that information DA and RT will put together a proposed budget for the Boards approval. DA suggests we meet telephonically in a month to discuss the immediate items we discussed today. Board set next telephonic meeting on Monday 4/6/20 at 6:00 pm. Same pass codes. DA hoping to report at next meeting the WIFA questions and tell us that we are closed on new well. DA will look at calendar and get back to us on quarterly meeting date.

12. Meeting Adjourned at 2:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
John Tanner
Secretary