



**COOKE CITY, PARK COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**  
**Monthly Board Meeting Minutes**  
**March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016**  
**4:00 pm**

**Location:** Cooke City Fire Station Meeting Room

**Board Members in Attendance:** Deb Purvis, Kay Whittle, Rick Sommers, Troy Wilson, Brandon Richardson  
Lucas Jack, Operator & Marilyn Hartley, Clerk

**Members absent:** None

**Public Attendance:** Attorney Emily Jones, Engineers Scott Aspenlieder & Robert Neihart  
Donna Rowland, Bill Whittle, Ken Hufford, Steve Hartley

Deb Purvis called the meeting to order at 4:06 pm.

Prior to taking care of regular business items, Deb introduced the District's new engineer, Scott Aspenlieder, who also introduced his associate, Robert Neihart. Scott explained that he had spent the day with Lucas reviewing the water system and reviewing its history. He explained the more obvious problems that were noted and where they may (or may not) stem from. Scott believes there is a sense of urgency because of the tourist season approaching and the town's diminishing water supply. The Board's goals, options and potential costs were discussed and timeline for the next meeting was set for 4 to 6 weeks out.

The floor was then turned over to Attorney Emily Jones who discussed her thoughts on the Board's legal recourse. It was determined that if the original engineer was going to be approached, it needed to happen fairly quickly as the statute of limitations will run out next spring. Her first course of action will be to go to Great West Engineering to see if they will make it right and, if not, begin a course of legal action.

The minutes from the February meeting were reviewed. Troy made a motion to accept the minutes as presented and was seconded by Brandon. All were in agreement and motion carried.

The Cash report as of 2/29/2016 was reviewed and showed a total cash balance of \$166,017.85 of which all but \$38,571.63 is held in mandatory reserve accounts.

The February Profit & Loss reports were reviewed with no notable comments.

The A/R Report from 2/29/16 was reviewed. No immediate issues were noted.

Following review of invoices presented for payment, Troy motioned to approve all of them and was seconded by Deb. Everyone concurred and Board members signed bill payments for March as follows:

March:

- Chk #2643 Bridger Analytical Lab - \$28.00 – February Sample Testing
- Chk #2644 CenturyLink - \$51.67 – March Phone
- Chk #2645 Lucas Jack - \$415.58 – March Salary (less deductions)
- Chk #2646 Flathead Electric - \$1234.88 – February electric
- Chk #2647 Marilyn Hartley - \$659.98 – March Water & Fire salary (less deductions)
- Chk #2648 Verizon Wireless - \$13.23 – February cell phone

## **Old Business:**

W2SACT Meeting Report – Neither Deb nor Troy went because of the change in focus toward potential legal action.

Miners Saloon Update – Deb talked to Raz and explained the situation and issues with the system. Marilyn informed the Board the Miners Saloon has paid their bill in full.

MOU with Park County for loan – Documents were not produced by Park County in time for this meeting.

## **Operator Update: (Lucas)**

Firefly & Meter Update – No more repairs have been done because other system repairs have taken priority.

Specific meter readings – This has been completed except for one of Deb's businesses.

Cleaning & Inspection of tank – Shelley Nolan gave Lucas some names of companies that do this. There doesn't need to be any scuba divers or submarines. Lucas is working on getting estimates.

Hufford Project update – This project is complete.

Other – Only emergency fixes will be attended to and Lucas will continue to read the meters that work.

## **Clerk Update: (Marilyn)**

Update on By-laws – Marilyn will continue to work on this as time allows.

FY15 Audit – Nothing from auditors yet.

Resort Tax Application Results – The usual \$20,000 per MOU was allocated. The additional request to cover engineering costs was denied in lieu of a loan from Park County.

Customer List Update – Marilyn sent Lucas the list he requested, but further research and/or action will be postponed until emergency issues are handled.

Pressure Regulator Letter – Marilyn will compose a letter to be inserted with monthly bill letting customers know that a pressure regulator is recommended by the Board, but not mandatory, and will be the responsibility of the homeowner.

## **New Business:**

Further conversation with the engineers resulted in Lucas offering to chat with John @ Flathead Electric regarding 3-phase power and the Board continuing to pursue the loan from Park County. Scott indicated that he is glad the Board is moving forward with actions toward getting the system fixed.

Discussion regarding the next meeting ensued. As it appears that there would not be a quorum for an April meeting and the engineers will need a little more time than that to report back, it was decided to schedule the next meeting for May 12<sup>th</sup> at the Fire House with the time to be determined.

With no further business to attend to, Troy made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Brandon. With no objection, Deb adjourned the meeting at 6:18 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn Hartley  
District Clerk

BOARD APPROVAL:

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**Signatures on File**

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\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_