

## Agenda Items and Minutes 8/17/2023

1. Call to Order (5:20pm) Board Present: Ward Holmes, Tom Brossia, Mike Roussin, Jeff Waggoner, John Gallup. Staff present: Tim, Matt, Chris. Visitors: Janet Anderson-Durango West 1, Beverly Lawrence-Durango West 2.
2. Approval of the Agenda. Ward motion, Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup>, approved.
3. Approval of 7/20/2023 Meeting Minutes. Tom B motion, Mike R 2<sup>nd</sup>, approved.
4. General Managers Report: Administration, Rate Relief, Source, Treatment Water System, Trappers Tank Update. Nighthorse update.
5. Capital Improvements update, Grant Writer, Engineer.
6. Seabiscuit Lane Subdivision planning update.
7. Approval of Bills.
8. Public Comment.
9. Adjourn. 6:29PM

### 4. Financials, Billing, Insurance, etc.

Water production for July was 10,761,700 gallons with an average per day of 358,723. That's 3 million gallons higher than June's total and a little over an acre foot per day. The reservoir is projected to be around 947 AF by the end of the August. As we expected once we hit the higher temperatures we had an increase in sales with everyone trying to keep their grass and trees from dying during the hot months. Also LPWWA's fill station has been gaining traction and comparing last July 2022 to July 2023 they have taken an additional 739,144 gallons.

#### Rate Relief Request.

William Hoffman at 910 Sawmill Road is requesting rate relief after finding his broken sprinkler was leaking. Mr. Hoffman recently had irrigation lines installed and one of the sprinklers broke and leaked 60,000 gallons. Mr. Hoffman has a good history with LDWA and has never had a rate relief request going back to 2010. **Tier 1 Mike motion R, Ward 2<sup>nd</sup>, approved.**

Joe Whirry at 595 Deer Trail disputed paying a bill in 2019 and has since been hauling water because he believed LDWA was charging incorrectly and did not agree with the fee structure. Mr. Whirry averages 15,000 to 20,000 gallons monthly during the summer for his garden which he admits is high usage but does not agree with the premiums associated. Mr. Whirry would like to move forward and pay only half of his \$3,848 outstanding account and start receiving service again so he does not have to haul water anymore. **After review the board decided not to adjust the account or make any motions to change outstanding balance. No change.**

John Herlihy at 1261 Deer Valley (Trappers Crossing) is requesting rate relief after finding a relief valve on his water heater (2gpm) had been leaking since June. The small leak got worse over time and was undetected because the valve is out of sight and has a floor drain, so the residents did not notice anything. John has sensors on his water heater and other appliances so he can get high usage notifications with the ability to turn off all water with the master

shutdown valve. John was very proactive and communicated the measures he was taking while trying to find the leak and ultimately replace the relief valve. John is requesting rate relief for July (61,000gallons) and August (28,000 gallons). **Tier 1 Tom B motion, Mike R 2<sup>nd</sup>, approved.**

Melvin Owen at 111 Denby Lane is requesting rate relief after a sprinkler valve broke on his sprinkler/ drip system causing 98,000 gallons to leak out. The Owens were on vacation when the landscapers noticed the lawn and bushes dying. The landscapers noticed pools of water down the hill side past the driveway and notified the Owens that there was a leak. The Owens immediately had Mountain Oasis repair the sprinkler system and reset the frequency/ watering cycles. The Owens residence normally uses 20,000 gallons in the summer months and are fully aware of the normal usage and billing amounts. The Owens family are in good standing with their account history but are requesting rate relief for this unfortunate leak. **After board review-with the large amount of usage, board agreed on normal rates for the first 24,000 gallons and Tier 1 relief for the remaining 74,000 gallons. Mike R motion, Ward 2<sup>nd</sup>, approved.**

The McBride family at 878 CR 125 is requesting relief because they did not understand how expensive the water rates have risen. Per their letter they have been used to the old rates 20 years ago when 20,000 gallons was \$20. The Mcbrides are asking for some relief because \$1800 for 35,000 gallons was more than they expected to pay. **After review the board decided no change to the account, no vote or motion needed. No change.**

**935 Deer Trail, last minute rate relief for float valve failed on cistern. Tier 1 motion Jeff, Mike R 2<sup>nd</sup> approved.**

**Source and Supply:** We have a Leak on the intake pump at Nighthorse so we are in the process of getting parts and supplies ordered so we can pump water this fall. We are working with LPWAA and the Southern Ute Indian Tribe on a operating and maintenance agreement so that there are clear expectations for maintenance done each month. The SUIT had their engineer send over a lengthy maintenance list which all three entities are going to work together to make more realistic and affordable. **Board asked when the Nighthorse pumps will be fixed and see if we can help Marsa speed up the process. Matt spoke with Marsa and he was waiting for the approval from Yavone and her LPWW board to order parts.**

#### Tim and Chris work Performed list-

Replace multiple valves and fix hydrant leak on Indian bend in Long hallow

Checked in with Browns Hill Engineering about SCADA updates, have not heard back

Tap installed at Rasmussen residence 765 Deer Trail Rafter J

Low water pressure issues in Rafter J when operating backup pump at Rafter J pump station (fed by 2" line - recommend increasing water line size and or putting backup pump on VFD)

Spoke to Mardi (LWWA) about addressing a possible leak at the Nighthorse pump station. We were informed that anytime we touch their equipment, we need to inform Dave Marsa.

Ordered backup chemical feed pump and parts to rebuild old pump

Replaced mechanical seal on the 3 hp pump in the Shenandoah pump station

VFDs for the new pumps were delivered

Bacti samples taken

Service truck needs some minor repairs ( tie rod ends )

**Treatment:** Treating the lake early on with copper sulphate has helped tremendously during these hot months. The treatment deters algae growth which in turn keeps the treatment plant filters working properly so it can process the raw water. So far this July and August we have run the plant at a high rate and we are seeing the need for the clear well expansion. Any leak or clogged filters from algae really hinders the rate we can treat and distribute during high usage months.

**Distribution:** The electrical panel at the Lake Durango pump house is scheduled to be replaced after a pump was tripped off multiple times. A resident called in saying they had low pressure and it turns out the pump was tripped off so Phillips Electrical ran by and found the glitch.

We found DNR Tank out of Albuquerque to give us a budgetary number on building and installing a Tank at Trappers Crossing. We have multiple bids from Superior, Pittsburg/ Tower, Kalhaas and Great Plains. All these companies want to build a bolted steel tank with a glass liner or another version with a reinforced fiberglass which does not work for Trappers Crossing. We need a welded steel tank to battle the elements at 7,600ft and handle freeze thaw inside the tank. If we do the proper maintenance a welded steel tank will last the longest for that particular site. ***Board asked if there was any possibility of changing locations for the Trappers tank so that the install went smoother? Matt and Tim stated moving locations even with some homeowners that granted permission would create a more expensive location because of steep hillsides. Running new lines and excavating out hillsides, getting environmental assessments would take lots of extra time we don't have. So far keeping the current location (current easements) will be a better fit and the company that helps with transport and install will have to have the right equipment. The board wants staff to keep finding tank manufacturers so we can have this be a top priority for next summer.***

##### **5. Capital Improvements Update.**

Carrie Padgett ( Harris water Engineering) and Stacy Beough are working on timelines and grant opportunities so we pick out the correct projects and send out pre-qualification applications.

***Mike wanted more information on grants and contact information at the Colorado Water Quality so he could look into opportunities for the Durango West 1 tank to be refurbished.***

##### **6. Seabiscuit Subdivision.**

LDWA staff has met with Jamie Johnson Cody, and CHC Engineers to look over water lines and infrastructure at Vaquero Way and Seabiscuit Lane off county road 125. The Johnson family is looking into developing 20 lots that run parallel to Seabiscuit Lane. Early on meeting with the Engineer, LDWA staff told the CHC Engineering that the infrastructure could not meet the Fire Flows of 1000GPM for 2.5 hours demanded by the Fire Department. Also the Fire Department needs fire hydrants installed every 150 feet to be in compliance. CHC Engineering is weighing the costs of installing a vertical tank that would produce enough pressure or installing gravity fed tank on the west corner of the parcel. LDWA staff has communicated that for this subdivision to happen the Johnson family needs to install a new tank, new water lines and new hydrants because the current infrastructure will not stay intact at 1000GPM. The Johnsons have been invited to the August LDWA board meeting to communicate the progress made with the Fire Department and to explain the subdivision to the board. ***John spoke about the county planning department being 2 years out, Ward stated keep getting information and we will pick this up when the Johnson family has more information. The discussion came up that this could possibly be a bulk customer if the homes formed an HOA/ taxing authority.***

**7. Approval of the Bills** – Bill.com report to follow

**9.Public Comment.** Chris spoke about the American technical team bid and **Tom** said to move forward. **Tom motioned, Ward, 2nd approved.**

**8. Adjourn.6:29PM**