

RAE SUBDIVISION COUNTY WATER & SEWER DISTRICT NO. 313
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
August 23, 2023 at 7 pm

Present:

Perry Hofferber, Board President
Andrew Williamson, Board Member
Rich McLane, Board Member
Brock Athman, Allied Engineering

Bob Ingram, Board Member
Ken Ridgway, Manager
Val Nolan, Secretary

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Perry Hofferber, Board President. The meeting was held in the maintenance building at RAE Water District.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Brock Athman was available for questions concerning expansion of the water district.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes from the July 2023 board meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the July 2023 minutes was made by Andrew Williamson and seconded by Rich McLane. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The treasurer's report was reviewed for July 2023. Val Nolan noted a final pay app from Karnath for FH#2 well building as made of \$20,222.68. We also purchased an actuator for \$4800 and paid the annual support Black Mountain Software of \$3600. A motion was made by Rich McLane and seconded by Andrew Williamson to approve the treasurer's report. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Memorandum Of Understanding between RAE Water District is being finalized through Hyalite engineering and our attorney, Susan Swimley. concerning water infrastructure in relation to system impact fees. When we receive the final draft, it will be presented to the Board for approval.
- Ken had a meeting with Mike Stenberg from Hyalite Engineering, Brock Athman from Allied Engineering and Brad Hammerquist from Morrison Maierle on August 9th to discuss the scope of work, time, and schedule for the Wastewater PER. Once everything is finalized, we will present to the Board for approval. It was noted how busy contractors are this time of year and in the Bozeman area.

- Architecture 118 is in the process of finalizing RAE Water District main office expansion plans. Once those plans are finalized, they will be presented to the Board for approval. Board discussion was held concerning timeline and the Board stated they would be willing to use email for approval to move the project forward if necessary.

MANAGERS REPORT: (Ken highlighted the Manager's Report-attached)

- DLM Contracting is almost complete with the north bed reedbed rehab. The reed beds are over 20 years old and not performing well. They completely emptied out the north reedbed and replaced the liner, filter material, and replaced the broken drain valve. We will not proceed with the south reedbed at this time. The cost for the north reedbed so far is \$157,000. We will wait on the recommendations from the Wastewater Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) before any further projects are started.
- Ken has been in contact with Dave Lyons with Lyons Excavation about replacing six fire hydrants in the RAE Subdivision. They are 45 years old and replacement parts are not readily available. Those six hydrants are also leaking around the main valve assembly. A leak was also discovered at a residence on Dogwood Drive that Lyons will also repair. Lyons soonest availability will be mid-September 2023.
- Ken and Val attended the Gallatin County Commissioners meeting on August 1st. Ken gave a short presentation on completion of Falcon Hollow Well #2 project. The commissioners voted and approved the \$400,000 grant we had been awarded last year. The funds will be sent to RAE Water District. Discussion was held on where to put the money. The State Investment Pool has a better return than Stifel at this point. Val will verify that we can withdraw quickly from the investment pool. Brock also suggested there are many grants available and pursuing them for upcoming projects is beneficial.
- Ken and Kevin attended Montana Rural Water training at the Yellow Bay training center. The training concentrates heavily on wastewater biology and treatment processes. During the training there is also a tour of the Kalispell, Whitefish and Big Fork wastewater treatment facilities.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Ken has attached the RAE Water District Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 along with a budget resolution R-230823A for Board discussion and vote. This year's budget reflects a 3.5% rate increase split between the water base rate and the sewer base rate, as well as projected revenue from new service connections for the next fiscal year. Request an approval of rate increase resolution R230823. A motion was made by Andrew Williamson to approve R230823A, FY 2024 Budget, and seconded by Rich McLane. The motion passed unanimously. A motion was made by Andrew Williamson to approve R230823 concerning the rate increase and seconded by Rich McLane. The motion passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held September 20th, 2023 at 7 pm.

ADJOURN: Bob Ingram motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 and this was seconded by Rich McLane. The motion passed unanimously.

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Attached: Manager's Report: Manager

- DLM contracting is almost complete with the north reedbed rehab. The reedbeds are over 20 years old and were not performing well. They completely emptied out the north reedbed and replaced the liner, filter material, and replaced the broken drain valve. We will not proceed with the south reedbed at this time. Before any more wastewater projects are started, we will wait to see the results and recommendations of the Wastewater PER.
- Ken has been in contact with Dave Lyons with Lyons excavation about replacing 6 fire hydrants in the RAE Subdivision. The fire hydrants are 45 years old and replacement parts are not readily available anymore. Those six hydrants are also leaking around the main valve assembly. Also, a leak was discovered at a residence on Dogwood drive that Lyons Excavation will repair while they are replacing the hydrants. Lyons soonest availability will be mid-September 2023.
- Ken and Val attended the Gallatin County commissioners meeting on August 1st 2023. Ken gave a short presentation on the Falcon Hollow well number 2 project. The county commissioners then voted and approved a \$400,000 ARPA federal grant to be released and transferred to RAE Water for the completion of the well project.
- Ken and Kevin attended Montana Rural Water training at the Yellow Bay training center. This training concentrates heavily on wastewater biology and treatment processes. During the training there is also a tour of the Kalispell, Whitefish and Big Fork wastewater treatment facilities.