



Doña Ana Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association
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The following are the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Doña Ana Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association Board of Directors, June 01, 2017 convened at 9:00 A.M. in the Doña Ana Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association Board Room located at 5535 Ledesma Dr., Las Cruces, NM 88007:

Call to Order & Roll Call

President Melton called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and called roll:

Vice President – Jamie Stull, Present

Secretary/ Treasurer – Dr. Kurt Anderson, Present

Board Member – Raymond Ponteri, Present

A Quorum was declared

Others in Attendance:

Executive Director – Jennifer Horton

Legal Counsel – Josh Smith

Community Members – Jim Hayhoe, Melvin McCorke, Arturo Baldonado

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Ponteri moved to approve the agenda for the June 01, 2017 Regular Board Meeting as presented; the motion was seconded by Dr. Anderson. The Chair called for discussion of the motion. The Chair called for a vote on the motion; the motion carried by roll call vote 4-0.

Minutes

Mr. Stull moved to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of May 18, 2017 as presented; the motion was seconded by Dr. Anderson. The Chair called for discussion of the motion to which none was brought forward. The Chair called for a vote on the minutes; the motion carried by roll call vote 4-0.

New Members & New Meters

Dr. Anderson moved to approve the New Members and New Meters list as presented; the motion was seconded by Mr. Stull. The Chair called for discussion of the motion. Ms. Horton advised we have twenty three (23) names on the list encompassing six (6) new meters, eighteen (18) new members, and five (5) existing members. The Chair called for a vote on the motion; the motion carried by roll call vote 4-0.

Customer Issues and Public Input

Arturo Baldonado expressed concerns with his high water usage registered through his meter. We have completed data logging as well as a meter test which resulted in the meter registering slowly. We cannot make adjustments to his billing; however Ms. Horton agreed to meet Mr. Baldonado in the field to show him how to read his meter for further assistance in understanding how it functions.

Board President Report

Mr. Melton advised we are experiencing well issues which we will discuss in detail under Unfinished Business.

Staff Reports

See Attachment A

Ms. Horton stated that beyond well and boosters failing, all is going well at work. We have created a well data sheet that is a work in progress; as we pull wells for maintenance we will continue to update this spreadsheet.

Unfinished Business

Dr. Anderson moved to approve the award for the repair contract for Well 7 to D&J Pump as presented; the motion was seconded by Mr. Stull. The Chair called for discussion of the motion. Ms. Horton advised this well is located off El Camino Real in Dona Ana and has failed; the shafts and pump have gone bad. We have discovered about 75 feet of sand and debris at the bottom of this well, which we have bailed out and cleaned the well. The well is now ready to be put back together. The estimate reflects a sand separator, which we do not believe we need, so that has been removed. We did try to obtain additional quotes, however no other vendors responded. The actual cost is \$10,797.67. Dr. Anderson amended his motion to reflect removing the sand separator, and labor associated with this piece of equipment, from the estimate presented. Mr. Stull seconded the amended motion. The Chair called for a vote on the amended motion; the motion carried by roll call vote 4-0.

Mr. Stull moved to approve the award for repair contract for Radium Springs Booster to D&J Pump as presented; the motion was seconded by Dr. Anderson. The Chair called for discussion of the motion. Ms. Horton explained this is retroactive as we had to authorize emergency repairs. We lost half of the booster, which severely affected the public and how we could supply water. The total cost of repairs was \$7,601.55 for a new submersible pump. Dr. Anderson asked if we know what caused this damage. Ms. Horton explained it is worn out from old age. The Chair called for a vote on the motion; the motion carried by roll call vote 4-0. Mr. Melton advised we did try to call Special

Meeting; however we could not meet Quorum and felt it was imperative to move forward in order to promote continue good customer service.

Dr. Anderson moved to approve the award for the repair contract for Well 16 to D&J Pump as presented; the motion was seconded by Mr. Ponteri. The Chair called for discussion of the motion. Ms. Horton stated this is the well in Picacho Hills. In early 2014 we lost this well, redid the pump, motor, and pipe; now three years later it has failed again. The presence of healthy iron bugs has destroyed the pipe, which then resulted in the well pumping air and destroying the pump. This repair has been authorized to move forward and the type of column pipe has been changed to a rubber hose. Picacho Hills is currently running on one well and only one well; should a lightning strike occur or something go wrong with well 7 there will be no water supply to District 5. We could not wait for a Board Meeting and run the risk of the District 5 community being without water for weeks. The total cost of the repair and reassembly is \$23,606.36. Dr. Anderson asked if there is any way to deal with the iron bug issues. Ms. Horton advised we can feed an iron inhibitor, but this is usually utilized after pumping. At the same time, the bugs are naturally in the water and will always come back. Mr. Ponteri asked about well 15 and when it will be available. Ms. Horton advised we are pending State approval to get this well online. Mr. Hayhoe asked what kind of delay we will experience with feeding the new tanks. Ms. Horton advised we are moving forward with filling the tanks; however this does cause a lot of stress on well 7 due to running around the clock. The Chair called for a vote on the motion; the motion carried by roll call vote 4-0.

Mr. Stull moved to approve the award for the repair contract for Well 9 to D&J Pump as presented; the motion was seconded by Dr. Anderson. The Chair called for discussion of the motion. Ms. Horton explained Radium Springs has three wells; one is waiting on approval from the State in order to make it live, and then we have well 9 and

10. Two weeks ago we began experiencing issues with well 10. We were able to correct the issue with an electrician, but while he was out he ran additional tests on both of the active wells. We have been advised we were on the brink of losing well 10 entirely and well 9 is in rough condition. Last week we lost well 9 and have had to pull it. We have discovered about 40 feet of rocks and dirt at the bottom of the well due to a 14 foot crack in the casing that is a half inch wide. There are two options; neither of which are good long term options. The option we are going to move forward with is welding a piece of steel to the casing in order to patch the crack. Then we will put bore line in, with a new pump and motor. The estimated cost is around \$20,000 with the only other option is to drill a new well. The staff has been instructed to begin flushing the eighteen inch water line that we have connected to Radium Springs in the event that all wells go down. This well has been cleaned and we will now begin the reassembly. Mr. Ponteri asked what authorization Ms. Horton needs in order to proceed with the repairs; Ms. Horton is requesting the full \$20,000. Once we have the final price Ms. Horton will bring the Board up to date. Mr. Stull amended his motion to allow up to \$20k for repairs with a second from Dr. Anderson. The Chair called for a vote on the amended motion; the motion carried by roll call vote 4-0.

Dr. Anderson moved to approve to repair Well 10 with an expenditure of up to \$20,000 as presented; the motion was seconded by Mr. Stull. The Chair called for discussion of the motion. Ms. Horton advised this well is about to go any day. We are hoping to be proactive with the repairs required before it fails. The Chair called for a vote on the motion; the motion carried by roll call vote 4-0.

Mr. Ponteri moved to Approval of Resolution 2017-03 Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan 2019-2023 as presented; the motion was seconded by Mr. Stull. The Chair called for discussion of the motion. The ICIP is completed annually and is a

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projection of needs we see within our system that are then ranked with public input. This is our recommendation to the Board for projects that we see are necessary for our organization. Mr. Melton asked if we have any potential issues with not being able to provide adequate fire flow such that we need to move this item up in priority. Ms. Horton counselled that would be up to the Board, but the top three items do have more precedent due to various types of exposure. Mr. Melton has requested we communicate with the local fire departments in order to maintain transparency with the lack of fire suppression. The Chair called for a vote on the motion; the motion carried by roll call vote 4-0.

Presentation and Discussion of Water Rights

Legal Counsel Joshua Smith advised water rights, especially in the Lower Rio Grande, are a complex topic; especially with the lawsuit between the State of New Mexico and the State of Texas. Mr. Smith presented the history of the Lower Rio Grande, and summarized the claims from the State of Texas against the State of New Mexico. The United States through the Bureau of Reclamation has also filed a claim to intervene. The Special Master finalized his report in February and has proposed to deny the State of New Mexico's motion to dismiss and allow the trial to proceed; as well as denied the U.S. motion to intervene. He has proposed to deny both the irrigation districts motions to intervene as well. The report is now in front of the Supreme Court. If the suit is allowed to proceed then the next motion is discovery. In anticipation of the actions of the suit EBID has created the DROP program which is a depletion, reduction, and offset type of program. The DROP has been submitted to the Bureau of Reclamation; however approval or need for modifications is pending. We have filed the combine and comingle application to prepare our system for ongoing water rights concerns as well as several appeals. The suit from the State of Texas could go in any direction and all decisions are pending at this time.

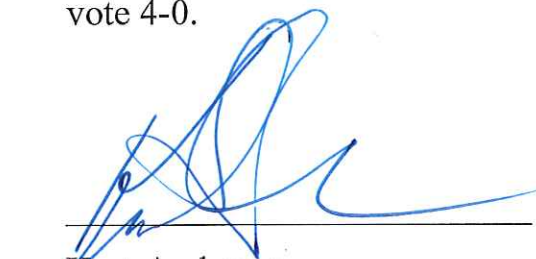
Open Discussion

Mr. Melton would like to discuss creating a formal program for pulling wells and maintenance every year, including tank maintenance, in order to reach the point of proactive instead of reactive with our system. Ms. Horton advised this is something we tried to implement this past year; however wells began to crash thus delaying the schedule. Once we are back online we will begin the formal schedule of pulling x-amount of wells for maintenance each year which ideally will be three (3) wells and three (3) tanks. Dr. Anderson would also like to see more data, including power consumption with static drawdowns. Ms. Horton advised our SCADA system does chart this, however there is data we may never have due to inheriting new systems. We have also implemented a chart of tracking our system through Operations for preventative maintenance.

Mr. Ponteri inquired as to what is a more reasonable threshold for the Executive Director for emergency authorization given the ongoing issues with meeting Quorum outside of the Regular Meetings? Mr. Ponteri has suggested implementing an emergency policy in order to support the Executive Director in critical situations. The Board agreed and will continue to support Ms. Horton in these difficult circumstances.

Adjournment

Mr. Stull moved to adjourn at 11:01 a.m.; the motion was seconded by Dr. Anderson. The Chair called for a vote on the motion: and the motion carried by roll call vote 4-0.



Kurt Anderson
Secretary/ Treasurer

7/6/2017
Date