

# FLATHEAD COUNTY WATER DISTRICT #101

POB 1141, Columbia Falls, MT 59912

---

\*\*\* Meeting Minutes March 2, 2021 \*\*\*

## **General Meeting - by ZOOM teleconference:**

### **I. Call to Order / Roll Call. 7:08pm**

Directors present include Harold Herman, President, Russ Barnett, Vice President, Brian Rohletter and Linda Bosworth.

Also present: Shane Pierson, Certified Water Operator / General Manager; Matt Nerdig, Engineer; Tina Bondy, Board Secretary; and Shannon Henson, district customer

### **II. Minutes**

- a. Following Board Review of the December 1, 2020 Minutes, Linda Bosworth moved to accept the Minutes as prepared. Brian Rohletter seconded and all voted in favor.

### **III. Time for Public Comment and Discussions**

- a. Matt Nerdig provided the following comments:

All parts of the project have now been wrapped up. The as-builts were sent via email to the Board and all final completion forms are with RD. Shane got paper copies for district; instruction manuals were given directly to Shane; RD and the DEQ accepted all.

RD confirmed the District does not need to do the audit! Thought we were going to be right on the verge, but the final draw that would have pushed into the audit didn't fund until 3 days after cut off. Not a huge difference in budget considerations. Since FCWD did not spend the money for the audit, it will stay with RD.

Going forward - District will have a meeting that any board members can attend, the 11<sup>th</sup> month inspection. Matt will set up an onsite meeting in August via email. Shane will be there, and we will cover any other warranty issues that arise. At the 12-month date the Board will relinquish the bond that the District took out.

Couple of little things on the list - as discussed last meeting. All of that can be cleaned up next summer - and have John / T5 do all at once.

Shane and John have been working on fill valve – another warranty item.

Matt wanted to thank everyone for their efforts to get as much fixed as we did – A2Z still available for any questions. He also mentioned that the project has gotten amazing compliments from DEQ on how far the District has come. Mike Kropp would like to do a slide show, to show other districts.

Board had a few comments for Matt:

Harold added thanks to Matt, that if it weren't for him, the District would not have been able to get this done, he has been a huge help!

Russ added his thanks to Matt as well.

Linda – thank you to Matt for taking on this project, as bleak as it looked in the beginning, but thank you for getting the community to the finish line. It has made a big difference in the community.

#### **IV. New Business**

##### **a. FCWD 101 Bylaws**

###### **i. Updated to reflect Resolution No. 11, previously executed.**

1. Two comments received from Linda Bosworth, (1) pages need to be numbered and (2) Need new signature block, a 3<sup>rd</sup> signature block. When ratified the Bylaws previously, we needed a 3<sup>rd</sup> signature block, showing the date the meeting occurred where the Board voted for the changes.

##### **b. Director Position**

###### **i. Linda Bosworth – resignation at the completion of the March Board Meeting. (letter sent via email)**

Harold's comments – Linda is the one that really got this whole thing going and it's been great to have her here to help get this buttoned up. We really appreciate her help.

Linda's comment was that she is happy for the community – and thanks to everyone for hanging in there and being there for a community that was not always so grateful.

###### **ii. Shannon Henson – proposed new Director**

Shannon had previously expressed interest around the time Linda came back on the Board. When Linda announced she had sold her remaining district property and would no longer be authorized to be on the Board, Harold checked back to see whether Shannon may still be interested, and he was.

Shannon shared a bit about himself: He owns 2 separate lots with trailers in the district. He has lived in the Flathead Valley for 32 years, and Columbia Heights for 25 years. He's a general contractor with his own company and does a lot of remodel work. Mainly big steel buildings, warehouses and riding arenas. Built a house away from Heights in 2006 and moved back up about 5 years ago, so has been here through much of the bad water times. Shannon is also a member of Flathead County Sherriff's Posse. He has served on their board as well, but currently, he is only a senior member of the Sherriff's Posse.

iii. Board Vote on New Board Member

Following Shannon's introduction and Board discussion, Harold Herman made a Motion to bring Shannon Henson onto the Board as a member. Russ Barnett seconded the Motion and all voted in favor, none were opposed.

c. Vote on President/Vice President Seats - 2021

President seat: Harold advised that he would be happy to step down as president if any of the other board members wanted this position.

Linda Bosworth made a Motion to have Harold as President for 2021. Brian Rohletter seconded and all voted in favor. Motion passes.

Vice President seat: Russ inquired whether any other board member was interested in running for a 1 year term of VP?

Linda Bosworth made a Motion to have Russ as Vice President for 2021. Brian Rohletter seconded and all voted in favor. Motion passes.

d. Budget Discussion

Harold provided comments on all of the great work Shane has been doing for the District, and proposes to increase the monthly amount the district is paying him. Russ advised that he was certainly in favor of that; Linda also stated the district is very lucky to have Shane and appreciates all of his help. Brian also agreed to this proposal.

Harold Herman made a Motion to increase Shane's monthly rate from \$350 to \$400. Linda seconded and all voted in favor; none opposed.

## **V. Old Business**

- a. Membership with Montana Rural Water System (MRWS) – on hold
  - i. Discuss more like summertime – probably taking on but in June or so.
- b. DEQ Water Test Requirements – on hold
  - i. Current with everything we needed to be current with. Have applied for a couple of waivers – put off until the next meeting.

## **VI. Operator's report**

Shane Pierson advised that all tests have been satisfactory since last meeting and the system has been running flawlessly all winter long.

427,240 gallons pumped last month

386,870 sold

40,370 – water loss

Shane was not confident the final numbers for the month were accurate because Well 2 pressure tank is on the system, and that shows -60703 gal.

Shane will discuss with Matt to figure out actual numbers. That meter runs backwards, so as we draw down pressure and refill, the meter can run backwards at times.

Motor bearing will be checked in April / May.

No customers are over 60 days past due currently.

District customer news:

Since Bruce Schultz's wife passed away, he's been Shane write out his checks for him each month, as he's not capable of writing his own check.

Several customers had frozen pipes over the winter, but none were on district property.

Clarence Taber and John Toftum both have lots that need to be annexed. Shane and Tina will work to get those done in time for the next meeting.

Motel currently under a remodel and will be getting rid of tank house and putting in a meter pit. They finally got DEQ, fire department and state approval to do this.

Streeter lots were sold – 4 or 5 new homes plan to go in next summer.

Russ added a comment that several times last year he heard about customers wanting to have auto withdrawal out of checkbooks. This may be something the district should consider along with a change in the bookkeeping system. At some point – need to do something with this. Discussion with Board, Matt and Shane about this.

A2Z – can offer an “e check” clickable link off the invoice.

Martin City banks with Glacier Bank – so their water bills can be paid automatically – does not cost Martin City to do this. Russ – there’s got to be a way to simplify it – and cut out a considerable amount of bookkeeping and recordkeeping on part of the district.

Tina can call Glacier Bank – a dummy account number – that could be given to the district customers – to make payments direct, though would need some identifying info.

Russ will also look around for some potential bookkeeping companies and have them make proposals to us to how it should be handled.

## **VII. Financial report**

*Secretary provided and reviewed financial reports as of March 1, 2021.*

Secretary to RERUN the P/L and Balance Sheet because of some discrepancies and will provide to Board members via email following the meeting.

\*\*Flathead Electric Bill for Jan – \$252.88

\*\*Flathead Electric Bill for Feb – \$246.23

*Checks written / Payments issued in December, January and February from Glacier Checking Acct.:*

### December 2020

Check # 449 to Pierson Services for monthly service: \$350.00

Check # 450 to Shane Pierson for project-related time: \$ 980.00

Check # 451 to Eclipse Tax and Accounting: \$382.45

Check # 452 to Tina Bondy for Board Secretarial: \$400.00

Check # 453 to Martin City County Water District: \$100

Check # 454 to CityService Valcon: \$225.00

Check # 455 to T-5 Services: \$265

### January 2021

Check # 456 to Pierson Services for monthly service: \$350.00

Check # 457 to Shane Pierson for project-related time: \$ 752.21

Check # 458 to Eclipse Tax and Accounting: \$382.45

Check # 459 to Tina Bondy for Board Secretarial: \$400.00  
Check # 460 to Snyder Law Office: \$117.50  
Check # 461 to ME Lab: 351.00  
Check # 462 to Martin City County Water District: \$100  
Check # 463 to Badrock Fire Dept: \$100

February 2021

Check # 464 to Pierson Services for monthly service: \$420.00  
Check # 465 to Eclipse Tax and Accounting: \$381.90  
Check # 466 to Tina Bondy for Board Secretarial: \$400.00  
Check # 467 to Martin City County Water District: \$100

**VIII. Correspondence**

Shane advised he has had no complaints for quite a while.

**IX. Additional items for discussion**

Linda confirmed with Shane that T5 billed the district for the Taber emergency work that was done previously. Shane advised that Taber also got a bill, which was paid. \*\*Receivable not a water payment

Thanking Linda for being on the Board – and Thanking Matt – Thanking Shannon for coming on the board. Harold advised that he had heard from Patty as well and that she is going to resign tomorrow. Board discussion that with 4 board members will be able to continue to function for the time being.

Harold asked Secretary for Minutes to reflect Linda Bosworth resigned, Patty Martinez is resigning and the Board added Shannon Henson.

**X. Adjournment - 8:02pm**

-- President to announce the next General Meeting of the Board is scheduled on June 1, 2021, 7pm, at the Badrock Fire Department / may be held by ZOOM teleconference. --President to say, "This completes our business for this March General Meeting. This meeting is now adjourned."