

GORE HILL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
406-761-6528
Minutes of the Public Board Meeting
Public Meeting
October 8, 2025

Board Members present: David Schuler, Dennis Peppenger, Jerry Ulmen, Kristie Blackford
Conducting: David Schuler
Recording Secretary: Christy Walter
Operator: Brian Blackford
Bookkeeper: Arny Schandelson
Guest: Susan Bersuch

The Public Meeting began at 7:00 pm

Motion to open the meeting: Jerry
Second: Kristie Passed

Motion to accept the minutes of 9/25/25: Dennis
Second: Jerry Passed

Checks Received at the meeting: #502 ck#12421 \$200.00

Old Business:

#705 ~ Homeowner was questioning what the status of the generator was. He offered to help us sell the generator. Dennis said he will ask Grant to start the process of selling the generator for \$16,500. 11/12/2024 ~ Homeowner has placed the ad on craigslist with Dennis's phone number. 6/24/2025 ~ the price has been reduced to \$15,000 and Dennis will get an advertisement with MT Rural Water. 07/22/2025 MT Rural water will post it on their website. Dennis and Brian are going to do a trouble shoot on the generator battery. 8/12/2025 ~ nothing new to report 8/26/2025 ~ Townsend Electric may have someone interested in the generator. Brian will follow up tomorrow. 10/8/2025 ~ Nothing new

#634 had questions about the bill. Brian will take the leak detector to her home Thursday night to check. She was out of state from Nov 2024 to April 2025. 8/26/2025~ Brian followed up with the homeowner. There is a leak, but the meter is across the street from her property. Brian proposes that we move the meter to her property. He has talked to Steve about the feasibility of this. This would cost the district \$2,000 to \$3,000. The outstanding balance is still due to the district. 9/9/25~Brian is waiting to schedule with Steve. Steve is requesting locates. 9/24/2025~ we are waiting for a permit from Cascade County allowing us to dig under the road. 10/8/2025 ~ The leak is fixed. The dig was challenging. There was a new tap into the tranzite pipe. Moving the meter pit fixed the problem. She was told at the meeting she attended to pay the current balance and an additional \$50.00

9/9/225~# 518 notified Dennis that his curb stop was not working. Dennis told him we would have Steve fix it the next time he is up here. Steve will take care of this after Call before you dig marks it.

#658 – send us a letter with numerous requests. She did attend the meeting so we could discuss. She is happy with the information provided. CLOSED

We received a letter from DEQ with a violation on Chlorine Residual testing. We have a minimum entry point of Chlorine of 0.20 and we had levels at 0.06. We will have heighten testing and reporting requirements going forward. Certification was signed by Dave and will be mailed out 10/09/2025. CLOSED

New Business:

Mercy has indicated that she will be submitting a letter of resignation. She was appointed to fill Collette's position.

Christy Walter will need to be out Monday 10/20/2025 thru Friday 11/14/2025 for medical reasons. Kristie Blackford will cover the 2 meetings, deposits and statement stuffing during this time.

Bookkeepers Report:

Arny talked to the auditor and we need to do an audit this year. 07/22/2025~ A meeting has been scheduled. 8/12/2025~ Arny has had his first meeting with the auditor and provided documents to the board. It was discussed that the taxes and unemployment can be paid prior to board authorization because those must be paid on the last business day of the month. 10/8/2025 ~ Arny has been in touch with Clayton and most of the audit will be done electronically. Wendy Weissman has agreed to help Arny with some of the new requirements.

Arny has talked to Cascade County regarding the delinquent balances. Arny has the format they want the information provided. We will have this prepared for the 8/26/2025 meeting so we can have this at the Cascade County by 9/1/2025. 8/12/2025~ Christy will gather all of the info for Arny by next meeting. 8/26/2025 ~ #691 will be turned over to the county. That property is owned by #645. Christy will get a letter out to #645 for \$1,865.00 9/9/2025~ #645 called Arny questioning the bill. He was told that as the property owner, the bill stops with him if his tenant is not paying. Arny told him to attend tonight's meeting and he did not show up. 9/24/2025 ~ Mercy and Dave signed the letter going to the county tonight. 10/08/2025 ~ Arny needed signatures from all board members. He will submit tomorrow hopefully.

We have 2 CD's maturing in October 18 and October 30. Arny will get rates for our next meeting. 10/8/2025 48-month CD is 2.5% the 7-month CD is at 3.5%.

Motion to roll both CD's into the 7 month CD's: Kristie
Second: Jerry Passed

The following bills were read for approval:

Northwest Pipe	\$	142.24	Supplies
Utilities Underground Locate	\$	14.00	8 locates
Black Mountain Software	\$	3,589.04	Annual subscription
Wendy Weissman CPA	\$	170.70	QuickBooks & Payroll
Federal Taxes	\$	1,519.09	Federal Taxes
MT Income Tax	\$	412.00	MT Income Tax
MT Unemployment Tax	\$	139.00	MT Unemployment Tax
KDS Networks	\$	54.95	Monthly Internet
City of Great Falls	\$	26.00	Water Samples
Liffring Machine	\$	2,656.51	Repair/Rebuild Distribution Pump
Brian Blackford	\$	1,153.50	General Manager Wage
Kristie Blackford	\$	138.52	Director's Fee
Alice Christensen	\$	261.64	Mowing
Mercy Padgett	\$	138.52	Director's Fee
Arnold Schandelson	\$	973.88	Bookkeeper's Wage
David Schuler	\$	108.52	Director's Fee
Royce Shipley	\$	325.67	Wages, Mileage Misc
Edward Taylor	\$	305.35	Wages, Mileage Misc
Christina Walter	\$	362.93	Secretarial Wage
	\$	12,492.06	
# 5025 Gerald Ulmen	\$	138.52	Director's Fee
	\$	138.52	

Motion to Pay the Bills as Read: Jerry
Second: Dennis Passed

Delinquents: Payment was due 10/7/2025 Termination is 10/09/2025.

636 \$ 256.00 # 672 \$ 480.00 # 665 \$ 825.00

Treasurer's Report:

Nothing to report.

Operator's Report:

- Pumphouse #1 is shut down after seal failure at distribution pump causing air bubble in system.
- Brian has tried to reach out to Butch to find out when he can re-install the rebuilt distribution pump at PH #1. Seals have been received and the second pump should be installed in a week.
- The key for the isolation valve broke while exercising valves. Repairs are being done.

Motion to adjourn at 7:37: Dennis
Second: Jerry Passed

David Schuler
Vice President

Christy Walter
Secretary