

GORE HILL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
406-761-6528
Minutes of the Public Board Meeting
Public Meeting
March 25, 2025

Board Members present: Dennis Peppenger, Jerry Ulmen, Kristie Blackford and Mercy Padgett
Conducting: Dennis Peppenger
Recording Secretary: Christy Walter
Operator: Brian Blackford
Bookkeeper: Arny Schandelson

The Public Meeting began at 7:00 pm

Motion to open the meeting: Jerry
Second: Kristie Passed

Motion to accept the minutes of 3/11/25: Jerry
Second: Mercy Passed

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. 12/23/24 ~ Dennis had a request to purchase the generator. This was refused because it was a low-ball offer. Dennis is waiting to hear back. 1/14/2025 ~ Dennis is still waiting. 1/28/2025~ It was suggested to re-run this ad. 2/11/2025 ~ David will follow up with the 705. 3/25/2025 ~ Continued.

12/10/2024 ~ MT Rural Conference registration is out. Conference dates are 3/12/25-3/14/25. 3/25/2025 ~ Board thought it was a good conference.

Dave will not be available for any of the meetings during February and March due to a scheduling conflict with his job.

#672 ~ was questioning his water usage. His December usage was over 20,000 gallons. Brian did check the meter 12-13 days ago with the wife. Brian verified that when the water was shut off there was no meter reading. The board reviewed his annual billing and Brian suggested changing his meter tomorrow. 2/25/2025~ Brian changed the meter. 3/11/25 ~ meter has been changed. We are monitoring usage.

The homeowner at #525 has been out of town for the last 2-3 months. He had extremely high-water usage while they were gone. Mercy suggested that we install a new meter and follow it for the next 60 days to see what is going on. They will be gone off and on over the next few months. 3/25/2025 ~ New meter was installed. We will observe the usage for the next 60 days, but the outstanding flat rate needs to be paid.

New Business:

3/25/2025~ Christy Walter advised the board that she will need to be out of town for her son's knee surgery. She will advise the board when she will be out and Kristie will help cover her.

3/25/2025~ Dennis and Jerry have gone down the Credit Union to get Mercy added. Mercy, Kristie and Dave will need to go down to with the minutes to get Mercy added.

Bookkeepers Report:

8/27/24~ # 580 sent an email asking about the attachments we should be sending with the emailed bills. Arny and Christy will get an email list together to and will send out the CCR and Quarterly Newsletters. We will continue to send out enclosures in bulk emails blind copied to those who received emailed statements. 10/22/24 ~ Arny has provided Christy a paper list. He is working on an electronic list.

3/11/2025 ~ We made \$1600 on the \$57,000 CD at the credit union that can be rolled into the next maturity. Motion to roll into a 7month cd at 3.85%. 3/25/2025~ Arny will complete with the signed meeting minutes.

3/11/2025 ~ Black Mountain rolled out a new program which allows for auto-pay in house vs the Paystar payments. Arny handed out information for the board to review. 3/25/2025~ there is a \$100 monthly fee to GHCWD plus a per transaction for online payments thru Black Mountain. Arny will look into this further.

3/11/2025 ~ We received a bill from Great West to MJD Contracting for the polyphosphates installation from November 2024. Motion to reopen the loan and add this bill to our loan passed at the previous meeting. 3/25/2025 Arny is working on this.

The following bills were read for approval:

# 5006	Gerald Ulmen	\$	138.53	Director's Fee 2/28/25	Period Ending
		\$	138.53		
Great West Engineering		\$	388.20	Professional Fee	
Energy West		\$	99.86	PH # 2	
Energy West		\$	74.62	PH # 1	
AT&T Wireless		\$	106.84	Monthly Cell Service	
KDS Networks		\$	54.95	Monthly Internet Service	
Energy Labs		\$	1,219.00	6 Water Tests	
Hawkins Inc		\$	60.00	6 Chlorine Cylinder Rentals	
Arnold Schandelson		\$	151.99	Reimbursement - Ink and Toner	
Brian Blackford		\$	21.65	Reimbursement - LED Lights	
		\$	2,177.11		

Estimated Gross Payroll March 2025

Brian Blackford	\$	2,148.19	Christina Walter	\$	558.10
Gary Humble	\$	282.84	Kristie Blackford	\$	150.00
Royce Shipley	\$	238.49	David Schuler	\$	150.00
Arnold Schandelson	\$	1,149.88	Mercy Padgett	\$	150.00

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

Delinquents: Payment is due 4/07/2025 Termination is 4/9/2025.

# 625	\$ 218.00	# 507	\$ 178.00	# 687	\$ 188.00
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Treasurer's Report:

Kristie has reviewed the "paper" side of the paperwork. 3/25/2025~ Kristie is working on organizing and reviewing.

Operator's Report:

- Mercy asked about the exercising of the Isolation values. This will be done May/June.
- Mercy asked if she could join Brian when he uses the Leak Detector.
- Request has been submitted to DEQ to get on a normalized testing schedule.
- #600 has a bad water softener. Owner had thought there was a leak on our side of the meter.
- #632 Brian did a courtesy test on the meter and the meter is working fine.
- \$442.26 each to purchase 4 new meters and 2 keys to have on hand.

Motion to purchase needed meters and keys: Mercy
Second: Jerry Passed

Motion to adjourn at 7:44: Mercy
Second: Kristie Passed

Dennis Peppenger
President

Christy Walter
Secretary