# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## **OF THE**

## WIDEFIELD WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT

Held:

Tuesday, August 15, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. at 8495 Fontaine

Blvd., Colorado Springs, Colorado 80925.

#### **Attendance**

## **Directors in Attendance Were:**

Mark Watson, President

Mark Dunsmoor, Vice President Dan Ittner, Assistant Secretary Frank Watson, Secretary/Treasurer

Jim Mesite, Jr., Director

# Directors Absent (excused):

None.

### Also in Attendance:

Lucas Hale, District Manager

Kelly Smith, Director of Administrative Services

Robert Bannister, District Engineer

Joe Norris, Cockrel Ela Glesne Greher & Ruhland, General Counsel

Members of the Public: Ryan Watson

#### Call to Order

President Watson noted that a quorum of the Board was present and that the Directors had confirmed their continuing qualification to serve, and therefore called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Widefield Water and Sanitation District to order at 12:02 p.m.

#### **Notice**

Notice of the meeting was properly posted as required by law. The notice also included the agenda items. Certification of such posting is attached hereto.

#### **Disclosure Matters**

President Watson reported that conflict of interest statements had been received from all directors and previously filed with the Secretary of State at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Copies of the statements are on file with and available from the Colorado Secretary of State.

# Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the Minutes of the July 18, 2023 with Director Mesite noting one correction. Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the Minutes of such meeting were approved as amended.

## **Financial Matters**

Monthly Financials

Mr. Hale presented the monthly financials ending in June. Mr. Hale noted a decrease in cash by about \$300,000 due to payments made on ongoing capital projects. Water revenues are up due to anticipated seasonal usage. This year has had more rain with overall water revenue lower when compared to prior years but nothing to be concerned about for the overall budget. Payment made to Garver for their work on the PFAS pilot study resulted in an increase in professional fees for the month. Maintenance and repairs expense increased about \$5,000 due to a pump repair and payments for various IT for software renewals were also made in the month. Chemicals expense increased for purchase of chemicals at the wastewater plant. The District collected 25 water and sewer tap fees and water resource acquisition fees in the month.

Question from Director Mesite: The lab services expense increased almost \$5,000, why was this?

**Mr. Hale:** The increase was related to UCMR sample requirements and increases in sampling for PCE.

Question from Director M. Watson: Do we have PFAS test results on the JHW wells yet?

Mr. Hale: Yes, they are above the limit, but the water is treated.

Following discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved the monthly financials.

## <u>District Manager's</u> <u>Report</u>

Mr. Hale presented the managers' report to the Board. Federal PFAS litigation class action suits against PFAS manufacturers involving water utilities appear to be headed to settlement agreements. Mr. Norris and Mr. Hale described that the District may be eligible for funding of PFAS mitigation and treatment projects under these settlement agreements and will be following the cases to determine what options the District has. The District has received an extensive open records request from a law firm representing customers in a PFAS class action suit. Mr. Hale discussed the records request with the Board indicating that the District would be responding fully but must confirm it has customer authorizations before releasing any information containing private

customer information. Additional discussion regarding the open records request continued and comments from Director Mesite and President Watson. Mr. Hale reported on the hailstorms and minor damage to the administrative building and vehicles with investigation of the damage yet to be completed. The investigation of PCE contamination by Schlage Lock has been turned over to CDPHE with evaluations and additional sampling to continue. The PCE levels have required running the air stripper at the Southmoor treatment plant and there is now a need to upgrade the air stripper to maintain the capacity of the treatment plant. An inspection of Well E2 identified a need to re-drill this well to maintain the yield. The District is also planning to re-drill Well E1 next year.

Mr. Hale reported that the District is currently down two operators but that they are increasing recruitment efforts. In the coming months the District plans to have all supervisors go through a management and leadership program. The wastewater team cleaned 25,000 feet of line in the month, exceeding their goal. The District staff will also begin working on the budget soon.

## **Engineer's Report**

Mr. Bannister presented the engineer's report. He reported that the Rolling Hills pump station is to be filled and flushed in the coming week. The Trails Booster pump station is waiting for the final punch list and acceptance. Mr. Bannister discussed the development status throughout the District. The upper west to east project recently completed all bores under Fontaine. Tie-ins to the terminal tank will be delayed due to the FVA project and tank coating failure. The Resolution approving revised Water and Wastewater Specifications was deferred to a future meeting.

#### Attorney's Report

Mr. Norris presented the proposed Resolution for consent to overlapping service area with the proposed Mesa Ridge Metropolitan District Nos. 3-5. The Mesa Ridge Districts are anticipated to finance construction of water utility improvements that will ultimately be conveyed to the District. The Mesa Ridge Districts' service plan will allow it to construct these water improvements, and the Resolution is intended to satisfy a statutory requirement that overlapping districts obtain consent from the other district when there are similar services provided. The Mesa Ridge Districts' will not act as the water utility but will pay for construction of water improvements to be conveyed to the District. Following discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved the Resolution.

**Public Comment** 

None.

**Other Business** 

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting

was adjourned at 1:04 p.m.

Secretary