



Evergreen
Water & Sewer
DISTRICT 1 ©

Flathead County Water District No.1
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Regular Meeting
August 14, 2024

Members Present: B.J. Lupton, Butch Clark, Jack Fallon, Bill Matthews, Bob Balding, T.J. Wendt and General Manager, Cindy Murray

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Rob Collier, Mark James, Mimi Wildeman, Jeff Walla, Desiree Nelson, Chad Wambach, Austinn Anderson, Dalton Marcum and Nic Hannay

Members of the Public Present: Dennis Falcon

B.J. Lupton, President, called the meeting to order at 7:03 a.m., declared that a quorum of voting Board members was present, welcomed the staff in attendance, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Cindy Murray informed the Board that line items 14, 15, and 17 will be deferred until the Special Board Meeting on August 21, 2024. Jack Fallon asked if items number 10 and 19 could be moved after Agenda Item 7 due to the fact he had to leave the meeting early. Bill Mathews moved to approve the Agenda as amended, which was seconded by Jack Fallon. After discussion, the Board approved the motion by unanimous vote.

Lupton announced the resignation of Board member Dennis Falcon and asked the Board to consider the appointment of applicant, T.J. Wendt, to fill the vacated Board position. Jack Fallon nominated T.J. Wendt to fill the position. Bill Mathews moved nominations be closed, which was seconded by Jack Fallon. After discussion, the Board approved the motion by unanimous vote and B.J. Lupton called for the vote on the nomination. The Board elected T.J. Wendt to fill the vacancy by unanimous vote.

The Board then addressed replacement of the position of Vice-President of the Board, which was also vacated by the resignation of Dennis Falcon. Jack Fallon nominated T.J. Wendt to fill the vacancy. Bill Mathews moved nominations be closed, which was seconded by Jack Fallon. After discussion, the Board approved the motion by unanimous vote and B.J. Lupton called for the vote on the nomination. The Board elected T.J. Wendt to serve as Vice President.

Next, the Board considered the minutes of the previous meeting. Jack Fallon moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 19, 2024, which was seconded by Bill Matthews. After discussion, the Board approved the motion by unanimous vote.

The Board next considered Resolution 2024-18 concerning a Notice of Award Accepting Strods Contracting, LLC. as Lowest Responsible and Responsive Bidder and authorizing signature of Contract Documents with Strods Contracting, LLC. in an amount not to exceed \$2,500,000.00 and other miscellaneous contracts for procurements related to the West Reserve Well Project not to exceed \$450,000. Bill Mathew moved to adopt Resolution 2024-18 which was seconded by T.J. Wendt. After discussion, the Board approved the motion by unanimous vote and adopted Resolution 2024-18.

Cindy Murray then presented various Personnel Matters. Mark James presented the results of the Leak Detection Program, and the Board recognized the Field Staff for their success in significantly reducing water loss from 46% water loss to 18%, which represents approximately 25 million gallons per month.

Cindy Murray then requested approval of an agreement with Desiree Nelson to allow her to work 76 hours in a biweekly period for her current full-time salary. This salary arrangement is also in effect for Cindy Murray, Jeff Walla, and Mimi Wildeman. Jack Fallon moved to accept the recommendation, which was seconded by T.J. Wendt. After discussion, the Board approved the recommendation to allow Desiree Nelson to work 76 hours in a biweekly period for her current full-time salary.

Cindy Murray explained to the Board that due to the recent promotions, correction of errors found in the original FY25 O&M Budget, and the need to provide additional funds for salary adjustments and possible year-end bonuses, several adjustments need to be made current employee salaries and to the FY25 O&M Budget for wages and related expenses. The adjustments are contained in the Revised FY25 O&M Budget that is on the Agenda for consideration.

Cindy Murray next presented a request for the Board to designate Mark James as Acting General Manager and Mimi Wildeman as Acting Secretary to the Board during the absence of the General Manager and Assistant General Manager in September and possibly into part of the month of October. T.J. Wendt moved that Mark James be designated Acting General Manager and Mimi Wildeman be designated Acting Secretary to the Board in the absence of the General Manager and Assistant General Manager for a period of up to 30 days beginning Friday, September 13, 2024. Bob Balding seconded the motion. After discussion, the Board approved the motion by a 4 to 1 vote with Bob Balding, Bill Matthews, T.J. Wendt, and B.J. Lupton voting 'Yes' and Jack Fallon voting "No." A written delegation to reflect these delegations will be prepared by the General Manager.

Cindy Murray presented the Manager's Report. Bill Matthews moved to accept the Manager's Report, which was seconded by Bob Balding. After discussion, the Board approved the motion by unanimous vote.

Jeff Walla then presented the Engineer's Report and updated Capital Improvement Plan. Bob Balding moved to accept the Report, which was seconded by Bill Matthews. After discussion, the Board approved the motion by unanimous vote.

Next, the Board considered Resolution 2024-19 concerning Authorizing Conditional Approval of PNC Evergreen Phase II. Bob Balding moved to adopt the resolution, which was seconded by Bill Matthews. After discussion, the Board approved the motion and adopted Resolution 2024-19 by unanimous vote.

The Board then considered Resolution 2024-20 Declaration of Surplus of 2 Generator Packages. Bob Balding moved to adopt Resolution 2024-20, which was seconded by Bill Matthews. After discussion, the Board approved the motion and adopted Resolution 2024-20 by unanimous vote.


Next, Cindy Murray and Jeff Walla presented a request for Consideration of Resolution 2024-23, which was renumbered as Resolution 2024-21 establishing useful lives for water and sewer asset assets. Bill Matthews moved to adopt Resolution 2024-21, which was seconded by T.J. Wendt. After discussion, the Board approved the motion and adopted Resolution 2024-21 by unanimous vote.

Desiree Nelson presented the Amended FY25 O&M Budget proposed by Staff, including adjustments to various staff compensation budgets as discussed above. A copy of the Amended FY25 Budget is attached to these minutes. Bob Balding moved to approve the proposed Amended FY 25 Budget, which was seconded by Bill Matthews. After discussion, the Board approved the motion by unanimous vote.

Bob Balding provided the Oversight Reports for June and July.

T.J. Wendt moved to approve the Checks Written and the Chase Credit Card Charges and accept the financial statements for June and July, which was seconded by Bob Balding. After discussion, the Board passed the motion by unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 10:00 a.m. There will be a Special Meeting on August 21, 2024, at 7:00 a.m. The next regular Board meeting will be on September 18, 2024, at 7:00 a.m.

Submitted by 
Cynthia Murray, Secretary

Signed by 
B.J. Lupton, President