

ROUND MOUNTAIN WATER & SANITATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING  
January 25, 2018

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED RATE INCREASES  
NOTICE OF MEETING POSTED ON DECEMBER 21, 2017

Board Members Present: Peggy Quint, Charles Bogle, Steve Lasswell, Randy Wilhelm, and Greg Smith

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Present: George Medaris, District Manager; Dave Schneider, CORC (Certified Operator in Responsible Charge); Herdis Sobel, Office Manager

Visitors Present: Tracy Ballard, Wet Mountain Tribune

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:18 p.m. by Peggy Quint.

Roll Call

Pledge Allegiance

Public Input: No one appeared during the published time period of the hearing 5:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. The district also has not received any written comments from the public regarding the necessary increases.

While the Board waited to see if anyone showed to discuss the need to increase rates, Manager Medaris informed the Board about the various actions and activities he has been involved with since their last meeting.

He and Operator Schneider had a meeting and phone conference with all the Granting Agencies including DOLA to discuss the progress being made on the wastewater project. Those present took a tour of the RMWSD facilities.

The Search Grant is wrapping up. The required cultural surveys at the Land Application Site and the Easement up to the Water Tanks is scheduled for Monday, January 29, 2018. Both surveys are required, and it saved the District money by doing them both at the same time.

Christy from DOLA recently inquired as to how things are progressing since the meeting. Manager Medaris told her that he had proposed a new compliance schedule to CDPHE. That proposed schedule has the bids going out the end of the year with construction starting April of 2019. He feels that the continued operation of the infiltrator system is tenuous at best and would like to see construction start in September of 2018.

The Boring at the Land App went well. They hit sandy clay at about 16' deep, but it is not as bad as the bedrock thought to be there. However, we need to wait to receive the report and opinion from the soils specialists and engineers before making any decisions based on the borings.

The Town of Westcliffe published an overview of their Capital Improvement Plan schedule for 2018-2022. These are things that the District needs to be aware of, and involved in. The Town's are in control of the streets, and we are obligated to do what ever we need to do when their projects take place.

New Business:

1. Presentation by District Manager on the need for increases and changes to the District's Rate Structure.

Manager Medaris began the discussion by saying a rate increase is needed straightaway, but the District also needs to get a rate study done. He told the Board that rate surveys can be as simple or as comprehensive as needed. He recommended doing a full-blown study to help set the standard for future increases, with simpler periodic reports as needed in the future. The Board needs to decide the extent of the rate survey they want.

Mr. Medaris talked about the different types of accounts and the affects they have on our system. We need to do an inventory of the different kinds of businesses and all the current uses for the property. The multi-family accounts need to be looked at very closely; as it appears that the single-family residence accounts have been subsidizing these accounts for years. He said that an in-depth rate survey would help to identify how to equitably bill for all types of properties.

Operator Schneider did some research on systems similar in size to the District. Most do their billing based on EQR's on both the base rate and flow rate on the sewer side. Other's use a tiered system; either on meter size, EQR number, or flow amounts. Some use a BOD-TSS chemical analysis that they base the EQR number from, but those are mostly sanitation only operations.

There was much discussion on the rate increase proposed at the January 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. Since there was no public to provide in-put; several different scenarios on how to implement the increase were discussed. The Board plans to consider the options and make a decision at the February 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

2. Questions or Comments from Board Members: None after the discussion.
3. Questions or Comments from the Public (to insure the opportunity for all persons present to present questions individual comments will be limited to five minutes): None

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,  
Herdis Sobel