

Rim Trail Domestic Water Improvement District Board Work Study Meeting Minutes

April 6, 2020

Held – Telephonically

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT BOARD MEETING

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM
2. A roll was called – Chairman Bruce Johnson (BJ), Parliamentarian Judy Scott (JS), Treasurer Ray Tanner (RT) and Secretary John Tanner (JT), Vice Chairman Will Regg (WR) were present, and a quorum was established.

District Manager: Don Ascoli (DA)

Public: Cindy Johnson

3. Discussion on Public Input for the new 2020-2021 Budget and Capital Items.

1a. the first budget item brought up was the balance of expense to complete the new well. DA stated that last August the estimated Well Expense was \$86,000 and at the at that time the Board approved spending \$60,000 to get the Well purchase going, leaving \$26,000 balance to approve for this next year's budget. Discussion followed regarding getting a WIFA Loan to complete the purchase of the Well. DA reported that the possibility exist to get WIFA loan to complete Well purchase but it is a complicated process and would take up to 6 months to obtain loan. With the WIFA loan, the option existed that it would be possible to obtain an outside loan now and still get reimbursed with a WIFA loan at a later time. It was determined that the Board should further pursue the WIFA Loan option and include the following: a) completed expenses for the new well, b) upgrade tanks, c) repair/replace water lines, d) install automatic read meters, e) repairs or upgrades to water plant. DA to email WIFA loan information (to the Board) explaining the loan process – Board members will review information and be prepared to discuss and confirm at next Board meeting.

2a. the next budget item discussed was the idea of an "Emergency Capital Expense (ECE)" item in the budget. Discussion followed that ECE item should include 3-6 months of operating expense. Currently the monthly expense is roughly \$7,000 per month. The Board agreed on a recommended \$25,000 be set aside annually for the ECE or aka Emergency Fund budget item.

3a. It was brought up that we should take a fresh look at our water rate structure. BJ asked for volunteer to evaluate current rate structure and include new concern of the added demand by the increasing Air B and B's in the area. WR volunteered. RT to send his recent comps and research information on Gila County Water rates to WR.

4a. RT brought the question of the status of the Water Plant. He pointed out that it has not been functional for some time, creating additional pressure on our well system. It was suggested we take a fresh look at the issues on the water plant and try and get it running again. RT questioned if the media in our filter tanks needs replacement as backwashing may create cracks or paths for water to pass through without being filtered. DA will contact the Filter tank manufacturer to determine if the media needs replacement. , RT to email Board the Operating Manual for the water plant. Board will be prepared to discuss. RT will also email copy of Area water Study competed several years ago. This AWS should help provide back ground for the Board on our area water concerns.

DA to take this information into consideration in putting together recommend budget. DA to email recommended dates for next meeting.

There were no additional comments from the public.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:16 PM

Respectfully submitted,

John Tanner

Secretary