East Boulder County Water District

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Board of Directors Regular Meeting

Virtual Meeting Held with Zoom

10 January 2022

Mark Johns (President) called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM. Those in attendance via video were the board members Marsh Lavenue, Catherine Gee, Yvonne Gates and Bob Champ. Mary Wagner (Bookkeeper) and Peter O’Brien (Operations) were also present.

# Public Comments

No members of the public were present.

# Secretary’s Report

The minutes of the 13 December 2021 meeting were discussed. Mark noted that the Rules and Regulations (Section 9-2) allow the district access to homes for inspection of sprinkler systems. Peter will begin the process of doing these inspections in the spring. A list of homes in the district with sprinkler systems will have to be created.

Mark Johns made the motion that we approve the minutes of the 13 December 2021 meeting. Marsh Lavenue seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

# Reports from Consultants and Committees

## Finance Report

Mary Wagner had e-mailed the financial packet to the board. The water usage spreadsheet was also e-mailed.

Mary noted that no White Mountain bill had been received due to the fire.

The total amount of cash available (Colotrust plus checking) is on the order of $506k.

Mary went through the financial statements and the board approved the financial statements and the transactions.

## IT Report

The system was checked after the Marshall Fire and all was okay. It was noted that we might have to upgrade the hard drive as we are running out of storage space.

**System Operations Report – 12/14/2021-01/05/2022**

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| **Date 01/10/2022** | **Board Meeting** |
| **12/14/2021** | * **Locate 7526 Spring Dr.** |
| **12/15/2021** | * **Pump house check 0.81mg/L Free** |
| **12/22/2021** | * **Pump house check 0.95mg/L Free** |
| **12/27/2021** | * **Pump house check 0.94mg/L Free** |
| **Emergency fire work response**  **12/31/2021** | * **JR-Assessment of damages, begin shutting off customer taps** * **BR- Assessment of damages, begin shutting off customer taps** * **JOB- Assessment of damages, begin shutting off customer taps** |
| **Emergency fire work response**  **01/01/2022** | * **JR-Continue with shut offs** * **BR-Continue with shut offs** * **JOB-Continue with shut offs** |
| **Emergency fire work response**  **01/02/2022** | * **JR-Continue with shut offs and begin flushing water lines** * **BR-Continue with shut offs and begin flushing water lines** * **JOB-Continue with shut offs and begin flushing water lines** |
| **Emergency fire work response**  **01/03/2022** | * **JR- flush water lines, collect samples** |
| **01/05/2022** | * **Meter reads** * **Pump house check 1.11mg/L Free** |

Peter addressed the testing of water samples, which led to the lifting of the boil water order relating to the Marshall Fire. He also addressed the melting of the radio read system in some meters and the necessity of ordering replacements (we only have two or three in stock). These parts may be difficult to get. Peter also noted that only four meters did not read.

Peter cleaned and serviced the generator, which is now operating optimally. The PRV regulating pressure to the district was non-operative allowing pressures of 125 psi. The generator was on line to control the pressure until the PRV can be repaired.

Mark sent in the paperwork on the boil water rescinding to the state. Pete and Mark will coordinate their communications regarding the boil water order.

# Unfinished Business

No unfinished business was discussed.

# New Business

**2022 Election**

Mary (designated election official) had self-nomination forms for Mark and Catherine who are up for reelection this year. Mary will have the call for nominations published in the Daily Camera. The last day for self-nomination forms to be received is February 25th. The election can be canceled (fewer or equal nominees to positions) on 1 March 2022.

**Marshall Fire and its Impacts**

Mary Wagner noted that she had received many calls from customers whose homes had burned wanting to cancel water service. Mark had talked to our legal counsel and noted that it is possible to exclude from the district, but this would entail giving up the water tap. The district’s stand-by fee is $20.95 per month ($251.4/year) and it was judged that the standby fee is a reasonable monthly amount to charge customers who have lost their homes as this would keep the tap for rebuilding or the sale of the lot and enable the District to continue to have funds needed to maintain the water distribution system in good condition.

Marsh had compiled the list of homes lost due to the fire. This loss will severely affect the revenue in our 2022 budget (estimated at $200k). Marsh had graphs from the water rate hearing and these coupled with the homes lost he estimated that our revenue would drop to $120k and that Lafayette water cost would be $75k (a drop from $135k). A more in depth analysis will have to be done as our knowledge of the fire impact improves.

Peter noted that maintenance costs might go up in some areas, as hydrants may have to be flushed more often in areas where usage will be less.

Mark will check with our insurance company as to our coverage with respect to lost revenue, etc. Questions as to what aid may be available (e.g. FEMA) remain unanswered.

Many destroyed homes incurred high water usage during the fire and these water bills were abnormally high. It was decided to delay billing these customers until more information is obtained (insurance coverage, etc.).

It was also noted that the storage tank is below the driveway of a burned out home. Peter did not think that this would be a problem but did note that he would check the tank and clean where necessary.

Catherine noted that it would be nice to hear from a customer who had a house burned down, so that we could more appropriately understand their dilemma.

Yvonne related that a meeting with a county commissioner might occur regarding improvements that could be made during the rebuilding process.

It was also noted that Comcast Service to the pump house was down and Marsh took the action item to call them to get it resolved. Catherine noted that the trees behind the pump house were severely burned and could be a hazard.

Much is still up in the air regarding the fire but it is imperative that the district remains viable under these new challenges.

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# Directors Comments and Other Matters to Come Before the Board

Yvonne brought up the point that both Peter and Mark worked extremely hard during this trying experience and we are grateful and appreciative for their effort.

# Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn by Mark Johns, seconded by Catherine Gee and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 5:41 PM.

The secretary respectfully submits the above.

Robert Champ; 1/10/22