



Howell Mountain Mutual Water Company

Board Meeting Minutes Wednesday, July 19, 2023

Located at the HMMWCO Office – 1100 Friesen Drive, Angwin, CA 94508

Call to Order: 6:37 pm

Frank Dotzler

- Board Members Present: Frank Dotzler, Dave Wesner, Nikki Callnan, Maurice Helmer, Jesse Clifton
- Board Members Absent:, Craig Cazet, Greg Desmond
- Employees Present: Tanner Hiers, Shannon Damonte
- Community Members Present: NONE

Approval of Agenda:

All Board Members

- Jesse moved to approve the Agenda; Dave seconded – 5 ayes

Approval of June 21, 2023, Minutes:

All Board Members

- Dave moved to approve the June 21, 2023 Minutes; Jesse seconded – 5 ayes

Public Comments: None

May & June 2023 Financial Reports:

Shannon Damonte

- Financial Reports were provided.
- **May 2023** - Income was under projected budget by \$11,759 for the month and under \$38,581 for the year. General and Administrative expenses were over projected budget \$2,044 for the month and under \$1,770 for the year. Operating expenses were under projected budget by \$10,345 for the month and under projected budget \$39,390 for the year.
- **June 2023** - Income was under projected budget by \$78 for the month and under \$38,581 for the year. General and Administrative expenses were under projected budget \$164 for the month and under \$1,934 for the year. Operating expenses were under projected budget by \$9,735 for the month and under projected budget \$49,124 for the year.

Approval of the May & June 2023 Financial Reports:

- Maurice moved to approve the May & June Financial Reports; Dave seconded – 5 ayes

Customer Communications:

Shannon Damonte

- I'm still getting calls from customers and tenants regarding the E.coli issue. It appears that some people just need to vent that they had to buy water and were inconvenienced.

Rate Increases:

Shannon Damonte

- HMMWC's last rate increase was in 2014 for water and monthly service charge, and in 2018 for New Connection Fees. A water rate comparison of other local utilities was provided as well as a report on water sales for the last 6 years. After finding an average usage per customer and comparing with the other utilities we are relatively similar in cost. But it is hard to compare HMMWC with these other utilities as some have funding from a city standpoint, some are smaller, some larger and some include water with their monthly service charge.
- This topic was discussed in great length. A reasonable increase would be 8-10%. A rate increase would most likely be expected, with the rising inflation costs. It was suggested that we do rate increases per the Federal Inflation Index, or CA Consumer Price Index. It was also suggested that we broach the subject of rate increases every year or quarter. The whole board will need to vote on this in the upcoming two months. We will have to inform our customers of a rate increase by letter and will need time to do that if we are going to go with a January 1, 2024 rate increase.

Report on Operations:

Tanner Hiers

- **Cross Connection Control Program:** Tanner provided an example from State Water Resources Control Board of a Small Water System Cross-Connection Control Ordinance and a Small Community Water Systems Cross Connection Survey Summary Form. Previously the State had very few regulations in the CA Code and what they did have was not very specific. This item will be revisited at the next board meeting.
- **Distribution:** We did four small repairs since last meeting. Multiple curb stops were frozen open, and we repaired a broken manifold. They had no shut off valves at the house, so we had to shut off the whole street to repair. Every street probably has at least one and there are still some old meters out there.
- **THM Removal System:** The control panel is expected August 14th. Tanner has been going to CM Controls directly and he is going to dispute any further charges from PSI Water Technologies. Hoping for installation before September. He will find out if they are on track to ship before he schedules the installation with the contractor.
- **Deer Park Pipeline Replacement:** Tanner e-mailed the board the Contract. Our Attorney, Jesse Barton wrote the Contract to remove the liability from us to the Contractor. FEMA dictated specifics in the Contract. The project was obligated this week from CalOES. We will find out soon when we can get the funds and can start the project. It does take a while to receive the check after the notification of obligation.

Confirm Future Meetings:

- Next Meeting – Wednesday, August 30, 2023, 6:30 pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Shannon Damonte