



# Howell Mountain Mutual Water Company

## Board Meeting Minutes Wednesday, August 31, 2022

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

**Call to Order:** 6:35 pm

**Frank Dotzler**

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

**Approval of Agenda:**

**All Board Members**

- Greg moved to approve the Agenda; Jesse seconded – 7 ayes

**Approval July 27, 2022, Minutes:**

**All Board Members**

- Jesse moved to approve the July 27, 2022, Minutes; Greg seconded – 7 ayes

**Approval of August 17, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes:**

**All Board Members**

- Dave moved to approve the August 17, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes; Craig seconded – 7 ayes

**July 2022 Financial Reports:**

**Shannon Damonte**

- Financial Reports were provided.
- July 2022 - Income was under projected budget by \$3,073 for the month and under \$59,346 for the year. Tanner was expecting Lawrence (Burgess) to connect by this time or at least pay for their water right by now. General and Admin expenses were over projected budget by \$407 for the month and under \$6,153 for the year. Operating expenses were under projected budget by \$38,351 for the month and under \$46,997 for the year. This is due to the delay in the production meter installation and aerator (THM removal) system.

**Approval of the July 2022 Financial Reports:**

- Maurice moved to approve July 2022 Financial Reports; Greg seconded – 7 ayes

**Customer Communications:**

**Shannon Damonte**

- There have been several customer calls regarding the surcharges and “average” use numbers. So far, we have charged 135 customers the \$50 usage surcharge (\$6,800) and we have reversed 9 of those. If a customer calls and we discuss conservation, they check for leaks or have a leak, or if they need to adjust the “average” for their property we will reverse this charge. Our intention is to get their attention and have a discussion regarding conservation.

**Bremer Will Serve Letter:****Shannon Damonte**

- This issue was discussed. There were concerns regarding drought and stating that we can provide the additional water that they will be requesting with the increase in their use permit.
- We discussed this with our Attorney Jesse Barton previously. They have a water right and we cannot limit their use as is it is domestic not agriculture. Agriculture use can be limited. We *can* add conditions of approval. Is this Will Serve letter something that Jesse can create? One question was do we HAVE to give them a Will Serve Letter?
- It was decided a Zoom meeting will be set up next week so the Board can discuss this with Jesse Barton.

**Report on Operations:****Tanner Hiers**

- **TTHM Removal:** The current ETA for the Control Panel and VFD is now 2<sup>nd</sup> week of October.
- **Production Meter:** Due to the supply chain 6-8 more weeks for the meter. Everyone wants these two projects to get done. The prices have all gone up since we signed the contract at the beginning of the year. There is no breach of contract there is a clause in the contract re: this issue.
- **Lake Levels:** We are now at 62%
- **Drought Contingency Plan:** We are now in Stage 2 where we will implement the \$ 50 surcharge if you go over average usage. This will be for one month. Next month, in September, we will be implementing the Tier Rate.
- **Leak on Sky Oaks:** There was a leak on Sky Oaks in the ¾ inch poly. We fixed it but we still need to hot patch it. All of Sky Oaks poly lines will fail at some point.
- **Well 2:** We did an aquifer test on Well 2. It was a 4-hour test and we plotted it out and looked for drop-offs. It dropped 5 feet and had a recovery time of 5 minutes. Last year we ran about 3 million gallons a month from the wells. There have been a lot of well issues in the area and people are worried about their wells failing. When people call us wanting to get a new connection Tanner recommends that people check their well health first.
- **Measure A:** On September 27 our Measure A funding agreement will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval.
- **BRK-285 new connection:** Eddie Garcia paid for a water right back in 2015 but hasn't been able to do the construction. He said that the Encroachment Permit is \$5000. He would like to request that we adopt the line which is about 45 feet on the side of Brookside and crosses under the road in a sleeve. Tanner will get pricing and check on the Encroachment Permit as that seems like a lot more than it should be.
- **Viewridge Request for Service:** We were contacted by a homeowner on Viewridge who has a shared well with 2 other properties and is looking for an emergency connection. They are having issues with their well. Tanner went and looked at their tank and well head. The 3 houses appear to have low irrigation needs.
  - *Jesse moved that HMMWC approve the Viewridge (3 properties) Emergency Connection. Craig seconded - all in favor.*

- **Public Comments:** Scott Whitacre asked about possible funding to increase the capacity of the raw water resources. Tanner estimated that it would cost about \$400,000-500,000 to be able to create a backwash recycle system so Orville Lake could be used and about \$10,000-\$15,000 to put a meter in the trench so we can store water in Cooksley Lake. There are funding sources, but it is a long process. Tanner has been working on getting the FEMA funding for Deer Park for going on 2 years now. There is the Infrastructure Bill and possible drought funding that are possibilities. It was explained that Measure A has been our primary source of funding for the last 10+ years.

**Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.**

**Closed session was called to order at 8:15 pm. Maurice Helmer was excused from the closed session.**

- **Request for Proposal/Invitation for Bid:** Tanner provided the final version of the Fixed Price IFB with economic price adjustments. He added a Rock Clause, Escalation Clause, and Bidding Requirements. He went over all the changes and the dates.

**Confirm Future Meetings:**

- **Next Meeting - Wednesday, September 28, 2022, 6:30 pm**

**Respectfully submitted by: Shannon Damonte**