

**Regular Meeting of Board of Directors of the Pinewood Springs
Water Districts Water Enterprise
March 24, 2004**

The meeting was called to order By Andy Sharp at 7:05.

Those present included Board members Andy Sharp, Pam Ping, Mark Upton. Water District employees Carl Pender, Vic Mootsey, Frank Novak and Gabi Benson. Prospective Board members Dan DeKrey and Bob Warner. Also present were Fire Board president Jake Jacobson, Road Board President Don Groskreutz, and residents Tom Adams and Tom and Joanna Jasmin.

New Customer Issues:

Mr. Warner suggested that PPTLO customers who want to prepay the monthly fee for a year at a time be given a discount. Andy Sharp suggested that giving the customers a discount would not be profitable for the district and would not constitute equal treatment of all customers. Much discussion followed. It was decided not to pursue this idea at this time.

Joanna Jasmin presented a letter of complaint about the recent blasting in front of the home she and her husband rent on Apache. They were concerned about safety and lack of advanced notification of blasting and lack of notification of water outage. Board members listen to her concerns, apologized for lack of notification and stated that in the future, the Water Dist would try to notify her if a known water outage in her area was going to occur. Pam Ping suggested a posted notice at the Bulletin Boards might also be in order.

Road Board:

It was suggested to Road Board President Don Groskruetz that another location be used for the gravel piles and the equipment that sit by HWY36 on Water District property. It was decided that Don and Carl Pender keep searching for another water district property where the gravel and equipment could be stored.

During the same discussion, Jake Jacobson, President of the Fire Board announced plans for a new firehouse possibly located on the Water District property in question. There will be an open house on May 22 to preview the plans.

System Improvement Project:

Apache Road pipeline replacement: Blasting has been done on Apache. Carl hopes to start the project as soon as possible, weather permitting.

Infiltration Gallery Study: There will be a meeting between John Winkle, Carolyn Herman and Sharon Israel-Williams to discuss the status of the report. Carl and Andy will try to attend.

Election Revisited:

We have been informed by the SDA that we have the wrong information about length of office for new Board members. The term for all newly elected officers is 4 years.

Update on Drought Mitigation Plan:

1. Income Survey-There is a possibility that the Water District could qualify for a grant from the USDA. We would need to do a blind income survey of the PWS residents. It will be mentioned in the newsletter that goes out with the April bills. Then the survey will be sent out a few days later. The SDA will receive the surveys and conduct the count for us.
2. Environmental Report: Preble mouse. It has been determined that PWS has Preble Mice Habitat. We have received an estimate of \$19,800 to do the ER. Andy has asked Kurt Bauer if we could get a conditional ER filed so that we could proceed with other tasks. Andy also suggested that the Preble Mouse study be sent out for bid.
Mark talked with Bruce Johnson of the Water Conservation Board. He advised that we should proceed with submitting all information needed for the loan.
Andy reported on his meeting with Don Henderson and Kurt Bauer about our depletion of water from the Platt River Basin and how that affects the endangered fish in Nebraska. Good news, our usage can be termed historical. There would be a small fee of approximately \$500.00 to buy water in Nebraska for the fish.
3. NCWCD Petition: The petition is proceeding through channels. Not much we can do at this point except let it run its course.

Reports: See reports attached to minutes. **Motion:** Pam Ping made the motion to pay the final McLaughlin bill for the ER Phase II that Frank presented in the amount of \$1,685.25. Mark Upton **seconded. Carried unanimously.**

Approval of Minutes- Pam made a **motion** to accept the minutes of the February meeting with the noted changes. Mark **seconded. Passed unanimously.** The November minutes were tabled for approval until the next meeting.

Pam Ping moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:04.

**Respectively submitted by
Gabriele Benson, admin office clerk**