

BONE MESA DOMESTIC WATER
P. O. BOX 181
HOTCHKISS, CO 81419

A regular meeting of the Bone Mesa Domestic Water District was called to order by President Karl Burns at 7:00 p.m. Jan 19, 2010 at the Bone Mesa Schoolhouse. Board member Mark LeValley was absent. Tapholders Lisa Cook, Paul Larmer, Leonard and Jeanette Gerry, Linda Drake, Bev Shiflet, Don Peletier and Betty Boeing were present. Minutes were approved as read.

Public comment: Lisa Cook reported that towns charge the same for commercial taps as for residential to encourage business thereby increasing tax revenue. Out of town the commercial rate may increase 2 to 3 times the residential rate. She reported the county will determine whether a property is commercial and designate it as such on the property taxes rolls. Our district could then use the property tax to determine commercial use. She feels there are several properties in the district which are commercial. If the water is being used to make money it should be assessed as commercial use. She will continue to investigate this and report at the February meeting.

Linda Drake addressed the board. She asked Karl if the water rates would ever decrease. Karl responded that his personal opinion was no as expenses have increased greatly, making the increase permanent in order to balance the districts budget.

Bev Shiflet expressed her concern to the board concerning her water pressure. It has been low for the last two to three months. She wondered if others in the area had the same problem. The Board had not heard of any other complaints. She also asked when her meter would be fixed and the back-flow preventer installed. John Clawson reported that this area will be done this spring.

Jeanette Gerry addressed the board and asked who is the attorney for the district and is he on retainer. Cynthia replied that Aaron Clay was the attorney and he is paid by the hour as he is needed. Jeanette feels that the rules and regulations of the district won't allow for stockholder input and some areas may even be illegal. She wanted to know who wrote the rules and regulations. Cynthia explained that the Board of Directors wrote them with the assistance of attorney Larry Beckner. Jeanette then requested 10 minutes to address the Board at the February meeting to address this issue further. Cynthia will put her on the agenda.

Leonard Gerry wanted to know when his backflow preventer would be installed. John Clawson said this would be in the spring. Leonard would also like to see election notices, rate changes, etc., put in with the billings to help keep the stockholders informed.

Betty Boeing wonders how the District can keep operating financially when breaks have to be fixed several times before they are repaired. Don stated that the break by Betty Majnik's was fixed 3 times and 11,000,000 gal. of water was wasted on this break. He asked who is fixing these breaks and are the breaks fixed immediately when found. Who is in charge of this? He feels only schedule 80 parts should be used on the system, not schedule 40. As his allotted time for speaking was up the Board move on to other business.

Water Report: The water report is included in the minutes and is also available on the website. Water inflow for December was 2,284,000 gal for the Mays Spring. Usage was 469,000 gal and water unaccounted for was 797,000 gal. The Gelwick Spring flow was 426,000 gal. with treated water of 288,000 gal. December chlorine residual was .37 mg/l for Mays and .72 mg/l for Gelwick.

Board Report: The Board set the posting places for the District meetings to be the District's website and the front door of the Bone Mesa Schoolhouse. Joetta Burns was appointed election official for the May Board election.

Sec. Report: Two tapholders are in arrears. One will pay \$100 per month to catch up. The list of physical addresses and telephone numbers of tapholders is being completed by Norm and Susan.

Financial Report: 2009 income was reported to be \$52,131.52. Expenses were \$75,723.46 with a net loss of \$23,591.94.

Bills were paid. As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be February 16, 2010 at the Bone Mesa Schoolhouse at 7:00 p.m.

Karl Burns, President

Norm Smith, Sec. to the Board