

**El Creston Mutual Domestic Water Consumers' Association
Annual Membership Meeting
Saturday, March 3, 2012 2:00 pm Sheridan Fire Station**

Present: Mitch Barker, Chris Baca, Frank Hager, Eugen Johe, Gertrud Johe, Ken King, Ramon Lucero, Karyl Lyne, Carol Macomber, Kent Macomber, Brigido Ortega, Jimmie Ortega, Gene Solyntjes, Cheryl Zebrowski, Joe Zebrowski

1. **Call to order and proof of quorum** -- Called to order 2:10 pm and quorum established.
2. **Proof of meeting notice** -- Email, posted notices, and radio announcements
3. **Approval of Agenda** -- Gene/Eugen The agenda was approved.
4. **Approval of March 26, 2011 meeting minutes**--CherylGertrud Minutes approved.
5. **Reports of officers and committees**
 - a. **President's report** - Next steps for Community Water System
 - i. Priority 1 more members--targeted and focused drive along infrastructure
 - ii. Fundraising-- to cover organizational mainly board insurance and accounting expenses
 - iii. Continue water hauling service
 - iv. Ways for people to participate -- join El Creston, encourage neighbors to join, get by attending meetings and providing input.
 - b. **Treasurer's report** - We have a current balance of \$12,830.56, we owe the Board Finance \$16K on the \$20K we borrowed to purchase and outfit the water truck and purchase water tanks. Additionally, Board members have been donating their own gas, paper, ink for Association business. Further we have purchased Board insurance and will need to purchase accounting services as soon as we start billing customers for water services.
 - c. **Secretary's report (membership)**--In order to pay the \$100K loan we will incur should we be awarded the nearly \$1million for the first phase of our project, we have to have more members. 48 residents cannot assume that financial burden. The more members there are the less each of us will have to pay. Therefore it is to everyone's advantage to get as many members as possible. The goal is to have 100 members. Talking with neighbors and friends about what has been said at this meeting regarding El Creston's progress and plans would be very helpful. Additionally we can each talk someone through the completion of the membership forms with the warranty deed legal description of property and the well report number and coordinates.

Brigido raised the question of membership for multiple residences on one property, sharing one well. Ramon said that when we start providing water to residences, every residence has to have a meter and thus a membership with each transferring .25 acre feet of water rights to El Creston. Ramon also explained that El Creston will get 3 acre feet of water rights with the community

well we drill, and we may be able to lease water rights from the Gabaldon MDWCA. These extra acre feet will cover the water rights for members who have no well and thus no water rights to transfer to El Creston.

6. **Elections** - Ballots we counted by Gene Johe and Carol Macomber counted the votes. James Peters had 12 votes and there were no write-ins. Joe thanked Mitch Barker and Crystal Gallegos for their help on membership letter. Received with the ballots were 3 checks to El Creston for \$60 for the yearly assessment.

7. **Old/Unfinished business**

- a. **Technical design elements of the system** - Ramon presented a drawing with the three possible locations for the fill station--Dorothy and Mira Sol, Mira Sol and Roadrunner Road, Mira Sol and A20. He explained that the Design phase takes 4 months, the bid process takes 45 days, and the building process takes 90 days.
- b. **Funding applications**--We will continue to apply for funding at the advice of Blanca Surgeon from the Rural Community Assistance Corporation.

8. **New Business**

- a. **Membership assessment and joining fees discussion and comment**

Joe explained that the joining fee should cover the cost of enrolling a resident in the Association. The OSE water rights transfer fee is \$25 and the San Miguel County recording fee is \$25, hence the proposed \$50 joining fee. Those present supported this joining fee rate.

Annual assessments -- Joe went on to explain that because we have no water customers right now we have no way to recover organizational costs like Board insurance and expenses, and accounting costs. Thus the Board has proposed a yearly assessment of \$60 per year for all members, due this year at the end of September.

Finally as infrastructure goes in the ground and water is available to residents in the first phase area of the project, ie., those north of I-25 and we must begin to pay back the \$100K loan amount, there will be an additional \$125 per year **infrastructure assessment** for those residents probably in 2014. Responses from those present to these assessments were also very positive.

- b. **Water hauling** deliveries averaged 10 per month in 2011. The operation is providing a much needed service to residents. The 1992 U-Haul truck is doing well with care of Ric Valenzuela, John Sanchez, who has moved back to Nevada, and David Rivas.

9. **Adjournment** -- The meeting adjourned at 4:00pm.

Respectfully submitted, Karyl Lyne, Secretary, El Creston MDWCA