

El Creston Mutual Domestic Water Consumers' Association
Board Meeting
Thursday, May 3, 2012 7:30 pm
Sheridan Fire Station 15 Ojitos Frios Road

Present: Chris Baca, Joel Baca, Mitch Barker, Ramon Lucero, Ken King, Karyl Lyne, Rudy Nolasco, Jim Peters, Tomas Salazar, Ric Valenzuela, Joe Zebrowski

1. **Call to order and proof of quorum** 8:12 pm A quorum was established.
2. **Proof of notice of meeting** The meeting was advertised in the community, on the radio and in Optic.
3. **Approval of Agenda** Peters/Valenzuela Approved
4. **Approval of previous meeting minutes** 4-5-12 Board minutes were approved.
Peters/Valenzuela Approved
5. **Treasurer's Report** Jim corrected the date on the Treasurer's report he had emailed to us to be 5/3/12 instead of 3/5/12. He observed that our current account balance of \$14,019.75 is almost the amount (\$14,983.86) with which we started 2012, and this after paying our first \$4K installment on the \$20K Board of Finance loan in February. Jim also observed that we are also saving money for repairing the truck and making future loan payments.
 - a. **Recent reporting** - All the required reports have been submitted and are on time and in order.
 - b. **Recruitment of and transition to a new treasurer** Jim Peters will work to make the transition to a new treasurer as smooth as possible. He will speak with Ramon to see what El Valle MDWCA resources there are. Jim will also work with Karl, the cloud designer, to put the records in the cloud and create a task check list and calendar for his successor. The transfer should be able to occur by August 1. While Jim's background and expertise has been invaluable in establishing El Creston's budget and accounting processes. It is important, however, to involve other people in the operation of the Association and transitioning to a new treasurer now will facilitate these kinds of officer transitions in the future.
6. **Old Business**
 - a. **Water Rights Brochure** Joe tasked Ken and Mitch with moving forward with the development of the informational water rights brochure.

- b. Memorandum of Agreement w/ City of Las Vegas** Joe wants to pursue this and would like to find ways to share geological and hydrological information about the area.
- c. Database Project** Jim reported that his student, Karl, is completing his NMHU finals and will get with Ken and Karyl when he's ready to have us interact with the system. It is a cloud web-based data management system that this NMHU accounting graduate student is creating for El Creston.

7. New Business

a. Review of current and planned funding applications

- i. CDBG** - The El Creston application was denied on procedural issues and as a result of the fact that most of these monies go to municipalities and counties. It is possible that El Creston will partner with the County on a proposal.
- ii. Water Trust Board** - El Creston was awarded \$100K of the \$1 million requested. We will have to determine how best to use that money.
- iii. NMED** - Possibilities to apply for monies from NM Environment Dept. are the Clean Water revolving loan fund and the Drinking Water revolving loan fund --set up in 2011 where 25% of the amount you're applying for can be forgiven and in some cases 75% could be forgiven. NM Finance Authority will send a letter to all of the WTB applicants about this money. These monies require an environmental report and our ER might be able to be used. The question can WTB \$ be used to pay a loan from NMED/CDBG or used as a match for a Water Trust Board application was asked. Ramon suggested that we can request a change in the scope of work for the WTB money for planning and design to include construction to drill a hole. Should we decide to pursue a NMED RIP grant, we do have a resolution ready. Joe thanked Ken for that.
- iv. USDA** We might get the "boiler plate" items ready in a template, so we can produce a proposal quickly when needed.
- v. Next steps** Ken suggested 1) Planning mtg with Ramon and Blanca for a new scope of work; 2) contract with Souder/Miller, however it was explained that our current contract is good for 4 years before we have to advertise for another engineer; 3) checks for one-time only lease agreements for \$100 for Gallegos, Casey and owners at Mira Sol and Roadrunner; and 4) Ken learned that it is now possible to send materials addressed "to residents in XXX area" for .14 per piece.

vi. Funding workshop This will be scheduled with Blanca, Melanie and Ramon very soon.

b. Water emergency update

i. Number of households that have lost water There are about 60 identified dry wells with another 10 or so still unidentified.

ii. Status of information gathering Gene is still contacting people.

c. Water hauling

i. Review of current needs and activities 14 deliveries in April We're on target with our projection of 10 per month. Truck is running well, however the hose will need to be replaced. The cost of the hose has gone up quite a bit, so Ric will look into getting a bulk roll of hose for replacement. It has also been determined that we do not qualify for government license plates for the truck, so it was suggested that we apply for a tax exempt card with Phillips 66. Jim affirmed that using a card would definitely be a better way to account for and pay for gas for the truck as opposed to people paying for the gas and submitting gas receipts to be reimbursed.

ii. Truck signage Bill Pyles is still planning to provide the vinyl letters for the signage on the truck.

d. Membership drive update/number of members 49

8. Adjourn 9:01 pm Valenzuela/Peters

Respectfully submitted,

Karyl Lyne, Secretary