

El Creston Mutual Domestic Water Consumers' Association
Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 6, 2012 7 pm 89 Roadrunner Road

Present: Mitch Barker, Crystal Gallegos, David Gallegos, Karyl Lyne, Brigido Ortega, Gene Solyntjes, Joe Zebrowski

- 1. Call to order and proof of quorum at 7:07 pm and quorum established.**
- 2. Proof of notice established--**Flyers were posted, email notices sent and radio announcements were made.
- 3. Approval of agenda --** "Other" was added after new business for miscellaneous announcements and the agenda was approved. Karyl/Gene
- 4. Approval of minutes--** August 2, 27, and 31 minutes Minutes of the August 27th Special Board Meeting were approved. Gene/Joe August 31 emergency Board Meeting minutes were approved. Gene/Joe August 2 regular Board Meeting minutes were tabled because only two of the board members present at that meeting were present at this meeting. These minutes will be approved at the Oct. meeting.
- 5. Treasurer's Report** Joe has been doing the treasurer's work since Jim's leaving the board on August 1. The books are in great shape, so we (Joe) can pay our bills and deposit payments to El Creston. We have about \$14K in the bank. The budget spreadsheets are in great shape and were easy to alter to show how we would pay the required \$5K match and the \$10K loan for the Water Trust Board planning and design grant/loan.
 - a. Treasurer search--**Joe indicated that he had decided to contact Crystal Gallegos to see if she might accept the position of treasurer. Joe explained a little about the kinds and amount of work required and Crystal indicated that she would think about it and get back to us.
- 6. Old Business**
 - a. El Creston request to Governor for emergency declaration -** The Governor declared an emergency situation, but the agencies have determined that since we are not an existing water system and have no equipment to fix, we don't qualify for emergency funding.
 - b. Water Rights Brochure idea --** Joe and Mitch have finished the text and we need to get price quotes from a printer which Mitch will do. Joe will see of Blanca's office can print them for us. Joe also suggested that we get some FEMA brochures describing how to use bleach to make water potable safely, printed too.

- c. **Memorandum of Agreement w/ City of Las Vegas** -- We have a draft of that still out there which will be discussed at a meeting next week with the City.
- d. **Website** -- Cheryl Zebrowski will work with Ken King to update our website.
- e. **Database project**-- This is the project Jim was working on with a graduate student and we need to enter the data into that soon.

7. New business

a. Review of current and planned funding applications

i. **Water Trust Board**--\$100K final readiness items submitted Sept. 4. Money will be released in October. S/M has contract to do design and planning. Next cycle due in November and we can say we have done planning and design which puts us down the road with the next request.

ii. **NMED- NMFA** Drinking water revolving fund proposal was submitted at end of May for \$1 million for the whole project.

iii. **BOR-** We have withdrawn the letter of interest to them and we weren't one of the big three projects to be considered. Hence City approaching us on the desalinization project. Will meet Wed. pm to meet with Ken Garcia, Ken King, Ramon Lucero and Joe Zebrowski.

iv. **USDA** -- We need to look at this again and start a new cycle.

v. **CDBG** -- This program doesn't seem to fit for us so we may not work on this again.

vi. **Funding workshop** Joe will contact Blanca and Melanie for another workshop.

b. **Annual membership assessment** -- \$60 assessment is due by October and Joe will send out a notice on that.

c. **October cookout with Sheridan VFD?** The fire department is having a cookout on 13th of October, the end of fire prevention week. Joe will put out a call to our membership to pitch in and help with this event and Joe will talk with the fire dept to see if they like the idea.

d. Water emergency update

- i. **Number of households that have lost water**-- There are no new ones. Gene has GPS locations on five dry wells in Sheridan which he will send to Joe. Gene suggested that we document/photograph the Ortega family's situation of pumping uphill from the well .25 mile to a holding tank.

ii. **Status of information**-- Gene will continue to look for more dry wells.

e. **Water hauling** -- There were 7 deliveries in August.

i. **Review of current needs and activities** -- Ric has done some work on the muffler and exhaust system of the truck turning the exhaust pipe to the side instead of down so that exhaust goes out from under the truck instead of down into dry grass. The truck is running smoothly.

ii. **Truck signage**--Signage looks good and is finished. Ric is talking with Judy Pyles about El Creston t-shirt designs.

f. **Membership drive update/number of members** - Two more are very close to being ready. Joe sent membership materials to a person in Ruidoso who owns land in our area and had requested a membership form. The person at the top of the ridge above Gallegos wants to join and David will work on that.

g. **Other** - The ICIP, Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan, has to be updated and submitted by November to Dept. of Finance Admin at the first of October and we'll need to pass a resolution at the Oct. Bd. meeting.

h. The Discovery Channel is interested in including El Creston in a documentary on drought in the SW. Joe told the writer/producer about our waterless fire station and the people who have moved away. The mane also is interested in how the drought has changed our personal water use habits.

8. Adjourn -- 8:07pm Gene/Karyl

**Respectfully submitted,
Karyl Lyne, Secretary
El Creston MDWCA**