

El Creston Mutual Domestic Water Consumers' Association
Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 4, 2013 7:00 pm 89 Roadrunner Road

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

1. **Call to order and proof of quorum**—The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm and a quorum was established.
2. **Proof of notice of meeting**--Flyers were posted in the usual places, two radio stations were asked to announce the meeting and the Optic was sent a notice. Agenda has to be out 72 hours ahead as of May 1, 2013 according to new regs.
3. **Approval of Agenda** -- The agenda was approved. Gene/Karyl
4. **Approval of previous meeting minutes** – The minutes of the Feb. 7, 2013 regular Board meeting, Gene/Joe. The Feb. 28, 2013, special board meeting minutes were approved. Gene/Joe The March 9, 2013, special board meeting after annual Meeting minutes were approved. Gene/Joe
5. **Treasurer's Report** – The combined checking and savings account balance as of 4-4-13 is \$14,941.31. There were 11 water deliveries in March, 2013. We are now set up to do direct deposit for payroll. Tax Forms 940 & 941 are due April 30. Joe directed Crystal to check our files for a PRC audit letter saying we're below the audit level in our accounts.
 - a. **Assessments status** – There are 8 outstanding 2012 assessments. Crystal talked with one of those members who plans to pay.
 - b. **2013 Budget** Crystal presented the proposed 2013 budget. It includes proposed increases of \$750 for advertising and \$10 per load more for the water truck driver, raising his wage from \$25 per load to \$35 per load. Approved proposed 2013 El Creston Budget unanimously. Gene/Karyl
6. **Old Business**
 - a. **Memorandum of Agreement w/ City of Las Vegas** – Various funding agencies have told Las Vegas there is not money for all they want to do and they have to begin to work with others to do regional planning and cooperation. Las Vegas Water Board President Bob Wesley initiated a discussion to create a resolution to agree to work together promoting joint efforts between the El Creston MDWCA and City of Las Vegas to explore and pursue enhanced water supply options. If we want to connect our system with the City's, we have to initiate the invitation to connect. Joe asked the board for permission to talk to the City and explore the various options. Joe will hold fast on the notion that La Manga and Sheridan would continue to be included in all negotiations. The suggestion was made that the

County be included this conversation and the resolutions. Joe will send a draft of the proposed resolution to the Board.

- b. Database project** – Putting the data into the database still needs to be done. Ken and Karyl will try to work together to get it done. We need to decide whether or not we want to stay with Karl's system or not. Karl was to come to the Board meeting to discuss his database system with us and our answer questions.
- c. Working with Las Canteras** -- A donation for El Creston was made to Las Canteras for \$6.21. It is a 501c3 whose purpose is the betterment of the community. It is a place where money donated to El Creston can reside. We suggest that the Las Canteras Board meet and make suggestions regarding a project to use the money. The question is what could a charitable organization in our community do to help people here. This cannot be a pass-through to El Creston. It must be a project of Las Canteras. The suggestion is to provide fire hydrants for the community. We look forward to the opportunity to apply to Las Canteras for funding.

7. New business

a. Review of current and planned funding applications

- i. Water Trust Board (WTB)** — El Creston has submitted a new proposal to the WTB for the construction of the well, tank, pump, pipe to Mira Sol, and a fill station at Mira Sol and the County Road. That application has passed tier 1 and tier 2 levels of review with a score of 55. Seventy-four applications (\$75 million in requests with \$25 million available) were submitted. Our proposal is in the top third of the applicants by score. We will know in April or May if we're funded or not and to what level. DFA documents will be readied for submission.

Our WTB closing documents from last year's request for planning and design will be signed on February 22, 2013 allowing Souder/Miller to be paid for that work. The preliminary drawings are completed and Joe will try to get a copy for us.

- ii. Legislative Capital Outlay**— We received \$10,000 pending Gov. Martinez' signature. **El Valle received an appropriation, which will be shared with us.** Joe has met with Representative Salazar a couple of times to discuss how to get our \$150,000 legislative capital outlay request approved. We're planning to use it as the 15% match for the WTB request for construction alluded to above. Ramon will be talking with Senator Griego and give him a copy of our request. Both Salazar and Griego are asking how much less we could get by with. Joe is reluctant to lower the amount because it is leveraging one million.

- iii. BOR (Board of Reclamation)** Joe and Ramon are still trying to reach Mr. Alderete regarding our letter of interest.

iv. **USDA**—Joe has proposed that we be awarded money to build out to the to the county road. Application for about 300,000 and allow us to pick up about 20 connections north past the cattle guard and to the county road. Joe will try to get this in next week. Joe directed Crystal to get the 2012 actuals in soon and the 2013 budget in too.

v. **Funding Workshop** – Probably no workshop until after WTB award.

c. Water emergency update

i. **Number of households that have lost water**— The three-member family David and Lydia Atencio at 7 Mira Sol they have no water and want to join El Creston. David Martinez on Sheridan Road ran out of water in mid-December but plans to rebuild his home, which burned 3-30-13. The Benevidez home's well went dry across from Ralph Laumbach. Cliff Robinson and Don Padilla have knowledge of other dry wells.

ii. **Status of information gathering**— Joe asked Gene to check if George Scholz has a dry well.

d. Water hauling— There were 11 deliveries in March.

i. **Review of current needs and activities**— Ric and Joe will develop some delivery issues before the next meeting.

II. Alternate water supplies - Gabaldon (discussion)— Still need to reach folks in Gabaldon MDWCA about water supplies for El Creston.

e. Membership drive update/number of members—There is nothing new.

i. **Incomplete applications issues**—There are a few incomplete applications which need to be completed. Karyl will create an Excel sheet with all of the status of all applications. Ken will ask Territorial Title about helping to find well records. Crystal asked about filing fees and Ken said he has paid about \$500 filing fees and will bill El Creston at some point.

ii. **Membership withdrawals**- We need to develop a procedure for addressing membership withdrawals. If people elect to withdraw, it will cost them much more if they decide to join later. Joe will write to them about paying assessment or being dropped.

iii. **Membership certificates**- We need to give copies of the completed membership forms with the membership number and signatures and a membership certificate to each member. Karyl will work on this and Joe will write a cover letter from him and an El Creston brochure in each packet sent.

8. Review action items -- 1) Share draft resolution with the board and intent to converse with membership; 2) cover letter for the membership certificates packets.

9. The next regular board meeting will be Thursday, May 2, 2013, at 7 pm.
10. Carol Macomber, who is running the nominations for the four expiring Board terms, asked that nominations be phoned or emailed to her.
11. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Karyl Lyne, Secretary, El Creston MDWCA