

Emergency Meeting Thursday March 11th, 2024

Call to order at 7:02 pm

-In attendance: Bill Sterns, Peter and Rebecca Drennan, Alan and Jacquie Hill, Chris Young, Tigran Bailey, John Mlakar, Thomas Tullio, Terri Horton, Steve Lacroix, Sue Mckenna, Nick Mounier and Ilaria Morris.

Approval of Previous Minutes

- Minutes of the meeting on 02/29/24 were read and approved.

Vice president comments

- Jacquie explains that it is essential for the board and community to not speak about other's water bills, especially when they're not present. Instead come to them directly to address the concern. When Jacquie was office manager, the water board made an arrangement to remove the fee for Jacquie's dormant water tap in lieu of a raise.

- Alan asks for the rumors to stop. He brings up that Jacquie worked countless unpaid hours to produce grants for the water district. Alan proposed they start back paying the water tap up to July when Jacquie resigned.

- Rebecca clarifies that while the arrangement legally should not have been made, it is the fault of the board that made the arrangement instead of providing a raise. We have to stay within legal practice and be transparent with the public. Rebecca suggests that Jacquie starts paying the water tap starting from now, without back-paying.

- The statement that a deal was made with Alan and Tigran to mow the lawn was a false rumor, they volunteered their time for the community.

- Motion to reinstate Jacquie's water tap starting now passes unanimously.

Questions and Comments

- Sue asks why the water bill is so high. Tigran and Steve suggest it is due to the amount paid to the water operator. Another reason brought up is the low number of taps, the labor costs have to be divided.

- Jacquie mentions she has contacted Peter Heizman and Kate Sawyer to assist in reviewing the water plant and operator position. There was further conversation about the water operator position and what is expected.

- Rebecca spoke with someone who runs the water plant in Paonia, and they work 4-5 hours a day in the winter. They have a CDL license so the State of Colorado performs random

drug tests. They advise that there should always be a primary and secondary operator so that in case something happens to one, there is back up.

- Tigran reads a letter on behalf of Audie who claims when she resigned in the past it was due to fear of Bill Sterns after aggression towards her husband. Tigran calls for Bill Sterns to step down as president. Bill does not step down.

- A question is raised why Gunnison County is not paying a tap fee for the community park.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.