

Fruitland Special Service District

Meeting Minutes

Date: October 10, 2024

Time: 3:06 PM

Attendees:

Vicki Savage, Steve Hille, Mike Wilkerson, Jared Kesler, Bart Morrill, Zack Taylor, Judy Wilkerson, Bart Powell, Brock Harrison, Michael Scheetz

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:06 PM.

2. Public Comment

- A discussion was held regarding water for sale, specifically how many ERCs (Equivalent Residential Connections) per acre-foot of water.
- Motion to approve the minutes from the September 12, 2024 meeting by Jared seconded by Mike were approved.

3. Engineer's Report – Jones and DeMille (Brock Harrison)

- Brock provided an update on funding with Rural Development for emergency funding. They will log into the .gov system to submit the necessary information and help secure funding.
- Upper Mill Hollow: A letter was received from the Division of Drinking Water (DDW) requesting a plan for the spring. They want cost estimates and a schedule for the water source fix. The spring is turned off until further notice. Pilot testing is required before a cost estimate can be provided, and the DDW has requested testing at full runoff in the spring. Brock will draft a response to outline what has been done, noting that the treatment facility is planned for the existing right-of-way at the water tanks. Depending on the type of chlorination required, it may fit within a vault. The district is currently in a holding pattern until testing is complete.
- OTS (Online Tracking System): Discussion occurred with Jones and DeMille regarding meter installation. A partial payment of \$15,000–\$20,000 is expected to start the project. A contract is being finalized, and Johnsen will handle the mobilization costs.
- There was discussion regarding the contract, signed months ago, for small construction projects. A change order is needed to reduce the contract, and the district is working to finalize payments and approvals for upcoming invoices.
- **CIB Funding:** This was originally allocated for redevelopment and the SCADA system. Communication with the CIB regarding the scope of work will need to be revisited due to complications with the Upper Spring. The district may request that the grant and loan amounts remain the same while reducing the overall amount. Estimated costs for SCADA are about \$120,000, a significant reduction.
- **State Restrictions:** Although no formal letter was received from the state, the district has internally decided to stop selling water connections. A memo was issued that the district is at its maximum number of ERCs until further proof is provided.

4. Operations Manager's Report

- Old MXUs (Meter Transceiver Units) are now off the system, with some meters needing replacement. Meters will be repaired by replacing the top components instead of the entire unit. New MXUs come with a 25-year warranty.
- There are issues with meters not reading correctly due to wires being chewed by mice. Mike is investigating options for protecting the wires, including using 3/8" empty flex tubing.
- Flush valves: Five flush valves are currently being repaired.
- **Hydrant Removal:** Fruitland Rock will remove the water hydrant on November 4th or 5th.
- **Maintenance Plans:** The barn will be cleaned as part of the winter maintenance schedule.
- A set of 30 locks with keys is on order so the fire department can access water at the flush valves.
- Discussion was held regarding water troughs that are not being maintained. Hydrants without troughs will be shut off, and floats will be installed in the spring for those with troughs. Property owners will be informed.
- Jared will look into metering and payment systems for future water haul customers.
- **5. Clerk's Report**
- Motion to approve the September financials: A motion was made by Steve and seconded by Vicki. The motion passed unanimously, and checks were signed.
- The district is working with Rural Development to apply for emergency funding for a chlorination system.
- Efforts are ongoing to collect on aging accounts and past-due payments.

6. Old Business

- Flush valve replacements and water hydrant removal updates were discussed.
- Employee check-ins were conducted.
- The board made an offer to purchase 4 acre-feet of water, but didn't come to an agreement at this time.
- The job description for the Operations Manager was discussed and signed .

7. New Business

- **Coleman Water Trough Shutoff:** A decision was made to shut off non-maintained water troughs and install floats for those with proper troughs in the spring.
- **Future Water Planning:** The board discussed future water needs for a growing community. Current water sources are limited, and there is no funding to buy additional water shares or rights. Options include drilling a well above Red Creek using existing water shares to support new developments. There was also a discussion about the possibility of being added to the tax levy with Duchesne County to secure funding for future growth.
- **Internet Issues:** Connectivity issues at the office were brought up for review.
- **Water Rate Increase:** Bart will investigate the specifics of a potential rate increase and the specifics on a tax levy.
- **Board Member Terms:** The board discussed staggered 4-year terms for members, as required by Utah State law.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2024.