

Minutes of the Town of Marble Water Board
July 3rd, 2025

A. Call to order & roll call of the annual meeting of the Town of Marble Water Board – The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m. Mayor Ryan Vinciguerra called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Present: Dustin Wilkey, Larry Good, Amber McMahill, Amy Rusby and Ryan Vinciguerra. Also present: Ron Leach, Town Administrator and Terry Langley, minutes.

B. Presentation of proposed annual assessment formula, Ron – Ron explained that the Marble Water Company (MWC) got a loan and a grant from the USDA to install a water tank in 2002. The loan was for \$260,000 with a repayment schedule of \$20,000 per year for 40 years. The MWC and the town entered into an agreement to assess each parcel in the town annually to service that loan. There are 230 parcels and the assessment is \$130 per parcel. Ron reported that this is not equitable due to the difference in sizes of the parcels which range from 2 small lots to 5 acres. Additionally East Marble does not get water service but they do benefit due to fire protection with fire hydrants which is part of the basis for the agreement. He suggests a per-square-foot fee rather than a flat fee beginning in 2026. He and Karly Anderson have worked on a formula for a per-square-foot fee. Applying that would mean 200 parcels at \$130 or less and 30 at \$130 or more. He would like to discuss that next month. Larry suggested billing per lot rather than per parcel, but Dave Hamra explained that lot sizes are not the same throughout town. Amber asked how many people do not pay and Ron reported that it is about 20%. Discussion of the impact more participation could have. Merging parcels/lots was also discussed. The fee could be as low as \$.004 per square foot based on 100% participation. Ryan suggested a tiered system – under a determined size would pay one amount, another size range would pay another, etc. – as a way to simplify categorizing fees. Dave spoke to the difference between having a house on the property vs. an empty lot. Ron said there might be consideration for mitigating a property. Angus Barber asked about the balance due and suggested charging more and paying that down. Discussion of increasing the amount per square foot to build in a cushion to cover those who do not pay. Amber suggested a letter explaining what this is for and how these changes make the assessment more equitable. Angus asked how many hydrants there are and Ron said there are twelve, with one in East Marble. The flow and pressure are checked every year and that is paid by the MWC.

C. Set 2025 annual assessment of \$20,000. Tabled until August meeting.

D. Other business –

a. Amber asked when the meeting with MWC would be. There is no meeting set currently.

b. The lease agreement between MWC and the town for the water expires in a few years (2028). Discussion of the proposed USDA loan for expanding the water service and possible impact on the lease followed. Larry suggested further discussion/mediation of acquiring the water company. Ryan suggested a mediator for this.

E. Adjourn – Dustin Wilkey made a motion to adjourn. Amy Rusby seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Langley