

DONALA WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES
July 18, 2024

The Board of Directors of the Donala Water and Sanitation District met in regular session at the District's wastewater treatment facility, 14770 Jumping Mouse View, El Paso County, Colorado on July 18, 2024 at 1:30 P.M.

Directors Present: Wayne Vanderschuere
Bill George
Kevin Deardorff
Ed Miller
Scott McCulloch

Staff Present: Jeff Hodge
Christina Hawker
Ashley Uhrin
Joe Lopez
Aaron Tolman

Consultants Present: Roger Sams (GMS)
Brett Gracely (LRE)
Steve Ravel (Merrick)
Mark Valentine (Merrick)
Madison Phillips (CEGR)

Guests: James Howald (OCN)
George Urteaga Jr.

President Vanderschuere called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M.

Approval of Agenda:

- No changes to the agenda.

Public Comment Non-Agenda Items:

- George Urteaga Jr attended the board meeting to contest his high water bill for the June 2024 billing period.
 - George resides at 215 Scottsdale Drive and believes he was overbilled for water usage. Said he had turned on his sprinkler system but has verified with several contractors that there is no leak and therefore is attending the meeting to understand what next steps would be to contest the bill and come up with a viable solution.
 - Hodge stated that our policy states there is a leak adjustment program available for customers to utilize if they have a leak. Hodge also stated that if Urteaga Jr. would like to have the meter sent off and certified at his expense, that is an option we have as well, but those are the only two options available unless the Board determines otherwise.
 - Urteaga Jr argued that it is not just about turning the irrigation back on, but rather that there is a very specific window of time (about 4 days) when there is a large spike in usage. Urteaga Jr stated that he believes that increased usage is attributed to opening a valve all the way and a subsequent sensor error.
 - Hodge explained how a broken sprinkler line could realistically cause a leak that would equate to the usage Urteaga Jr was referring to, but Urteaga Jr argued that there is no broken sprinkler line or leak. Hodge stated that if that's the case, he can cover the expenses to have the meter sent to the manufacturer for testing. Bill

George asked what the cost of that is, Hodge and Hawker said they would need to reach out for updated pricing as it has been several years since a meter was sent to the manufacturer for testing.

- Urteaga argued that his stop box valve was half closed and had been since he moved in and they had been dealing with low pressure. Hodge stated that would not have anything to do with his meter, and that the functionality of the meter is not affected by the pressure. Explained that Donala uses magnetic meters as they do not have any moving parts and have a high degree of accuracy.
- Vanderschuere emphasized the use Eye on Water, Urteaga Jr stated he was utilizing Eye on Water to keep track of his usage.
- Urteaga Jr stated once again that he does not feel the bill is correct and would like to understand what happened with his usage and what can be done.
- Hodge stated we can change out the meter and Hawker stated we will look into pricing for sending the meter back for testing. Urteaga Jr said he would like us to look into that.
- Vanderschuere advised Urteaga Jr to work with his landscaping company to determine if there is a leak or not and that he should continue to work with office staff regarding the process to send a meter back as well as to have the current meter swapped for a new one. Urteaga Jr agreed to work with office staff to determine next steps.

Review of Financial Statements and Check Summaries:

- Hodge stated he believes we are on track to meet our water and wastewater revenue goals.
 - Received income from property taxes
 - Had to use CSU connection but the cost of utilizing CSU will be offset by leasing water to AGRA
- Approval of Financials
 - George motioned to approve, Deardorff seconds, all aye.

Review of Minutes:

- Minutes from June 20, 2024, Regular Board Meeting accepted.
 - George motioned to approve, Deardorff seconds, all aye.

Public Hearing: CRS§ 32-1-501(2) Exclusion of Certain Real Property from the Institutional Boundaries of the Donala Water and Sanitation District, being a portion of the Lot 39, Chaparral Hills, commonly referred to as 15220 Leather Chaps Drive:

- Vanderschuere moved meeting into a public hearing
- Hodge explained that by El Paso County regulations, five-acre lots with a well can divide the lot and have the half with the well be excluded from the services provided by the local water provider (Donala Water and Sanitation). To do this, the entire five-acre lot must be included in the District, then once the lot has been subdivided by the County, the property owner can request an exclusion of the lot with the well. The owner of this property said he would like to move forward with the exclusion process for the lot with the well.
- Vanderschuere moved meeting out of public hearing
- Approval to modify the motion to approve the petition pending filing of an appropriate petition
 - George motioned to approve, Miller seconds, all aye.

General Manager Report by Jeff Hodge:

- Hodge and Vanderschuere attended the Arkansas Round Table Forum in mid-July.
- Hodge and Same attempted to meet with Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU) regarding the convey, treat and deliver contract ahead of renewal, however CSU stated that Southeastern would need to get involved which is causing some delays. Hodge is working with a representative from Southeastern Water Conservancy to discuss the future of the contract and whether it will be renewed.
- Hodge and George attended the semi-monthly loop meeting on July 18, 2024, majority of the meeting was held in executive session and will be further discussed in this meeting's executive session. Hodge discussed that a goal of the Loop is to get elected officials more involved.
- Vanderschuere brought up that Colorado Water Congress is being hosted in Colorado Springs in August and will be a good way to make connections with the elected officials.

- Hodge mentioned that SDA is happening in September
- Hodge discussed well replacement and rehabilitation and how we have lost a few despite rehabilitating a few.
 - Discussed the use of the Loop and renewable resources plus a few wells as our primary sources of water for the future

Water Report by Joe Lopez:

- Average daily water usage for the District is 1.3-1.4 million gallons with peak day being 1.9 million gallons.
- Well16A – Mountain View Electric and Sun Valley electric are finishing what they need to do so Timberline can come in and tie the well into SCADA. No timeframe for when the well will be online.
- East Baptist tank rehab – final coats being put on this weekend and curing will begin. After that, some finishing touches will be completed and that tank can be put back online. Anticipated completion date is first week of August. Crews will then move onto the West Baptist tank and begin work on that.
 - Vanderschuere asked if noise complaint from prior meeting was addressed, Hawker confirmed that the tank rehab crews were able to move the equipment to direct the sound in a different direction and Ronny Wright contacted anyone involved in the complaint to ensure they were satisfied.

Wastewater Report by Aaron Tolman:

- E-Coli levels are 11-14 MPN, well under the required levels.
- Total effluent sitting around 28.358 million gallons.
- Ted Miller and Associates (third-party company) scheduled to come out and calibrate all influent and effluent flumes and include a scope so that there is understanding of how the flumes are calibrated.
- Solids are around 14%, nothing to be alarmed about
- Working with Merrick and Timberline for PLC swap. Looking to meet with Timberline project manager in early September regarding this project.
- BOD removal was 99.0% and TSS was 98.8%, which is well above the required minimum of 85%.
- Changed propane providers – lower cost and better customer service.

Consultants Comments:

- Gracely stated that they continue to work with Merrick on the ASR Grant.
 - The grant was awarded in two parts since there were so many inquiries. We should expect to get the second half of that grant early next year
- Gracely said they are working with Hawker on Willow Creek accounting. Pueblo account is currently full but we are working on leases with different entities, including AGRA.
 - Division Engineer pointed out a flaw that enables AGRA to lease from Donala even though the contract doesn't explicitly state we can. The water does have to pass through the North Gate connection.
- Sams stated that the tank painter has received 28% of their contract value and everything seems to be on track for the first tank rehabilitation to be completed.
- Sams also mentioned that Timberline is putting in PLC on 16A
- Sams said that the Water Quality Division has pushed any new introduced limitations out until after 2030.
- Valentine said they will continue to work with LRE on ASR study. Have also completed a deep dive in meter calibration and created a draft report and is working with Aaron on implementing a few things from the report.

Directors Comments:

- Vanderschuere attended the Pikes Peak Heritage Series regarding water usage in the Pikes Peak Region.
 - Said it was an informative series.

Public Comment:

- None.

Executive Session:

- CRS§24-6-402(4)(b) Confer with counsel for the District to receive legal advice on The Loop Water Authority Member Agency Financing and Contribution Agreement, new property tax legislation, initiative 50, and related election matters.
- George motioned to approve, Deardorff second, all aye.

Meeting adjourned at 3:02 P.M.

These minutes are respectfully submitted for record by Ashley Uhrin on August 13, 2024.