

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ESCUDILLA MOUNTAIN DOMESTIC WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT OF APACHE, ARIZONA, June 22, 2024 at 1:00pm at the Alpine Fire Station #2 in Nutrioso, AZ

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** David Knobbe called the meeting to order at 1:08 pm. David Knobbe was present. John Cochran and Mike Draper attended by phone. Melissa Chivers and Pat Cruse were absent. Eight property owners were in attendance.
2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.** Mike Draper motioned to approve the 6-22-24 agenda, John Cochran seconded. Unanimously approved.
3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM MAY 25, 2024 MEETING.** The minutes were previously distributed. Mike Draper motioned to approve the minutes from the May 25, 2024 meeting, seconded by John Cochran. Unanimously approved.
4. **CHAIR, BOARD MEMBERS AND CLERK REPORTS.**
 - Financial Report - Lorie Knobbe reported that \$38,679.53 is the current balance. The largest expense in June was to Clear Creek Assoc. to do the analysis on the 24 hour pump test and send the results to ADEQ. The cost was \$637.00.
 - WIFA - Lorie Knobbe reported that in the state's recent attempt to balance the budget \$490 million was taken from WIFA. At the 6-12-24 WIFA meeting Chuck Podolak, the Director of WIFA, commented that the cuts were coming out of the State's (1) Long-Term Water Augmentation Fund (LTWAF), (2) Water Supply Development Fund (WSDF) and (3) Water Conservation Grant Fund (WCGF) budgets. None of the money was coming out of the federal programs of Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF-wastewater) or the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). The EMDWID application to WIFA that was sent in May was through the DWSRF so our application will not be affected. The EMDWID's next project of supplying water to property owner's homes had originally targeted funds from the WSDF monies. At the WIFA June 19th meeting the WIFA Board went into an executive session to discuss and get legal advice regarding ARS § 49-1271(c) and ARS § 49-1302(c). *"The monies in the fund may not be appropriated or transferred by the legislature to fund the general operations of this state or to otherwise meet the obligations of the state general fund unless approved by a three-fourths vote of the members of each house of the legislature."* The vote margins were: Senate 17-12 and House 34-21. We will have to wait and see what happens next. On a good note, the current Project Priority List (PPL) was approved at the June 19th meeting. EMDWID is on the list and ranked #16 of the 32 projects listed.
 - Call to Elections - The Election notices have been posted twice in the White Mountain Independent, at the Nutrioso Post Office, Alpine Fire Station #2 in Nutrioso and on the EMDWID website. There are two seats available. As of now

the Board knows of two candidates who will be running. Mike Draper, an incumbent and Mark LaCombe who is the District's Certified Water Operator. Applications are still being taken until July 8, 2024.

- ADEQ - David Knobbe reported that ADEQ has received the completed Elementary Business Plan (EMB) for our standpipe project and is currently reviewing it. The delay for this step has been the several pump tests requested by DEQ and the well modeling process(Aqtesolv) that Clear Creek Associates completed for us. Hopefully we get a letter of approval soon.
5. **FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC HEARING, DISCUSSION TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTION A FINAL DISTRICT BUDGET AND FEE FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025.** Mike Draper motioned to adopt the Proposed Budget and Fee for FY25. John Cochran seconded. All approved. Motion passed. The Resolution will be sent to Apache County to be recorded.
 6. **CALL TO PUBLIC** - Richard Carlton who is a property owner in Los Pinos de Paz had some questions about the Escudilla Mountain DWID vs the attempted Nutrioso DWID. Why are we doing a Standpipe? Where is the EMDWID in process? David Knobbe gave him an update and Fern Braddock added that the well is owned by the EMDWID District. He also asked if it will affect Nelson Resivour. David explained the difference between surface water and groundwater. Brian Dolan asked where the Standpipe will be located and about easements. David responded with lot 57 on CR 2225. Then explained the majority of the water line will be on the road easements.
 7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** - The next meeting will be held on July 5, 2024 at 11:00m at the Alpine Fire Station #2 in Nutrioso.
 8. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** - None required
 9. **ADJOURNMENT**- Mike Draper motioned to adjourn the meeting. John Cochran seconded it. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 1:38.

Minutes approved at 7-5-2024 Board Meeting

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