

High Valley Water Company
Meeting Minutes for June 17th, 2025

Board Members Present: Scott Houston, Geneo Young, ~~Dave Maurer, Bob Martin~~, Meghan Newsome

Staff Members Present: Andy Oyler, Justin Rametta

Sunrise Engineering: Gabe Rizzo (phone) and Earth Services: Nate Dutta (phone)

Meeting Opened at 7:00PM by Justin Rametta

Nate Dutta started off the meeting with a recap of work completed to date. He explained that they have encountered a significant amount of rock in their trenches on both Mountainview and Silver Sage. The guys are using a combination of jack hammers and grinding wheels on the ends of the excavators to cut through the rock for the new pipe. They are currently getting 100LF of pipe installed per day. There was a time where it was only 100LF per week.

Nate said that Siri has approximately 1000LF of pipe installed on Mountainview, and Rayzer Edge has approximately 300LF installed on Silver Sage so far. Nate reiterated the plan to test and start putting into commission the bottom half of Mountainview as they continue to install the top half. They would also like to start paving behind the trench crew just as soon as the laterals are complete.

Gabe chimed in that he has noticed the pace is picking up and things are going well in the field.

At this point Nate and Gabe left the meeting.

Meeting Minutes from May 27th 2025 were read and approved.

Financial Statements from May 2025 we also reviewed and approved.

Andy gave an update that he has had a very quiet few weeks. Everyone has had water and nobody is complaining so things are going great 😊

GeneO then kicked off the discussion about the water line project by bringing up the fact that he has noticed there isn't enough bedding sand along the sides of our pipe in the trenches he's seeing. He said that each side of the pipe should have at least 12" of bedding sand on either side and he's only seeing about 8". He and Andy decided that we need to get closer to at least 10" on either side so there aren't any issues with our pipe's integrity long term. He plans to bring this to Gabe's attention tomorrow.

GeneO also brought up the fact that he reminded the contractors at our weekly coordination meeting earlier in the day that they need to adhere to the County's compaction standards. He's questioning their methods of compaction and frequency of testing and plans to also remind Gabe to stay on top of the contractors to avoid having to do any re-work like they did on year one.

GeneO explained that Siri had suggested relocating a fire hydrant on Mountainview to the other side of the road to avoid having to disturb a rock retaining wall where the new hydrant is currently designed to be. He told them not to cross the street, put the hydrant where it is drawn, and re-work the retaining wall around the new hydrant when completed.

GeneO reminded Andy that last year we got a change order request from Earth Services to de-commission all of the old fire hydrants but that we'd be interested in hiring Daley to simply cut them off

below grade and abandon them without complete removal to save us some money. Andy agreed that he could do that when we are ready.

Justin explained that Heather Pattee from DDW acknowledged they had not yet reviewed our application for assistance with the Asset Management Plan, but was going to try and do so in the next month.

We got an update from Bea on our quiet title complaint. The court approved our application and so it was published on June 4th. The listing needs to be posted for 4 weeks so we have until July 2nd for someone to come forth. Assuming nobody contests the ownership, Bea will try and schedule a court date to have our title updated with the hopes that it may be in place sometime in July.

Justin then presented to the board what our water purchasing cost has looked like over the past 4-5 years with Summit Water. There have been some significant increases over the past couple of years to the tune of 30% a year for the past 2 years with another 11 % forecasted next year and approx 6% increases forecasted annually until 2031. This year our monthly assessment to Summit Water is double what it was in 2022.

Justin then presented to the board an email that Andy Garland of Mountain Regional had sent to Bea a few weeks ago with a proposed rate increase due to the failing condition of Atkinson Well #2. Andy wants to take our rate from \$1.19 k/gal to \$4.25 k/gal which is a 357% increase. Justin explained that on a dollars basis that would equate to a \$60,000 a year increase based on the amount we spent with them last year. The board would like Bea to ask Andy if Mountain Regional would be willing to negotiate that number to something a little closer to a 150-200% increase, or do a multi year incremental increase so that we aren't hit with such a significant increase all at once.

The board then discussed the financial repercussions of such a significant increase in water purchase cost and how we would have to adapt our company to afford it. The idea of raising the base rate to cover the increase is something we would like to avoid as much as possible. It was suggested that we reduce the monthly allotment of gallons so that the high users end up paying more than the low use households. We hope that if we are able to get Verizon moved onto the tank site that the additional income from them would offset most of the water purchase increase. We are optimistic that by reducing our water loss percentage after the new distribution lines are installed will help lower the amount of water we need to purchase.

We also then discussed the idea of starting a blending plan for our own well water so that we can use that more as a primary source and minimize the amount of water we need to purchase from Mountain Regional in the first place. Meghan has experience in creating this sort of plan for Park City and Justin reminded her that we would be willing to pay her hourly for her time and help in pursuing such a plan for High Valley. She will coordinate with Andy on getting some samples drawn and start the testing process to see what it would take to meet the quality standards.

Meghan then reminded Justin that we will have more Lead and Copper inventory requirements due in a couple of years. We discussed whether or not that would be complicated for our system and/or require help from Sunrise and we hope it is something we can just complete on our own.

Next monthly board meeting is July 22nd, 2025

Meeting adjourned at 8:35