

High Valley Water Company
Meeting Minutes for October 24th, 2023

Board Members Present: Scott Houston, Meghan Newsome, Geneo Young (by phone), Dave Maurer
Staff Members Present : Andy Oyler, Justin Rametta and Karen Sawyer
Sunrise Engineering: Derek Johnson and Earth Services: Kolt Way and Mick

Meeting Opened at 7PM by Justin Rametta

Minutes from September 2023 meeting read and approved

Financial statements from September 2023 reviewed and approved. During this review we discussed the idea of moving a large chunk of our savings account to a 6 month CD to take advantage of high interest rates and make some money on the idle funds. The suggestion was made to shop the highest interest rate available even if it requires pulling our money out of Chase and placing it with another bank.

Scott asked about the large line item for system repairs and maintenance in September. He asked if those repairs were due to the infrastructure project. Andy explained that they were, but indirectly because of the constant shutting on and off putting stress and extra pressure on the system. Some of the water line breaks were caused by the telecommunications companies installing new fiber conduits this summer hitting lines. Andy explained that if one of those companies, or any of Earth Services guys working on the project hit a line, that they are responsible for the repair so his bills are not usually from the direct event. One recently however was to fix a repair that the communications company had repaired incorrectly. Scott volunteered to find a contact with those companies to ask about reimbursement for that repair invoice.

Andy mentioned that on Thursday or Friday this week (10/26-10/27) the water tank was scheduled to be cleaned.

We discussed Verizon's proposal a bit. The board has been too busy and pre-occupied with the infrastructure project and UBB's renewal to focus on this now. Justin will let Troy Benson know that we are still interested but need more time to discuss further.

We discussed our contract renegotiations progress with Utah Broadband. The board requested they increase their current monthly payment of \$400 to \$1,600 and change the renewal term to 3 years. UBB countered with keeping the \$400/month but offering free internet service to the company and its board members. We then countered with \$1000/month with free internet for the company but not the board members. We haven't heard back since our last counteroffer so Justin was going to reach out to see if they got it and what their response is.

We discussed the State Lead and Copper inventory program that has a deadline for its first submission of 10/16/24. Derek mentioned that Sunrise Engineering is still implementing their program for assistance with this inventory process. They will get state funding to help small water companies and they plan to help High Valley with ours. Meghan asked Andy about a GIS map access that would help her create this inventory.

Justin discussed his intent to resume discussions with Hydrospecialties to upgrade our meters to cellular connected versions. He hopes to bring updated information and estimate to next months meeting.

Justin also discussed his intent to adopt an online bill pay option now that he is in charge of the accounting.

Earth Services was then asked for an update on progress. Kolt discussed there have been multiple failed bacteria tests on the Countryside Circle loop recently. They had a few pressure tests that have failed recently on the east side also further preventing them from being able to bury the main lines and proceed with paving. He hopes to have more bacteria testing done tomorrow. Mick mentioned that as soon as Tech Flow passes the bacteria tests on Countryside Circle they are being let go from the project. Earth Services plans to use their own employees or Ridgeway to make the final lateral service connections.

Earth Services was asked about their current work being done on the North side of Highland. They are cleaning up the right of way alongside the new pavement. Andy expressed concern over the distances of the hydrants to the edge of the road and the potential for them to be taken out by snow plows. Scott asked if they could be protected with boulders or bollards but he said no. They just need to be well marked and flagged.

Karen asked for an update on the PRV stations. Kolt said they still don't have them. Because they arrived so late, he is unsure whether or not the county will even let them get installed this season due to the proximity to the road for the one on Highland.

Justin asked for an update on pay application for the project. As of right now we haven't paid anything for July, August or September. Derek gave an update on the back and forths between Earth Services pay applications and Sunrise Engineering and review of those documents. He mentioned that some of the items needed to be adjusted. He brought up the fact that Geneo and Lorum had been out fact checking and measuring some of the footages listed on the invoices. One of the holdups in processing the pay applications is not having the proper documentation to support some federal requirements attached to the loan which include "Davis Bacon Wages" and having to have all of the steel products used on this project "made in America". That support documentation is something that is still being produced by Earth Services and once submitted we should see the request come through on our end.

Geneo mentioned that he would rather see Ridgeway make the final connections at Countryside and Starview instead of Earth Services. Kolt was fine with that.

We were asked when Countryside would be completed and were unable to give a straight answer because Earth Services simply doesn't know. They promised to have the steel plates removed by tomorrow so they aren't in danger of getting hit by snow plows. Tomorrow they plan to re-pave alongside Highland where the bike lane was damaged from overuse and extra traffic. Mick mentioned that any temporary paving that goes down this fall will have to be torn up and re-done next spring. Kolt reiterated that any damaged driveways will get repaired and landscaping in the front yards will be fixed up as well. Mick mentioned they will never use Tech Flow again after they pass off the Countryside loop!

We discussed the potential for our water loss percentage to go up next month as a result of water being pulled out of hydrants recently. Kolt said that they intend to reimburse us for the excessive amounts of water being used to fill and flush the lines for cleaning and testing etc. They have been using High Valley's hydrant meter for this process. Justin also discussed a recent event where River Pools was using a hydrant incorrectly to fill a pool on Snowview last week. Geneo happened to catch them in the process and took away their meter until he could confirm they had permission to be using our water in the first place (they were). He gave it back to them the next day and showed them how to properly use a hydrant meter.

Next meeting is November 28th

Meeting adjourned at 7:57