Doney Park Water "A Member-Owned Cooperative" Regular Meeting Minutes August 18, 2022

Directors Present: Jim Timney Also Present: Marc Twidwell – General Manager

Eugene Sullivan Trish O'Reilly – Administrative Staff Selden Wasson Ed Peacock – DPW Member

Brittany Lehman

Brittariy Lerimai

Remote: Dennis Peat

The Board of Directors held a regular Board Meeting at the Doney Park Water office at 5290 E Northgate Loop. Director Timney called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

The first agenda item was **Roll Call of Directors / Affirmation of Quorum –** Director's present affirmed a quorum.

Next on the agenda was Call to the Public -

• Member Ed Peacock was in attendance to observe the meeting. He asked if water sales had decreased from increased Monsoon. Marc confirmed that yes, sales were down \$38,000 due to less need for irrigation since the area has been receiving so much rain. Then Director Peat asked if revenue numbers were lower because of flooding in Timberline and Marc confirmed that yes, people had evacuated so didn't use water for a time plus DPW lost thirty members due to fire burning homes. Also, Director Lehman mentioned the double APS bill last month and Marc then explained that APS forgot to bill one month so the next month cost was twice as much. Marc further explained variance in APS' commercial rates and that DPW wells and boosters receive a lower "water pumping" commercial rate.

The Board reviewed the Consent Agenda -

a. Approval of the July 2022 Board Meeting Minutes and July 2022 Financial Reports - All Directors present reviewed the July 2022 Board Meeting Minutes and July 2022 Financials. Director Wasson made a motion to approve all items on the consent agenda, Director Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion passed.

Next on the agenda was the Current Events, Reports and Correspondence.

- a. Manager's Report All Directors present reviewed the Manager's Report.
 - Vacancies at DPW Marc introduced Patricia (Trish) O'Reilly, who started August 2nd as new Customer Service/Billing Specialist. Marc said that there has been limited interest in the Operations Tech and Field Tech positions and several noshows for interviews. Marc also said they made an offer to someone from Tucson who is working for Green Valley Water, but still waiting to hear if he will accept. Director Peat brought up high cost of living in Flagstaff and suggested ways to recruit staff such as signing bonus or income adjustment for those moving here. Marc highlighted DPW strengths such as pay commensurate with other utilities,

great benefits package, and ability to quickly move up in pay after intro period. Everyone agreed to table further discussion of recruitment increases until next month's meeting under New Business/Action Items to decide on before 2023 budget is set in October.

- DPW Summer Employee and Director Party Marc will send out a map to everyone for finding the location of Mobile Haven Park.
- Timberline and Doney Park flooding Marc explained how flooding continues to threaten a small number of mainlines and how crew has worked very hard to fix breaks and keep members from having a loss of service. Marc also said it helped when County provided jersey barriers through Tiffany Construction and also there were concrete blocks leftover at Marjika well from Schultz flooding (free from County). Director Wasson asked why the mainline broke at the Cosnino location and Marc explained how at first there was a power outage at the well and booster, followed by a break in the 6" mainline (installed in 1970's, PVC pipe with long life). Director Timney asked about line repairs and Marc said the soil is saturated from rain and breaks are most likely due to the lines shifting. Matt is looking into replacing Gunman mainline because it's the fourth break on 2" line, so need to upgrade about 200 yards with 6" line.

b. Office Report - All Directors present reviewed the Office Report.

- Marc said that the 20 turn-offs were mostly sold homes. Director Timney was boggled by those nine members with non-payment shut-offs and a discussion ensued about Arizona Corporation Commission advising DPW to not shut off those who are dependent on water for cooling their homes. Marc said that one solution may be to restrict flow rate for those not paying their bill.
- **c.** *Operations Report* All Directors present reviewed the Operations Report.
 - Preventative Maintenance Activity
 - Flushing of water mains rigorous flushing of dead-end lines was done throughout the system.
 - Compaction is important to keep mainlines safe, so now they've installed concrete blocks to protect them. Marc explained how poorly it was done in 1970's, when lines were more loosely packed.

Ongoing Distribution Operation Activity

- Area flooding throughout the system has caused several mainline breaks, damage to members water meter vaults, damage to water main valves/valve cans, as well as exposing several water mains and service lines. (See pictures) Work has been on-going. Marc described challenges with ADOT piling mud atop valve cans, so now DPW has fenced off 8" pipe. DPW is saving concrete blocks for mainlines, not meters, so using sand bags.
- Hatch water mainline extension the new water mainline has been completed and a final inspection has been completed. DPW personnel has found several deficiencies that the contractor, Darius Palmer, is addressing to meet MAG specs and DPW requirements. Director Peat suggested removing Mr. Palmer from list of recommended contractors.
- Walnut Creek Meadows subdivision the new subdivision water mainline is nearly complete (90%). The portion of water mainline along Leupp Road going

north, then east into the new subdivision, has yet to be started. DPW has received approval from the forest service to encroach through a portion of forest service property that is needed to complete the water mainline extension. Further approval to Uni-source Gas needs to be granted prior to the start of that portion of new water mainline.

- d. The next agenda item was New Business/Action Items -
 - Marc requested a new GPS unit that will help crew find valves in flooded areas.
 The old unit that is not as good, was \$14,000, and this one is only \$9,400.
 Director Peat suggested DPW keep the old one as back up. Director Timney made motion to approve this Emergency Purchase, Director Wasson seconded the motion, and all were in favor and the motion passed to approved spending \$9,400 for new GPS.

The last agenda item was **Director Comments** – There were no comments.

Director Timney made a motion to adjourn, Director Wasson seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion was passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.