

Double Horn Creek Water Supply Corporation

Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors
4:00 p.m. at 103 Vista View Trail, Suite 100, Double Horn, TX
October 22, 2024

Meeting called to order at 4:03 p.m.

- ❖ Curtis Raetz, President
- ❖ Harry Brunner, Vice President
- ❖ Pilar Chiodo, Secretary/Treasurer
- ❖ Roger Trejo, Director
- ❖ Sig Sereno, Director
- ❖ Curtis Jeffrey, SUS Representative
- ❖ Jeanette Francis, Member
- ❖ Lou Ann Raetz, Member

1. Summary of meeting notice published. Confirmed a quorum is present.
2. Distribution, Discussion, and Approval/Modification of the September 17, 2024 meeting draft minutes. Motion to approve the minutes by Harry Brunner, seconded by Sig Sereno, all approved.
3. Member and Public Comments: None.
4. Operator's Report and Discussion/Update.
 - a. Installed a new pump and motor on well number two and it is now up and running with no issues.
 - b. Continue to isolate the spigot at the West Trail entrance; will make this a priority.
5. Confirm Next Meeting Date/Time. Next meeting date scheduled for Monday, November 18, 2024, 4:00 p.m. at 103 Vista View Trail, Suite 100, Double Horn, Texas.
6. Drought and Water Restriction Monitoring, Planning, and Member Communications/
Actions.
 - a. All three well levels have fallen due to continued drought and high water usage in September, probably due to "conservation fatigue". Well number three is very low and even well number two fell significantly even though it only pumped for half the month

due to a pump issue. Well levels are usually taken after the wells have stopped pumping for some period of time. It was decided to get new well data soon after pumping so we can determine what the actual pumping levels are. Curtis Jeffrey took action to do these new measurements. Rather than stop pumping from well number three it was decided to slow down its pumping rate for a while to determine if it will recharge.

- b. Discussed converting PayClix to NextBillPay, integrating Metron-Farnier with the RVS billing system, and synchronizing our billing cycle to match the monthly Waterscope data. Board agreed to postpone any PayClix conversion to next year pending other higher priority items.
- c. Board agreed to go to Drought State IV. Sig to update entrance signs to reflect new stage level. Curtis Raetz to generate drought stage flyers for all the announcement boards at the four entrances.

7. Financial and Business Operations Discussion, Update, and Action

- a. Wrote checks for Spicewood Utility Services (SUS), Oliver, Rainey, and Wojtek (ORW), Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Central Lab, and Double Horn Storage for our annual lease payment for the firefighting water storage tank.
- b. Reviewed Bank Statements, Income Statement and Balance Sheet. Balances as expected, no action required.
- c. Reviewed Director's and SUS End-of-Month (EOM) Reports. There were two accounts over the threshold this month, one of them due to an irrigation leak.

8. Discussion, Update, and Action as Needed

- a. Requests for Water Bill Adjustment. Received one request for a bill reduction from a member who detected an irrigation leak via Waterscope and had it repaired. Board agreed to adjust the leak part of the bill.
- b. Joint City of Double Horn, Double Horn Improvement Association, and DHCWC Water Conservation Partnership. Looking at a water smart rebate program for city of Double Horn residents. The city has agreed to earmark ten thousand dollars for this program although it still needs to be approved by a vote. The rebate program will be on a first come, first served basis. The rebates, which will have a cap per resident, could be available for equipment and supplies for such things as rain water harvesting, drip irrigation, pool covers, native plants, etc. Also considering raffling a fifty gallon rain barrel. The idea is to spur education within the community and get more residents involved and engaged in conservation. This could also tie in with the featured speaker series.

- c. DHIA Request for Reimbursement of Legal Costs for Firefighting Water Storage Tank Variance. After several years, the DHIA has requested legal cost reimbursement for a variance required for the firefighting water storage tank. After reviewing the information and much discussion Sig Sereno made a motion that on the matter of the DHIA request for reimbursement for legal fees of the variance for the firefighting water storage tank the board agrees to pay the DHIA fifty percent of the legal fees. Harry Brunner seconded, all approved.
- d. Restricted Use Caution Sign at Firefighting Water Storage Tank. The board has decided to put a “restricted use” sign by the water storage tank to discourage water haulers from attempting to use it to fill their truck. Sig Sereno has the action to obtain the sign and approval from the city.
- e. Preliminary 2025 Planning: Special Projects, Director Roles/Election, Budget/Revenue, Other Topics as Needed.
 - i. Harry Brunner will be retiring from the board at the end of his term, so the board needs to find another candidate to fill his slot.
 - ii. Board reviewed the first draft 2025 draft budget and there is lots of work to be done on it. Due to successful conservation efforts our income is down and due to inflation our expenses are up. Will need to look at adjusting water rates for both conservative users and those who exceed what is considered normal household usage.
 - iii. Curtis and Pilar to revisit the service availability charge to determine if and how much it needs to change to cover our fixed operating costs.
 - iv. Board agreed to change our existing water rates and increase the step up charges for usage over ten thousand gallons per month. Last month we had eighteen members who used over ten thousand gallons per month.
 - v. Board discussed discontinuing the practice of water bill adjustments. The argument is that in the era of smart meters, every member should be aware of their daily usage. This is an ongoing discussion and details still need to be worked out.
- f. Future Water Security Project.
 - i. Curtis Raetz met with various representatives from Marble Falls to discuss our water needs. Major takeaway from the meeting is that we are not alone with our water issue and we are not likely to get assistance from Marble Falls. This means that until the drought is over or we have secured another source of water, we need to continue our conservation efforts because they have produced great results thus far.
 - ii. Curtis received a list of geologists from the Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District (CTGCD) in order to obtain additional professional options to

determine if a deep well is still a viable option. The chances of a dry hole with the Hickory aquifer are high. Bottom line is that coming up with a plan future water security is going to take longer than originally planned. Currently, we are at serious risk of a potable water shortage if the drought continues.

- iii. Rate analysis and Tariff and Policies Update. No work on this pending other priorities.

9. Current Activity and Priority Planning.

- a. Priority is to continue to work the Future Water Security Project and annual meeting.

10. Other Business Properly Brought Before the Meeting: None.

11. Review Past and Current Action Items

- a. Curtis Jeffrey to present plan for storage of generator and pump at well number one.
- b. Curtis Jeffrey to continue to monitor the Turner controller and check its warranty status.
- c. Curtis Jeffrey to get water flowing at West Trail entrance meter for DHIA use.
- d. Curtis Jeffrey to get well level data soon after wells have pumped.
- e. Curtis Raetz to add well number four data to the stop light chart.
- f. Sig Sereno will purchase a restricted water use sign and get check with the city regarding its location.
- g. Curtis and Pilar to work on 2025 budget, water rates, and service availability charge.
- h. Pilar to work with SUS to audit membership database to ensure that the most current contact information for all members is in place to prepare for converting IRIS to TextMagic.

12. Adjourned at 6:54 p.m. Motion to adjourn by Harry Brunner, seconded by Roger Trejo, all approved.