

**Washington County Rural Water Joint
Advisory Board Meeting Notification**

Tuesday July 16, 2019 at 7:00 pm

PMRNRD Office - 1060 Wilbur Street, Blair, NE

Advisory Board Members Present:

Paul Oestmann
David Genoways
Chris Koenig
Bob Nieto
Andy Christensen

Advisory Board Members Absent:

Mitch Robinson
Joe Vaughan

NRD Staff Liaisons:

Zach Nelson, Project Manager
Curt Scott, Water Supply Superintendent
Bruce Sill, Water Supply Technician

The meeting began at 7:00 pm. Zach Nelson discussed the following items:

Water Use Report

- The water use report is erratic due to a number of large water main breaks during the winter and number of times that water has been pumped from MUD to Blair.

Financial Report

- To date, the water system has had \$1,201,185 in total income and \$1,127,055 in expenses.
- The system was \$74,131 cash positive for the year.
- The financial health of the system appears to remain strong.

- For the last five years, the system has added an average of 32 new customers per year. 27 new accounts were added in FY 2019.

Recommendation of Draft Budget for FY 2019

A draft budget for FY 2020 is attached for review.

Rates have not increased since:

- 6/1/2013 for the #1 Service Area, including Fort Calhoun
- 10/1/2013 for the #2 Service Area
- No water usage rate increase is recommended at this immediate time. Water usage rates will be evaluated in January 2020 to assess if an increase is needed.

A motion was made by Chris Koenig to adopt the budget as presented and make a recommendation to the District Board to approve. Paul Oestman seconded.

Those in favor: Paul Oestmann, David Genoways, Chris Koenig, Bob Nieto, Andy Christensen

Those opposed: None

Operations Report

In the fall of 2018 a third pump, new control panel, and new generator were added at the pump station. The new control panel can be accessed remotely during emergency situations.

During February and March of 2019 the system experienced four water main breaks as a result of the brutally cold temperatures, which caused the ground to shift.

District staff is close to having almost all meters swapped out from old, self-read meters to new AMR meters. Staff expects to have all meters swapped out by this fall. For the last five years, the water system has been spending approximately \$45,000 annually to purchase new AMR meters. Once all meters have been swapped out, the system will no longer have the \$45,000 annual expense, which will help to further improve the financial stability of the water system.

Other Business

In March, Marty Thieman retired. Bruce Sill was hired and Curt Scott was promoted to Water Supply Superintendent. Both of them have been doing a great job

If you have any questions regarding the rural water advisory board meeting agenda or general questions, please contact Zach Nelson at 402-315-1706 or znelson@papionrd.org.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45.