

RUBY RANCH WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION
Meeting Minutes for February 22, 2024

Attendees: Thomas Doebner
Marcus Krause
Kevin Rodriquez
Dale Olmstead
Lynn Blackmore
Chris Whittenhall

Excused:
Raul Saldivar

Professional Consultants:
Tim Young (PGMS)

Public: Steven Selger, Al Gmitter

Meeting opened for business at 7:02pm, via Zoom Conference and Video Call

1. Lynn Blackmore called the meeting to order and determined a quorum had been established.
2. The minutes for the December 14th, 2023 meeting were approved. Motion was made by Thomas Doebner and seconded by Dale Olmstead. Vote was 6-0.
3. Tim Young provided the Board with the Monthly Water System Operations and Pumping Report dated February 22, 2024. RRWSC pumped 2,781,000 million gallons and a portion went to injection at Well # 5. Income and billing have come down with the reduced pumping in December and January.
4. Tim Young stated there was a new leak that arose at the corner of Ruby Ranch Road and Clark Cove Road. This leak had been repaired by PGMS in the past but the new leak will be repaired when a replacement parts for the unique fitting is received.
5. Tim Young stated that 60 of 72 backflow certifications have been received for 2023 and is now drafting the 2024 letter that will go out with the June bills. Tim stated that the list is up to date per recent review and everyone who was delinquent on the current list received the third letter. Dale Olmstead stated that a new letter should be drafted to state that those accounts will have their water service shut off within 30 days if certifications are not received. PGMS will also reach out by phone if necessary.
6. Meter Replacement Project: 2 meters that failed to register were replaced since the last meeting and they picked up more meters to continue the replacement. There are currently 46 at or above one million gallons. PGMS is struggling to get long meters and will continue to proceed with replacements, pending the proper replacement meters (long or small). To progress the meter change out, Tim Young stated that PGMS could dig out and replace long meters with the short meters, although not recommended to take this route. The older meters tend to under calculate the actual water usage.

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7. Thomas Doebner brought up the option of changing to smart meters that require no physical reading and inquired about the cost per meter. Tim Young stated that meters cost around \$250 each, and up to more advanced cellular options at \$331 per meter. This would also require \$7000 to set up the drive by technology like meter antenna that read when driving by. Thomas Doebner stated that fines received from BSEACD could possibly be waived/repurposed to purchase more accurate meters to tighten the water system. Lynn Blackmore asked how long it would take get the quotes put together, and Tim Young stated that he could get it back to RRWSC in a week.

8. Tim Young stated that some water samples from Well #5 came back with high arsenic above the district limits. There were additional tests done by the district, and after flushing there were samples extracted that had lower levels of both, but still high first was at 17, and second was down to 12. There were discussions on flushing and taking samples with water that was sitting in the pipes, versus PGMS flushing over 30,000 gallons before the second sample that was lower.

9. Due to extreme drought and elevated customer use, the WSC was not able to inject ASR water to Well #5 during the 2022-2023 cycle as planned. Extraction also ceased on November 1, 2023, as the stored bubble closed in on the minimum allowed. Additionally, arsenic samples began to show increased concentrations in consecutive samples. During late December, an additional one million gallons was injected. After allowing the water to sit for several days, a full set of samples were collected. Results of those samples showed that the addition of the one million gallons pushed the buffer or mixing zone away from the well pump. The concentrations of arsenic, TDS/Conductivity and other constituents are similar to samples collected during the early and middle part of normal ASR extraction. Those sample results were forwarded to Mr. Joe Vickers and Mr. David Pyne for their analysis and follow-up recommendations. Mr. Pyne has completed a preliminary report that is currently under review of Joe Vickers. Once all language is agreeable, the report will be presented to the RRWSC Board for approval and then to the BSEACD Board. Mr. Pyne has suggested that he attend the next BSEACD meeting to be held on April 11, 2024, to make the case for an exception to allow additional ASR injection. Joe Vickers and Tim Young will also attend that meeting.

10. Thomas Doebner asked what would happen if Plant 1 went down, could Plant 2 take over doing all the pumping? Tim Young stated that it could be done but would require some work-over to get it back up to pumping status from injection.

11. Tim stated two metal signs were purchased and installed for Stage 3 critical drought, with appropriate numbers to call for questions. Thomas Doebner stated that the wording on the sign in front of Plant 1 needs to be changed to reflect the present Stage 3 critical drought status.

12. Pressure Plane Project: Tim Young and the PGMS team have tested the pressure plane project, with all aspects working as they should. This continues with Plant 2 being shut off and Plant 1 supplying 100% of the water.

13. TCEQ emergency preparedness plan approval is caught up per TCEQ. Tim Young stated that he is discussing the generator with Capital Power, and they have met on site. This company does generators turn-key (generator, switch, gas tank, plug in with electrical, plus walk-through). It would be done by one company and the on-site quote was \$45,000 total, versus the separate portions quoted out which the numbers come out to similar dollar amounts. Once a quote is approved the process could start immediately as the wait time on the identical generator 60 RCLB

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is down to weeks versus months. Tim Young stated that a main disconnect would need to be added from the PEC connection. The recommendation should be to have it done at both plants.

14. Dale Olmstead stated that we still need a site plan prior to work starting to ensure there isn't damage to the grounding system. The verbal site visit determined that the generator would be placed behind the building along with corresponding equipment. Tim Young stated that we do not have to wait for a site plan approval, as the generator plan was approved.

15. Dale Olmstead makes a motion to authorize spending up to \$55,000 for PGMS and Tim Young to pursue Capital Power Systems for the turn-key installation of the generator and entire emergency preparedness aspects. The motion was seconded by Thomas Doebner. Vote to approve motion was 6-0.

16. Tim Young stated that tank inspection was done both interior and exterior of all four ground storage tanks and two pressure storage tanks. There were no issues found. PGMS has been given an estimate of \$500 per tank inspection from Dunham Engineering for the January 2025 annual inspection.

17. Tim Young stated that dead branches have been removed at Plant 2. All work has been done with the exception the tree trunk which should not pose any concern.

18. PGMS stated that high water user numbers are coming down, but they continue to be the homeowners using the larger quantity of water. Tim Young stated that Hays County has a daily limit per household which drops to 210 gallons per day at Stage 4.

19. Thomas Doebner stated that we need to have PGMS send a letter to customers that we are moving back to Critical Drought Stage 3, with reflecting rate schedules. Tim Young stated that PGMS can take of this. There was one full month at Stage 4 drought levels.

20. Dale Olmstead stated that the EPP's last step is to have the site plan approved. Don Rauschuber is retiring and taking on no new work. RRWSC will need to find another engineer to take over required activities.

21. Dale Olmstead asked for PGMS to present to the board our estimates of the large expenditures regarding replacements. This is for evaluation and prioritization of funding needing to support these items. This will be addressed at the next meeting, as it was not able to be completed due to storms and other work priorities.

22. Thomas Doebner makes a motion to approve a resolution declaring Dale Olmstead, Marcus Krause, Kevin Rodriguez, and Lynn Blackmore as directors of Ruby Ranch Water Corporation and cancelling the April 4th, 2024, Directors Election. This was seconded by Lynn Blackmore. Motion was approved 6-0.

23. Dale Olmstead made a motion to approve the Annual Meeting Letter and Annual Meeting Agenda for the Annual meeting set for April 4th. This was seconded by Chris Whittenhall. Motion approved.

24. It was determined to have the next RRWSC Zoom Meeting on Thursday April 4, 2024, at 6:00 PM. Then host the annual meeting at 7:00 pm.

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25. Thomas Doebner quickly reviewed the financials and ASR usage, with no questions from the board including the budget for 2024.

26. The Zoom Meeting motion to adjourn from Chris Whittenhall and seconded by Thomas Doebner, and meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcus Krause, Secretary