

RUBY RANCH WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION
Meeting Minutes for April 4, 2024

Attendees: Thomas Doebner
Raul Saldivar
Dale Olmstead
Kevin Rodriguez
Marcus Krause
Chris Whittenhall (7 pm)

Excused: Lynn Blackmore

Professional Consultant:
Tim Young (PGMS)
Patrick King (PGMS)
Zachary King (PGMS)

Public: Al Gmitter, Steven Selger, Rex Ashley

Meeting opened for business at 6:25 pm, via Zoom Conference and Video Call

1. Raul Saldivar called the meeting to order and determined a quorum had been established.
2. A motion was made by Thomas Doebner and seconded by Marcus Krause to approve the minutes for the February 22, 2024 Regular Meeting. Motion carried 5-0, Chris Whittenhall had yet to attend.
3. Tim Young provided the Board with the Monthly Water System Operational Report dated April 4, 2024.
4. Tim Young provided the Board with the monthly pumping report through March 2024. Tim stated 1,680,300 gallons were pumped in February and 2,040,100 gallons were pumped in March. Tim reported that two regular bacteriological samples taken from the distribution system during February and March 2024 indicated no coliform organisms.
5. Tim stated the 2024 Backflow Testing Required letter has been drafted and is ready to send. PGMS has received 2 passing certificates for 2024. Tim stated PGMS had received 60 passing certificates out of 77 required for 2023. Tim will send letters to those 17 that failed to provide passing certificates requesting completion of the testing.
6. Meter Replacement Project from last reporting, 49 meters are at or above one million gallons.
7. PGMS report stated Auto Debit Bill Pay Initiative program continues to work as planned. ACH payments were initiated on February 14th and March 11th with no issues; with debits from 117 accounts each month.

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8. Tim stated the pending work list consisted of meter change-outs as they roll-over 1 million gallons. Plant #1 (Wells #1, #2, #3) have provided water to the distribution system for the last reporting period. Plant #2, specifically Well #4, has been dedicated to injecting Edwards water into Well #5. This configuration shall remain until May, or Plant #1 fails to keep up with customer use.
9. ASR Project: Samples taken after injecting 900,000 gallons showed significant improvement in the arsenic concentration. This further illustrated the need to continue injecting water so that the “buffer zone” is pushed away from the well pump. With this information, RRWSC began injecting (without objection from the BSEACD) water again mid-February. From the time injection began to the meter reads on March 14th, 357,800 additional gallons have been injected and that amount continues to grow. PGMS shall grab 2024 Inject Cycle samples and deliver those to the LCRA/ELS lab. Results will be forwarded to Mr. Vickers, Mr. Pyne, BSEACD, TCEQ, and anyone who may want the information.
10. Mr. David Pyne’s preliminary report was immediately forwarded to the BSEACD. District staff have reviewed and commented on the report and largely agree that more water should be injected. District staff did not object to a proposal that RRWSC begin injecting again to build the bubble. And as such, the injection was restarted. There will be a meeting at BSEACD on April 16th to discuss a variance to allow additional ASR injection during drought conditions.
11. The single pressure plane project has worked as intended for the last monitoring period. The system will normally be configured to allow Plant #1 to run for ten hours per day and Plant #2 will make up the remaining 14 hours. However, Plant #2 has been off-line to allow continuous injection to Well #5 adding to the ASR bubble. Plant #1 has sufficiently provided water capacity and pressure throughout this process. As customer demand allows Plant #2 will remain off-line as the BSEACD may allow additional ASR injection with changes to the current drought stage.
12. The Board continued discussion of the Emergency Preparedness Plan/Generator. PGMS was authorized to purchase a standby generator up to \$55,000. The final estimate by Capital Power Systems is now totaled at \$59,240. This increase in cost was discussed by the Board and PGMS to determine whether to move forward with installation. PGMS stated they felt they could work with CPS.
13. Went into recess at 7:00 pm to hold the annual meeting.
14. Resumed meeting at 7:55 pm.
15. Discussion continued on the purchase and installation of a 60 kw generator. Installation of the propane tank, tank pad, trenching and hook up would be an additional \$5,800. The time table for delivery of the generator would be several weeks. Tim Young will ask CPS if they could complete the additional installation work, that way the entire project would be in the hands of one contractor. A motion was made by Dale Olmstead and seconded by Raul Saldivar to authorize PGMS \$65,000 for CPS to install the power generator and an additional \$6,000 for the propane tank, tank pad, trenching and hook up. Motion carried 6-0.
16. Thomas Doebner stated that the Water Development Board requires a water loss audit once every 5 years for only Edwards Aquifer water. PGMS will look into having this done if required.

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17. The Board discussed with Tim Young the possibility of installing electronic meters in place of the manual reading meters. Tim stated that the cost to provide all customers with electronic meters was between \$85,000 and \$90,000 which would include software and magnetic receivers. The battery would be a 10 year life span. Tim stated manual reading meters may not be available sometime in the future, being replaced with only electronic meters. Tim was asked not to replace the 49 present meters reading over 1 million gallons so the Board could continue discussions on this item.

18. Thomas Doebner discussed the RRWSC Variance Request Staff recommendation preliminary draft document. This Variance request is to permit RRWSC to continue injection of water under ASR during drought conditions. A meeting has been set up by BSEACD to discuss this variance proposal on April 16th. A sub-committee of Thomas Doebner, Dale Olmstead, Chris Whittenhall, Joe Vickers and Tim Young has been formed to prepare for this meeting with BSEACD.

19. Thomas Doebner presented the Board with Cash Flow through February 2024 and a 2024 Monthly Well Pumpage indicating the water usage for the past 7 months. Water usage has exceeded the Edwards Aquifer pumpage allowed by BSEACD for the months of September, November, 2023 January, February and March 2024.

20. The Board will determine new officer positions at the next meeting.

21. The Board discussed long term capital investments with Timothy Young. Tim has prepared documentation of these issues and will forward to Board members. Discussion to continue at the next meeting.

20. It was determined to have the next RRWSC Zoom Meeting on Thursday, May 23, 2024, at 7:00 PM.

21. The Zoom Meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Selger, Public Secretary