# New Avenue Mutual Water Company

# **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Summary**

January 25, 2022

# Held virtually on Zoom, <u>Gilroy, CA</u>

Board Members New Avenue Mutual Water Company (NAMWCO); Mike DiPietro, Joe Cardinalli, Alan Heinzen, Jae Schwartz, Jim Armstrong, Dave Biasotti.

All Board Members present.

Guests: None

- 1. <u>Welcome</u> Meeting called to order by Mike DiPietro 7:05 pm
- 2. <u>Review and Approval of Minutes</u>: December 21, 2021. Motion to approve made by Dave, Second Alan, all in favor yes, minutes approved.
- 3. Financial Report, Jim Armstrong.

Jim Reported: Chase Checking balance \$272,401. Chase Savings balance \$168,670. (FYI Balance-December 2, 2021: Chase Checking balance \$266,056. Chase Savings balance \$168,669).

4. <u>Presidents Report - General Discussion</u>: Mike DiPietro.

Went directly to Action Item Manganese Update.

5. Manganese Action Plan and Updates: Jae Schwartz.

<u>Manganese</u>: Jae reported that we are current with the California State Water Quality report on the action items needed to correct the Manganese issues at Well #3. The corrective Action Plan was completed, written and submitted to the State in November 2021. The Manganese Public Notifications was posted and mailed out in December 2021 (Jae's Water Quality 1/25/22 outline attached).

Jae along with Jim and Alan met at Well #3 with Darin McCosker, Circuit Rider from California Rural Water Association, to review and analyzes the Manganese problem (Recommendations

from Circuit Rider attached). As part of the action plan a chlorination process was added at Well #3, after the chlorination was added and adequate time passed water samples were taken and the well was shut down. Wells 1 and 2 were turned on to provide water for our system. The Manganese water sample was tested and showed the manganese levels rose but had fallen since we added chlorination to the system. Also, last month's bacteriological reports were good with no issues.

The Board reviewed and discussed the recommendations from Daren McCosker. To summarize his report the following are a few of the highlights discussed: (1). To mitigate the problem a blending of water from NAMWCO Wells 1 and 2, (2). A chlorination process added to the Well, and (3). Board to issues a Request for Proposals (RFP) to perform a cost benefit analysis of the entire water system, including all testing, upgraded control systems, complete new piping, water storage tanks and new meters at all properties.

Some of the items on the list have been completed by us and are ongoing projects. Examples: we have conducted a system wide leak evaluation by an outside contractor, we have an ongoing plan to replace meters, water safety and quality testing is done on a regular basis per all state and local regulations, and we regularly monitor the system electronically and visually inspecting our service area. Also, items on the list were long term-ongoing and capital improvement items, some examples: replacing all the underground pipes for the water delivery system, replacing hydrants, replacing all meters, the addition of new underground holding storage tanks, and the installation of backup generators at all three wells were in the report

#### Action Item Well #3:

After discussion the following action plan for chlorination and testing was agreed to. 1) Run Well #3 for a short period of time (enough time needed to test) and take a test reading for manganese. 2) After the test is taken turn off Well # 3 and run Wells 1 and 2 to provide water to our customers. 3) After test results have been returned and evaluated, follow the same procedure again. The goal is to have three test samples to determine if the manganese problem has been resolved. 4) If the manganese problem is resolved report the findings to the state for their review and approval.

When approval is granted, we can again run Well #3 to provide water to NAMWCO system and no further action is needed except ongoing testing as in the past. If test fails, we will keep Well # 3 off, and reevaluate the process to determine best practices to follow.

### 6. Water Usage and Levels: Dave Biasotti.

Dave is in discussions with Jackie at Eigleberry Tax Service to best determine how our members high water usage summary can be incorporated into the monthly statements. Jackie is unable to include it on the current statement pages but there is a possibility she can add an insert page with the information. Dave will continue working with Jackie on the best method of distribution and if any additional costs to water company.

### 7. Road Committee – On Hold: Dave Biasotti.

<u>Action item on hold</u>. Roads Committee item to be kept on agenda for future discussions. It was agreed that this Item needs to be discussed at an in-person meeting to gather input from entire membership.

### 8. Maintenance and Operations: Alan Heinzen.

<u>Alan reported that Well #1-meter reading is not working correctly.</u> He saw Water District Employees at the Well last month, they did not give him information on what they were doing, however Alan believes they replaced meter. Alan had some control problems at Well #3 this month and they were resolved.

<u>Well #1 discrepancy in this month's usage report</u>: This past month Well # 1 pumped 16,733,000 units of water, in this time period last year we only pumped 40,000 units. We will track and keep a close watch on the next billing cycle if we are charged for the large amount of water to contact them to correct this obvious error. We would not pump 16 million units in this time period.

<u>Alan and crew installed a new meter at Ruiz property, 9555 Estates Drive.</u> Ruiz had a break on 2" PVC line on their property, it was repaired, however not until a large amount of water was lost. We anticipate a high cost of water usage will show on Ruiz bill. To be proactive Mike will contact them to tell them a high-water bill coming.

<u>Well water static levels:</u> Current aquafer levels are consistent for this time of the year. Well #1 Static level in December 2021 @ 102 feet and December 2020 @ 106.5. Well #3 Static level in December 2021 @ 164 fee and December 2020 @ 165.5 feet. Well #1 static levels lower due to heavy use while Well #3 is off line to correct manganese problem.

No hydrants were replaced in this period.

<u>9. Old Business:</u> Ciara Mullen and Emily Martinez Stein have still not been paid; Joe will contact Gloria at Eigleberry to have payments expedited.

<u>10. New Business</u>: Updated email addresses: Alan Heinzen - <u>Alan@garlic.com</u>, Jim Armstrong - <u>jarmstrong9508@gmail.com</u>, and Dave Biasotti - <u>dbiasotti@verizon.net</u>.

11. <u>Next Board Meeting</u>, February 17, 2022 @ 7 PM, Zoom meeting, Joe will send out notice.

Meeting adjourned 8:15 pm. Minutes respectfully submitted by Joe Cardinalli, Board Secretary.