

MARCH 2025 MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HIGHLANDS SUBDIVISION WATER DISTRICT

The Board met in a general meeting at 7082 SE Nighthawk on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 5:00 pm.

Board Members present:

Ramona Lang
Rick Mayer
Larry Scheffler

Others present:

Richard Davis
Dock Kerbow
Tom Sepelia
Bob Buxton
Jon Schmidt
Julie Mayer
Dianna Scheffler
Daryl Johnson
Mary Ann Johnson

Dorothy Perala
Rod Harmon
Shelly Hall
Patty Gerlach
Ron LeBlanc
Wayne Rice
Tom Biagi
Justin Alderman

By Zoom

Virginia
Sandy
MacKenzie

Secretary's Report & Treasurers Report

The minutes of the February 2025 meeting were read and approved.
The Treasurer's Report was examined and approved.

General Discussion:

Operations

- The backflow devices in the HSWD are to be tested in April. This is a yearly requirement.

Administrative

- George Stuart resigned as President and from the board as of December 19, 2024, citing health reasons. The board has accepted his resignation and the appropriate documents were signed and delivered to the county clerk.
- Richard Davis resigned from the board after the last meeting due to health and stress.
- Our zoom link is operational and is being used for this meeting.
- The board attended a training class provided by Niki Fisher of the SDAO on January 20.
- Rick Mayer is now the registered agent for the district.
- Notices were sent out to customers who were delinquent in their payments. We have received favorable responses thus far. At this time the district has no plans to disconnect service.
- One of our Certificates of Deposit that holds part of reserve funds comes due this month. The board decided to roll over the CD for another term.
- Rick reported on the meeting the board had with the county commissioners on March 5th. At the time we had 2 vacant positions in the board. With no one stepping up to fill those positions, according to the SDAO we would have to inform the commissioners of an impending vacancies. They would need to then appoint people to fill board positions. This would result in the people of the Highland Subdivision losing control of their water district. If we had to hire an outside company to manage the district it would involve considerable expense resulting in a substantial increase in water rates. We have since had two people file for water board vacancies, so the problem has been alleviated.
- We are in need of volunteers to help with the preparing of the budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.
- **The board addressed the false, misleading and slanderous accusations leveled at the board by Justin Alderman in his blog "The Prineville Review".** The financial report which we distributed showing that we have substantial funds in the bank to meet any emergencies as well as our monthly expenses. **Rick pointed out that the Board is in no way insolvent or misusing district resources as the article alleged.** The patrons of the district present at the meeting expressed unanimous confidence in the board.
- We will likely have more vacancies on the board in the next year. Rick asked anyone who might be interested in serving on the board to contact him.

- The board voted to institute a resolution establishing a policy allowing us to charge for time and expenses required to provide district documents for those requesting them under the state open records laws.

Board Actions

- Rick moved and Ramona seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the February 2025 meeting. The motion carried unanimously. Voting in favor Rick, Ramona, Larry. No abstentions or no votes.
- Rick moved and Larry seconded a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion carried unanimously. Voting in favor Rick, Ramona, Larry. No abstentions or no votes.
- Ramona moved and Rick seconded a motion to designate enlist the services of Busy Bee Accounting to handle billing at an estimated cost of \$575 per month. The motion carried unanimously. Voting in favor Rick, Ramona, Larry. No abstentions or no votes.
- Rick moved and Larry seconded a motion to roll over our expiring CD for another term. The motion carried unanimously. Voting in favor Rick, Ramona, Larry. No abstentions or no votes.
- Rick moved and Ramona seconded a motion to that the district may assess reasonable charges for the time and expenses required to provide documents requested under the Oregon Public Records Law. The motion carried unanimously. Voting in favor Rick, Ramona, Larry. No abstentions or no votes.
- Rick moved and Ramona seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously. Voting in favor Rick, Ramona, Larry. No abstentions or no votes.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.