



Tesuque Water Association (TWA) Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 10, 2019 **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Board Members Present: Joseph Riggs, President; Lisa Bick, Vice President; Domenick DeSantis, Treasurer; Allen Lewis, Secretary; P. Robert Martinez

Board Members Not Present:

Members Present: Myssie Acomb, Barry Acomb, Susan Dyke, Diana Desantis, Richard Fisher, Gretchen Goff, Julien Nieto, Mary Helen Perea, Virginia Romero, Tillie Lujan.

Non-Members Present: Rep Andrea Romero, NPT Water Mgr Steve Mastovich not present due to family issue, Mr. Ted Bagley, attorney working with Aamodt attending instead.

Operator Present: Rudy Martinez

Bookkeeper Present: Ana Berry

- 1) Call to Order 5:38pm
- 2) Welcome to all attending TMDWA members (Pres Riggs)
 - a) Asked all attending members to sign in with name & contact info if any changes since 2018
- 3) Welcome special guests.
 - a) District 46 Representative Ms. Andrea Romero
 - b) Aamodt attorney Mr. Ted Bagley
- 4) Welcome new Tesuque Elementary Principal Cheryl Romero
- 5) 2018~2019 annual review / accomplishments (Pres Riggs)
 - a) TMDWCA running very well. Not much to announce. Board members working nicely together.
 - b) Very good water, as per recent testing, continues to be readily available at what may be the best, or near best rate to members in the New Mexico.
- 6) Discussion Topics for Rep. Romero and Mr. Mastovich
 - a) How can our State Representative, Andrea Romero, most effectively interact with Steve Mastovich, the Water Master for our water district, to benefit our independent water association?

- i) Due to Mr. Mastovich's absence Rep Romero simply stated she will reach out to him and the water master manager's team to learn more about our Nambe, Pojaque, Tesuque (NPT) region and what projects are in play and what may be planned and to get a overall sense of how she can be of assistance.
 - ii) Rep Romero stated she has been in Tesuque since attending school at Tesuque Elementary, 8th grade, and it 17th generation New Mexican. She is the first of all those generations to run for and attain a political office. She is proud and honored to represent us and of the water history, the historic acequia systems and our way of life here and will do all she can to preserve and protect.
- b) What is the current status of AAMODT? How does it affect the TWA today? Is there still a moratorium on new wells?
- i) Mr. Ted Bagley stated Steve Mastovich is the present day guru on water issues in the NPT district and knows Aamodt very well. If any questions of information needed by any of us or by Rep Romero that he and his team will be able to assist.
 - ii) Aamodt is currently law, all appeals have been exhausted. Legislation is committed to meet the Aamodt demands and so far \$137million is in place to do so. Pueblos and the State of NM are working together to be sure the law is followed.
 - iii) Part of the water system along the Rio Grande has started. Full cost expected to be around \$430million. Legislation for that is on the Federal level and so far about \$250million is dedicated.
 - iv) Pres Riggs asked if Aamodt will impact our TMDWCA community system.
 - (1) Mr. Bagley replied our community system is priority call protected due to electing not to hook up to the pipeline. Pres Riggs stated that historically our system has never used more than 50% of our allotment and due to such slow growth in the water area our system provides service to, we probably never will, that plus our excellent water quality and low cost is why the election was overwhelmingly in favor of remaining independent.
 - v) Regarding moratorium. Mr. Bagley stated there never has been one on new wells as long as there is water right with the land purchased or there is availability to purchase water right(s). Pre-basin wells, before the water laws came in to play, can be transferred if available.
- c) Are the Pueblos required to apply for and get approval for new wells? What can the TWA do if the new Tesuque Casino well interferes with our water sources?

- i) Mr. Bagley. Yes the Pueblos are required to show that any planned water usage does not exceed the overall water Acre Feet allowance for the Pueblo area per year. They are a sovereign nation and apply to and inform the US Dept of the Interior. They must have the water available to support any planned project and are bound by that under Aamodt.
 - ii) If there is proven water impairment to our TMDWCA community wells that affects service to our membership then there are funds available, or will be made available, to assist in rectifying the reduced water issue. New wells in different areas, deeper wells, replenishment of our water by the Pueblo(s) etc.
- d) What state programs are available to assist independent water associations with infrastructure needs?
- i) Ms. Romero. 12 State funds, 25 Federal funding sources and 35 private. Also NM Water Resources Institute, Dept of Agriculture, Soil & Water Conservation Fund, NM Environmental Dept. Also Emergency Funds.
 - ii) Pres Riggs stated that our system has three days of water in tank to service our community in case of disaster; can we quickly drill a new well if needed? Reply, yes in case of emergency that can be done.
 - iii) Ms. Romero. There are capital outlay fund available for infrastructure repair. Need to submit plan in county and they apply as a county district to receive funds for water systems and other infrastructure projects. Pres Riggs asked if we can request and assessment in the plan and maybe get it funded? Yes, request it to Rep. Romero ASAP, funding would be July 1, 2020. She can work with Senator Worth to help secure funding. Need estimates of the assessment cost. Documents needed to apply via Legislative website to download and apply.
 - iv) Ms Romero stated she will follow up after the meeting and send Pres Riggs information about the funding available and how to apply.
- e) How can our water association help you in formulating and implementing policy regarding water issues in our district?, e.g., lobbying, voting, etc.
- i) Rep Romero. Invite her as needed to look into any issues or invite to future meetings. Invite Tesuque Pueblo rep's to meetings. Rep Romero stated she can help with that.
 - ii) In Jan-Feb the Water Data Act passed. Water managed by right in NM. Led by Melanie Stansbury in ABQ and co-sponsored by Rep Romero. There's no real data yet, just paper. Working on automated baselines and water rights distribution management. Any ideas on

how to help manage water or how to run water associations are welcome. About 650 independent water associations in NM, many must need infrastructure assessments and monetary assistance. Get together with other associations to discuss any ways to assist each other and learn how we all manage our systems.

7) Membership Q & A

a) Barry Acomb. Is the Tesuque Pueblo required to meter the well for the casino?

i) Yes, all wells per Aamodt agreement have meters, not all done yet but in progress. Same is true for all private domestic wells. They are being reported fairly regularly but improvement is needed. Our TMDWA wells #1 and #2 meters are reported to NPT water master's office monthly by our operator Rudy Martinez as well as water column heights for each.

8) Pres Riggs thanked our special guests and all attending members for very informative meeting.

9) **Begin board meeting** (members and guests who do not wish to stay for board meeting are excused)

a) Verification of Quorum. Verified by Pres. Riggs.

10) Bookkeeper's Report (Ana)

a) Review April, May and June reports. Nothing unusual noted. All in order.

b) 2018 TMDWA Agreed-Upon Procedures (AUP) Audit review and approval.

i) AUP was received by Board Members before this meeting. Pres Riggs motioned to approve. VP Bick seconded. All voted to approve. Passed.

c) Status of membership account transfers of three Rosanna Drive properties from Sidelia Griego to new owners Desiree Granado and Kadima Levanha. Only property under Griego is 2B Rosanna.

i) Ms. Granado has contacted Ana and is in progress of paying the \$500 transfer fee in increments as she can afford to. Should be paid in full fairly soon.

ii) Ms Levanha has very recently closed on house and is in progress of moving into it. Allen stated he will remind her of the water transfer required and will send her Ana's contact information.

d) Richard Belian water leak adjustment

i) 89k gallons lost. Water bill adjustment asked for is \$506.67 when averaged against standard monthly usage for time of year accident occurred. Pipe was broken due to damage by vehicle. Mr. Belian's son found the "hit and run" damage while Mr. Belian was out of town. Mr. Belian call for repair right away and paid for it. Pres Riggs motioned to approve request since Mr. Belian took action as soon as possible. VP Bick seconded, all voted affirmative, motion

passed. The meter was also not working for a month probably due to the accident. Mr. Belian will be billed for what would be usual usage of the month for the leak and the missed meter.

- e) Kenly Maldonado new membership approval. Membership and service install fees have been paid. Request is for membership, service line and new meter install. The new member fee of \$1000 has been paid, new service install is usually around \$2000 and will be billed when completed. Property is on 13 Griego Hill Road. Pres Riggs motioned to approve request for new membership. VP Bick seconded. All voted affirmative. Membership for Mr. Maldonado is passed and approved.

11) Financial Report (Domenick)

- a) Bank software is now running better and seems to be working fine. Domenick can check status of TMDWCA accounts any time via PC or Smartphone and is alerted of any activity. Accounts are in good order. A small loss first part of 2019 due to Well #1 expenses and AUP report but should be back into profit area by end of 2019.

- b) Purchase of CDs for investment

- i) Board is again looking into several possible options for CD investment. Plan is to commit maximum 50% of assets to be sure emergency funds are available. Probably into 9 or 12mo CDs each time. If funds are needed from CD accounts only penalty is what would have been the accrued interest equity. No loss.

- (1) Ms. Susan Dyke expressed concern about The Water Board deciding on transferring membership's funds into CDs due to unfortunate incident of another board she was familiar with investing into what was to be a lucrative investment and ended up losing most of the assets. This Board assured her we are only looking at 50% of the account into CD's, not high yield but quite safe and the returns are better than sitting in a no-interest bank's account.

12) Operator's report (Rudy)

- a) Monthly reports

- i) April

- (1) 4/4/19 Locate at 72 Griego Hill
 - (2) 4/6/19 Checked water levels in both wells
 - (3) 4/10/19 Locate at 12 Jiminez/Romero Rd.
 - (4) 4/17/19 Cut out for repairs at Richard Belian's property.

(5) 4/25/19 Cut in after repairs at Richard Belian's property.

(6) 4/30/19 Meters read and recorded.

ii) May

(1) 5/1/19 Emergency locate 5 Camino las Quatas.

(2) 5/7/19 checked water levels in both wells.

(3) 5/20/19 Replaced stopped meter Richard Belian's property.

(4) 5/30/19 Emergency locate 1565 Bishop's Lodge Rd.

(5) 5/31/19 Meters read and recorded.

iii) June

(1) 6/7/19 checked water levels in both wells.

(2) 6/25/19 Standard locate

(3) 6/30/19 Meters read and recorded on time.

b) Well column depth (feet) reports for Dec through July 2019.

i) 12/5/2018: Well 1, RG7055 45.5 | Well 2, RG7055S 111.5

ii) 1/17/2019: Well 1, 46 | Well 2, 113.9

iii) 2/5/2019: Well 1, 46 | Well 2, 113.7

iv) 3/6/2019: Well 1, 45.5 | Well 2, 111

v) 4/6/2019: Well 1, 46 | Well 2, 113.5

vi) 5/7/2019: Well 1, 45 | Well 2, 111

vii) 6/7 2019: Well 1, 45 | Well 2, 111.5

viii) 7/5/2019: Well 1, 46 | Well 2, 112

13) Old Business

a) Status of dog-waste bag dispenser and notice pole(s).

i) Check County Ordinance to possible print on aluminum sign and attach to pole as notice.

(1) Lisa Bick checking in to that and cost of pole and bags.

(2) Joseph moved to authorize up to \$300 toward the pole, bags and installation. If more than that then it will be discussed at next board meeting. Allen seconded. All voted affirmative.

(a) Post meeting note. It has since been challenged by Ms. Susan Dyke as not being fair to spend membership's money to help protect a trail (Arroyo Griego) from dog waste

that happens to be a board member's trail of choice while other trails are also available in other areas the TMDWCA serves.

- 14) Myssie Acomb expressed concern about the lowering of Arroyo Griego every time the road grader comes in to level and smooth potholes. Board members explained this was brought to the attention of SF County Maintenance late 2017 due to danger to water and gas pipes. Many loads of a sand mix that is finer than native and compacts into a semi concrete type surface during drive over use was dumped and graded and compacted and has been more compacted since then by traffic. It has held up better and can be seen when walking up Arroyo Griego toward the trail. The surface is noticeably denser. It seems to be okay presently and there has not been a major "wash out" like there was past couple of years, yet.....However, we urge Myssie and Barry and all members who use Arroyo Griego to please monitor levels and report concerns if it surface seems to be getting alarmingly low again and The Board will alert county road maintenance.
- 15) Pres Riggs motioned to adjourn at 7:10pm. All agree. Meeting adjourned.

Next Board Meeting
Wednesday 11 Sept 2019, 5:30pm
Tesuque Elementary School Library