CENTRAL MT REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY
Harlowton, MT 59036
October 11. 2023
MINUTES

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Chairman Kalitowski called the meeting to order and asked all in attendance to introduce themselves.

IN ATTENDANCE: Jim Kalitowski, Chairman; Dave Liggett; Sec./Treasurer; Paul Otten, Harlowton; Bob Church, Great West Engineering; Susan Hayes, Great West engineering; Amy Deitchler, Great West Engineering; Allen Davis, Ryegate; Laura Lacocco, Ryegate; Dennis Lehfledt, Ryegate; Sam Klepzig, O&M Manager: Bob Schuchard, Harlowton; Scott Kouar, Shawmut/Deadman's; Lon Sibley, Roundup; Monty Sealey, Project & Mgmt Services; Josh Jabelara, MAP; Marie Nopper, Shawmut/Deadman's; On-Line: Greg Kruzich, BOR; Rick Duncan, MT DNRC (Phone); Connie Roussan, Melstone and Dave Picchioni by Proxy; Robert Schuchard, Harlowton.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2023 MINUTES: Lon Sibley moved to approve the Sept. 13 Minutes; seconded by Paul Otten; motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND CURRENT BILLS: The First Security bank starting balance was reported to be ($)05,449) with deposits of $86,753 for a balance of ($19,155). Current bills totaled $33,351, leaving a balance of ($52,506).

The beginning balance at Stockman Bank was reported as ($1,242,351) After Deposits and current bills the ending balance was ($121,052).

The current bills for payment included: Lee Enterprises for Legal Ad for $477.18; Westwind Web Inv. 4421 for $42.50; John Lehfeldt-easement for $4,660.00; Douglas Wilson-Audit for $9,600.00; Local Government Services-Annual Rpt Fee for $1,100.00; Big Horn Public Affairs Inv. 1475 for $2,500.00; Project & Mgmt Services Inv RW023009 for $8,818.20; Key Insurance Inv. 16388 for $2,346.00; Great West Eng. Inv. 30313 for $13,516.69; C&C Excavation Pay Est #15 for $15,164.37; MT Dept of Rev. 1% Tax #15 for $153.18; COP Construction Pay Est #2 for $3,610,728.00; MT Dept of Rev 1% Tax #2B for $36,472.00; C&C Excavation Pay Est #5 IIA for $790,470.21; MT Dept of Rev 1% Tax #5 for $7,984.55; Great West Eng Inv. 30314 for $117,013.86: Great West Eng. Inv 30261 for $54,605.43; Great West Eng Inv 30259 for $758.00; Great West Eng Inv 30263 for $832.00; Great West Eng. Inv 30120 for $5,574.22; Great West Eng. Inv 30257 for $4,738.25; Great West Eng Inv 30265 for $2,218.50 for a total of $4,689,733.14.

Dave Liggett moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills subject to receipt of reimbursements; Seconded by Lon Sibley; motion carried.

Monty Explained that the O&M loan at First Security bank was due by mid-November and it needs to be extended and pay the interest up to date. Dave Liggett moved to do both; seconded

by Paul Otten; motion carried. Monty also asked to approve an additional bill for Mid Rivers for internet at Lewistown in the amount of $20.95; moved by Paul Otten, seconded by Lon Sibley; motion carried.

HARLOWTON WATER DISCUSSION: Bob Church explained the DEQ requirement that we add chemical to Harlowton water under the Lead and Copper rules. That required an injection system, now added, until at least 6 month's-worth of testing to see if necessary permanently. It had to install at the entry point of CMRWA water into the Harlowton distribution system (before the first user). Sam will have to sample same before rural customers.

DEQ will not let home-owners take their own samples. The tests are $27 each and have to be driven to Billings for lab review

Discussion followed about water quality and the response from Harlowton citizens. It seems the response is quite positive from area water users. Robert Schuchard noted that it did leave spots on his vehicle when he washed it and on silverware at home. It was noted that even in Lewistown that is true. Bob Church mentioned that this water is not soft; actually has a bit of hardness to it, but hugely less than Roundup water.

RIBBON CUTTING: Bob Church reported that the Ribbon Cutting for Harlowton Water is set for the Kiwanis Club building on Wednesday, October 18 at 12"00 Noon. Notices have been sent out to Congressional Offices, Federal and State Agencies, Local Officials, Past Board Members, etc. We expect between 75 -100 people to attend. We will set up a projector so Senators Daines and Tester can say a few words. It is thought we should say something on behalf of the Water Authority, Harlowton, etc. If there is time we may do a short tour of facilities. Lunch will be served. Great West and Project & Management Services will pay for the lunch.

PHASE I – STATUS: Amy reported that substantially complete notices have been prepared and sent for all schedules; Punch lists are being worked on by COP (nearly done) and C&C Excavation.

It was noted that it is intended for the $3,910,000 SRF loan to be closed out on November 30, 2023. We will owe interest at that time. The loan will be picked up as part of RD's agreement. Bob is working on a strategy for acquiring help with the interest payment.

O & M – SAM KLEPZIG: Sam handed out pictures of the top of one of our meter pits to demonstrate to the Board what is included. He also explained the chlorine residuals and that we are trying to bring them down as much as possible. He has been talking to DEQ about residuals.

PHASE II STATUS: In Phase IIA C & C Excavation has gone past the Highway and is moving on east along Oka RD. In Phase IIB COP Construction have gotten to Red Hill RD. They are hoping to get all main-line in before winter shutdown. They will come back to put in service connections.

In Phase IIC we had a bid opening last month COP Construction was the low bidder. We cannot award the contract until we get the Title Work finished and approved by our legal counsel. We are obligated to award within 60 days or the pricing is no longer valid.

An agreement for a power line in Phase IIA with Northwestern Energy was discussed. The estimated cost is $11,549.00. Lon Sibley moved to accept the agreement; seconded by Paul Otten; motion carried.

PHASE IV STATUS: The fieldwork for cultural and environmental issues is complete. The report is being worked on. With the approximately $1.6 million grant from DNRC, Great West is proceeding with design. When we acquire all the easements we can then roll into full design. We are still waiting for word about our Uniform Application for $3.8 million grant.

The new federal funds include Phases III & IIIA. The environmental field work is beginning. We should begin the cultural work this week . There will be lots of use of Public Right of Ways. We will soon be focusing on design and getting ready. Ryegate is now considered Phase IIIB.

FOUR YEAR PLAN: Bob Church handed out an updated Four-Year Plan document. It was discussed where Hobson fits into the system. In discussions with the Hobson Mayor he suggested because they are still working on the feasibility of a distribution system and since we will be going right past Ryegate with Phase II, we should add Ryegate back into the mix and deal with them as we go by. Hobson is still trying to put things together but they are quite a ways out timewise.

It was also noted that even though Lavina had funds available for a PER, the Mayor just told us they are not doing the PER. Several persons in Lavina have expressed interest in hooking up as we come through.

WATER WELLS 4 & 5: Bob Church said we are opening bids next Tuesday. He anticipated two bidders; Hydro Resources and Central Drilling; as long as these wells are similar to Well #3.

RD: No representatives were on from RD.

BOR: Greg Kruzich noted progress with Financials and reiterated the need to submit our Progress Report. Lindsey will attend the Ribbon Cutting in Harlowton.

MT DNRC: Rick Duncan mentioned the FONSI and EA and asked Greg Kruzich if there are any other cooperating agencies. Rick also mentioned he thought the Administrative funds should happen soon as he thinks the signatures have been secured.

OTHER BUSINESS: Monty Sealey stated that Fergus Electric will be providing the power hook-up for the Hochmuth site in Phase IIC. We need to agree to pay for an easement of plus or minus ½ mile. Paul Otten moved to approve such an agreement; seconded by Lon Sibley; motion carried.

There being no other business for CMRWA the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

Monty L. Sealey, Project Administrator

11/8/23
Date