CENTRAL MT REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY
Harlowton, MT 59036
March 12, 2025
MEETING MINUTES

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- CMRWA: Sam Klepzig, Monty Sealey
- Great West Engineering: Amy Deitchler, Susan Hayes, Cheri Anderson
- Shawmut-Deadman's Basin Water District: Scott Keller
- Funding Agencies: Rick Duncan, Greg Kruzich, Sandie Koenig
- MMCWD: Warren Hansen
- Sunset Colony:
- Harlowton Board Members: Jim Kalitowski, Paul Otten
- Ryegate Board Member: Allen Davis
- Roundup Board Members: Dave Picchioni, Lon Sibley, Dave Liggett
- Stahly: Matt Smith
- Innova:
- Big Horn Public Affairs: Jennifer Johnson
- Public: Debbie Willumson, Brenda Huffman

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 12, 2025.

- Made a motion to approve the February minutes; Alan Davis made the motion, Paul Otten seconded; the motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND CURRENT BILLS

- Motion made by Dave Ligget to pass the bills, seconded by Alan Davis, the motion passed to pay the bills

Invoices					
Vendor	Invoice	Category	Amount	Bank	Funding Source
Bighorn Public Affairs	1589	General Administration	$2,500.00	1st Sec	General Admin
Great West Eng.	35177	Phase II – Construction Management	$76,961.92	1st Sec	SRF
Great West Eng.	35178	Phase IV & Well 5 Connecting Infra.	$42,792.81	Stock	BOR
Great West Eng.	35179	Phase IV – Design	$8,383.20	Stock	BOR
Great West Eng.	35180	Phase III – Design	$45,030.08	Stock	BOR
Great West Eng.	35181	Data Acquisition & Database Updating	$3,811.00	1st Sec	General Admin
C&C Excavation	Pay App 5	Phase IV – Construction	$357,642.71	Stock	BOR
MT Dept of Rev.	1% Tax #5	Phase IV – Construction	$3,612.55	Stock	BOR
COP Construction	Pay App 15	Phase IIC – Construction	$18,861.84	1st Sec	WRF-24563
MT Dept of Rev.	1% Tax #5	Phase IIC – Construction	$190.52	1st Sec	WRF-24563
NorthWestern Energy	Service Ext.	Phase IV- Construction	$3,696.00	Stock	BOR
Sweet Grass Title	2025020013	PH III – Title Insurance	$321.00	Stock	BOR
Townsend Electric	0021327-N	PH II – Battery Replace	$15,083.64	Stock	BOR
MT Group	1713	Legal Assistance	$4,000.00	1st Sec	Admin
Project & Management	RW025002	PH II-IV – Project Administration	$5,775.00	Stock	BOR
Project & Management	RW025002A	General Administration	$1,541.36	1st Sec	General Admin
Mid Rivers	8740500	General Administration	$30.35	1st Sec	General Admin
Peggy Butler	Easement	PH III – Land Acquisition	$12,000.00	Stock	BOR
State of Montana	Fee	LGS – Filing Fee	$2,500.00	1st Sec	General Admin
Innova, LLC	1222	Financial Management	$409.00	1st Sec	General Admin
John Heiken	Easement	PH III – Land Acquisition	$3,560.00	Stock	BOR
J.C. Jensen, Inc	Easement	PH III – Land Acquisition	$41,190.00	Stock	BOR
Lehfeldt Ranch Corp.	Easement	PH III – Land Acquisition	$10,000.00	Stock	BOR
		Total Invoices	$659,892.98		

O & M REPORT: Sam Klepzig:

- Bac-T came back good
- Trying to get water over to Roundup.
- Clay valve let loose at E Redhill Rd vault and a pipe broke at the connection between Ph 2B and Ph 2C
    - Working on answers as to why this would happen when no water is running
    - Glass at the top shows if the valve is open or closed and the glass broke
    - Working with Pipestone on this
    - Will update the board as more information is available.
    - GWE, MMI, COP, and CMRWA all met onsite on Monday 3/10 to look things over.

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES UPDATE

- Bighorn Public Affairs
    - Jennifer: We just had to at least address the problem of the fiscal year 2025 budget, seeing how we're about halfway into that year. But just watching your monies and I'm just really waiting too on a number of political appointees to be approved, I guess to start their jobs within the Department of the Interior we've got probably four or five political appointees there, right now, even a week and a half ago, we only had one political appointee within interior. Kind of a bottleneck in getting through the personnel department that the Trump administration has set up. A lot of these folks have worked at the Department of the Interior before they worked under Trump. These are people with good policy experience that we need to be there to help the administration understand, the details of how the Interior Department and Bureau of Reclamation works at this federal level here in DC.
    - Monty got an email from Jennifer, and Troy Downing (congressman) will be there on Monday at 2:00 pm in Harlowton at the library or at the City of Roundup depending on the agreed upon meeting place. Monty will let people know.
        - Anyone that wants to attend is welcome to come
    - House passed the CR and goes to Senate next, this is to avoid a government shutdown which will start Friday at midnight if the CR is not passed.

- State Legislature
    - Rick Duncan, DNRC:
        - Funding bill passed it out of long range committee
        - We may have $10 million of authority in the next biennium if it passes as is.
        - But we won't have the money to cover that.
        - We'll write contracts for the amount of money that we have

PHASE II-TO ROUNDUP-STATUS

- Schedule Update: Susan Hays:
    - 2A is complete
    - 2B is substantially complete
    - PRV failed at E Redhill Rd and working to address that
    - 2C is still on schedule right now. Should be moving water into the Roundup tank by the first week in April
        - COP has said that their previously submitted schedule is still accurate.
- Golden Valley County Road Request – Ph 2B: Susan Hayes
    - Would like additional gravel on 3 miles of Emmory Rd
    - Some of the gravel got pushed back in the trench
    - Bob has asked for a price for this work
    - They will need to Subcontract this - $70,500 is the estimate
    - There is funding available for this work
    - GWE recommends to move forward with this request
        - Motion to approve by Dave Ligget, motion seconded by Alan Davis, motion carried

PHASE IV TO MELSTONE-STATUS

- Funding discussion
- Schedule update: Susan Hayes:
    - C&C is on track with their schedule
    - They had to shut down for weather but nothing significant
    - Sage grouse will need to be avoided
    - Susan has the agreement for new electrical service for the Griffith Road Vault, Jim will need to sign this
- Change Order 2: Susan Hayes:
    - Additional services being added
    - Water line crossings not marked

    - Gas main not identified
    - Fill hydrant added
    - $30,631.29 is the CO total and 64 days. Recommend approving this
        - Motion to approve made by Alan Davis, Paul Otten seconded, motion carried.
- Loan closing status
    - Susan Hayes:
        - The resolution is not ready right now, there is missing information still
        - Hoping to have this resolution for the April board meeting
        - Close this loan later in April or early May
        - RD requirements are financial statements no more than 90 days old, this has been provided. Budget for income and expenses, draft debt, cert from borrower that they cannot refinanced, application for partial release subordination or consent.
            - All of the information is required for the parity agreement needed from RD.

PH III TO BROADVIEW-STATUS

- DNRC grant agreement
    - Rick Duncan:
        - Initial draft has been provided
        - Need up to date work plan and budget to attach to the draft
        - Will finalize early next month
- All private easements in hand
    - Bob has all the easements
- State, MDT and Town easements
    - Need easements from MDT, County, and Broadview
- Schedule Update
    - Still designing, hoping to submit the end of the month
    - Alignment is finalized
    - Don't have title insurance for the ones right down next to Broadview because they're Yellowstone County.

PH III A-TO SHAWMUT/DEADMAN'S BASIN-STATUS

- Environmental and Cultural Work
    - No active design yet
    - Aquatic resources is complete
    - Archeologist will go out in the spring for field work
    - Planned for 2027 completed construction

PHASE III B-TO RYEGATE-STATUS

- Be careful about adding services, they need to have manganese issue in order to use funding monies

WELLS 4 & 5 SYSTEM CONNECTION-STATUS

- Bid opening was held January 23, 2025
    - COP is the low bidder
        - Notice of Award has been signed, sent to COP
        - Agreement ready for signature
- Susan Hayes gave update:
- COP has returned the contract docs for signature. Jim will sign.
- COP has submittals as soon as they have the signed contract
- MM is handling this project so contracts, submittals, etc goes to them
- COP will be asked to submit a schedule ASAP. There are long lead items on this project (pumps, transformers, etc)
- Monty wants COP made aware that this project is a high priority and needs to move forward quickly. COP needs to order supplies ASAP.
- Motion to sign agreement made by Alan Davis, motion seconded by Dave Ligget, motion carried

PHASE V TO HOBSON-STATUS

- No updates right now
- Finishing water model to complete cost estimate

BOR – Greg Kruzich

- Nothing to add

DNRC - Rick

- Legislature is on transmittal break

RD

- No one was on the call

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

- April 9, 2025

OTHER BUSINESS

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Central Montana Regional Water Authority
Mar 12, 2025
Harlowton, MT 59036

Name	Address	Representing	E-mail/Telephone
Susan Hayes		GWE	
Warren Hansen		MMCWD	
Paul Otten		Harlo	
Cheri Anderson		GWE	
Debbie Williamson			
Brenda Huffman			
Greg Kruzich		BOR	
Amy Deitemeier		GWE	
Sam Klepzig		CMRWA	
Lon Sibley		Roundup	
Dave Pichiari		Roundup	
Rick Duncan		DNRC	
Sandie Koenig		DEQ	

Central Montana Regional Water Authority
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Name	Address	Representing	E-mail/Telephone
JIM KALITOWSKI		HARLO	
Dave Liggett		Roundup	
ALLEN DAVIS		RYEGATE	
Matt Smith		Stanley Eng	
Scott Keller		Shawmut Deadman's	