CENTRAL MT REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY
Harlowton, MT 59036
July 09, 2025
MEETING MINUTES

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- CMRWA: Sam Klepzig, Monty Sealey
- Great West Engineering: Amy Deitchler, Bob Church
- Shawmut-Deadman's Basin Water District: Scott Keller
- Funding Agencies: Greg Kruzich, Anna Miller
- MMCWD: Warren Hansen, Tom Harsh
- Sunset Colony:
- Harlowton Board Members: Jim Kalitowski, Paul Otten
- Ryegate Board Member: Allen Davis
- Roundup Board Members: Lon Sibley, Dave Liggett, Dave Picchioni
- Stahly: Matt Smith
- Innova:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM June 11, 2025.

- Motion to approve the June minutes by Allen, motion seconded by Liggett, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND CURRENT BILLS

- Motion to approve the bills to pay by Dave L., motion seconded by Allen, motion carried.

Invoices					
Vendor	**Invoice**	**Category**	**Amount**	**Bank**	**Funding Source**
Great West Eng	36551	PH IIC – Construction Management	$55,584.91	1st Sec	SRF
Great West Eng	36552	PH III & IIIA – Aquatic Resource	$1,125.75	Stock	BOR- PH 3A
Great West Eng	36553	PH IV – Connecting Infrastructure	$59,775.61	Stock	BOR – PH 4
Great West Eng	36554	PH III – Design Tasks	$55,237.71	Stock	BOR – PH 3
Great West Eng	36555	PH IIIA – Design Tasks	$6,108.15	Stock	BOR – PH 3A
Bighorn Public Aff.	1627	General Administration	$2,500.00	1st Sec	General Admin
Westwind Web	5542, 5556	Website Maintenance	$355.00	1st Sec	General Admin
Project & Mgmt Serv	RW02506A	Project Administration	$2,010.45	1st Sec	General Admin
Project & Mgmt Serv	RW02506	PH II, III, IV - Project Administration/Coordination	$6,075.00	Stock	BOR- PH 4
Innova, LLC	1317	Accounting	$791.50	1st Sec	General Admin
John Pickar	Easement	PH II - Land Acquisition	$1,500.00	Stock	BOR – PH 2
C&C Excavation	Pay App 9	PH IV – Construction	$705,578.27	Stock	BOR – PH 4
MT Dept. of Rev	1% Tax 9	PH IV – Construction	$7,127.05	Stock	BOR– PH 4
Townsend Controls	0021425-IN	Construction-Battery/UPS Upgrade	$27,252.07	Stock	BOR– PH 4
Townsend Controls	0021481-IN	Construction-Battery/UPS Upgrade	$1,544.05	Stock	BOR– PH 4
Townsend Controls	0021199-IN	Construction-Battery/UPS Upgrade	$1,296.45	Stock	BOR– PH 4
Townsend Controls	0021348-IN	Construction-Battery/UPS Upgrade	$4,403.55	Stock	BOR– PH 4
Sweet Grass Title	2025030010	Land Acquisition	$200.00	Stock	BOR – PH 3
Sweet Grass Title	2025050025	Land Acquisition	$200.00	Stock	BOR – PH 3
		Total Invoices	$938,665.52		

O & M REPORT Sam Klepzig and Monty Sealey

- Monty gave an update on operations and maintenance account status.
- Fergus Electric – Sam reported that Mike Neely is working on programming wells so that they are blocked out during the power company's demand charge periods.

- Baker Hughes Issue – There was extensive discussion about the electrical issues at Well 3. Sam reported that they have obtained new fuses from Baker Hughes and Well 3 is running again. Sam is going to contact Fergus Electric to determine the cause of power surges at Well 3 and work towards a long term solution. The Board discussed the pros and cons of paying Northwest Pipe for the Baker Hughes bill of $12,376. The Board voted to proceed with paying Northwest Pipe in full.
- **Non-payment by customers-** There is one customer on Phase 2 that is not paying their water bills. Sam provided some suggestions about how this was dealt with on other systems he has worked for. Sam, Monty, and Bob are going to work on alternative approaches, and this will be a point of discussion at future meetings.
- We discussed using Townsend as a backup to Mike Neeley. Sam will discuss this with them to get their thoughts.

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES UPDATE

- Bighorn Public Affairs Monty provided an update on recent correspondence with Jennifer
- State Legislature HB 11 was signed by governor providing regional water funding for the next biennium

PHASE II-TO ROUNDUP-STATUS

- Schedule Update – Amy provided update on COP's punchlist for 2C. Still keeping full $100K retainage on contract
- Ribbon Cutting The Board had a discussion about various alternative dates and times for the Roundup Ribbon Cutting. August 13th or 14th was discussed. This date will be finalized and sent out to the Board and a press release.

PHASE IV TO MELSTONE-STATUS

- Schedule update**: Continuing to work towards Roundup. Approximately 4 miles left to install to Roundup but they are fighting rock. Also working east. Melstone vault will be installed shortly. Change Order No. 4 was approved. Alan motioned, seconded by Lon 2nd – motion carried.**
- Loan closing status/Coverage Report Will close Phase 4 loan in September

PH III TO BROADVIEW-STATUS

- DNRC grant agreement - Received for $2.6M
- State, MDT and Town easements Finalizing permit documents for MDT and Towns, Already have State easement
- Fergus Electric – Middle Rd PRV and Lavina Tank Working with Landowners on electrical easements
- NWE – Broadview booster pump, Broadview meter pit
- Schedule Update: Submitting to DEQ within the next week, plan on bidding in August
- CMRWA will need to do an Eagle survey next spring for this project. Great West is working with BOR to narrow down the scope of the area needed to be investigated for the survey. Bob explained how that will be coordinated with the contractor selected for Phase 3.

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

- Environmental and Cultural Work Environmental field work complete – Cultural field work to be completed in August
- Submitted Grant Application for $2.3M to DNRC and SRF Loan Application
- Working with BOR on contracting federal funding

PHASE III B-TO RYEGATE-Matt Smith gave an update that they are continuing to proceed with design activities on the pipeline to Ryegate.

WELLS 4 & 5 SYSTEM CONNECTION-STATUS

- Schedule update Project start date around August 1st
- Pre-construction meeting scheduled for July 15th.

MIDDLE MUSSELSHELL DISTRICT Matt Smith gave an update that they are continuing to work with DEQ on the approved scope of the project. Plan on bidding project in 2026.

PHASE V TO HOBSON-STATUS

BOR

- Greg reported that the Grant Contract for Phase 3A and 5 funding is currently being reviewed by DOGE

DNRC

RD

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

- August 13, 2025

OTHER BUSINESS

- Task Order 49 for Great West to conduct the long term basin monitoring and report for 2025 was presented to the Board. Moved by Dave L and seconded by Allen, motion carried
- Monty explained trade in for new truck for Sam. Net cost $19,919 with trade in. Moved by Dave L, seconded by Paul, motion carried.
- Audit is contracted and will start work soon with Melissa.