CENTRAL MT REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY
Harlowton, MT 59036
October 8, 2025
MEETING MINUTES

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- CMRWA: Sam Klepzig, Monty Sealey
- Great West Engineering: Susan Hayes, Amy Deitchler, Bob Church
- Shawmut-Deadman's Basin Water District: Scott Keller
- Funding Agencies: Shawna Swanz, Greg Kruzich, Brenda Huffman, Anna Miller
- MMCWD: Gary and Cheri Floeringer
- Sunset Colony:
- Harlowton Board Members: Jim Kalitowski, Jeff Sell, Paul Otten
- Ryegate Board Member: Allen Davis
- Roundup Board Members: Dave Ligget, Lon Sibley
- Stahly: Matt Smith
- Innova:
  (Sign-in Sheets attached)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM September 10, 2025.

- **Motion** to approve the September minutes by Allen, motion seconded by Paul, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND CURRENT BILLS

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

Invoices					
Vendor	**Invoice**	**Category**	**Amount**	**Bank**	**Funding Source**
Great West Engineering	37480	PH II - Construction Management	$6,908.20	1st Sec	WRF-24563
Great West Engineering	37482	PH III & IIIA - Aquatic Resource & Cultural	$1,582.00	Stock	BOR - IIIA
Great West Engineering	37481	PH IV & Well 5 - Construction Mgmt & RPR	$83,160.86	Stock	BOR - IV
Great West Engineering	37483	PH IIIA - Design Tasks	$3,630.50	Stock	BOR - IIIA
Great West Engineering	37484	Judith Basin Monitoring: Data Acquisition	$3,215.59	1st Sec	General Admin
C&C Excavation	Pay App 12	PH IV - Construction (Pipeline)	$588,674.58	Stock	BOR - IV
MT Gross Receipts Tax	1% Tax 12	PH IV - Construction (Pipeline)	$5,946.21	Stock	BOR - IV
Innova	1378	Accounting	$335.50	1st Sec	General Admin
COP Construction	Pay App 2	PH IV - Construction (Wells 4 and 5)	$1,201,356.05	Stock	BOR - IV
MT Gross Receipts Tax	1% Tax 2	PH IV - Construction (Wells 4 and 5)	$12,134.91	Stock	BOR - IV
Northwest Pipe Fittings	7434522	Repair Parts	$131.81	1st Sec	General Admin
Project & Mgmt Services	RW025009-A	Administration	$1,741.21	1st Sec	General Admin
Project & Mgmt Services	RW02509	Administration/Coordination	$6,460.00	Stock	BOR - III
Mid Rivers Communication	8740500	Water Monitoring	$30.15	1st Sec	General Admin
Urich Law Firm	9/26/2025	PH III - Legal Services	$693.00	Stock	BOR - III
Dorsey & Whitney	4113735	PH IV - Bonding Services $3,000,000 Loan	$20,000.00	1st Sec	WRF-26601
Dorsey & Whitney	4113731	PH II Well - Bonding Services $1,700,000 Loan	$20,000.00	1st Sec	WRF-26602
Great West Engineering	37479	PH III - Pipeline Projecting Infra Projects	$27,701.46	Stock	BOR - III
Fergus Electric	Middle Rd PRV	PH III - Electric Service (Construction Cost)	$43,040.00	Stock	BOR - III
Fergus Electric	Lavina Tank	PH III - Electric Service (Construction Cost)	$148,580.00	Stock	BOR - III
		Total Invoices	**$2,175,322.03**		

O & M REPORT – Sam Klepzig

- Monty Report on O&M Account
- Fergus Electric – currently no power bumps occurring, irrigation season is over. Once we have more monitoring in place it will allow us to see better what is going on.
- Well 3
    - Contract with Central Drilling to pull and replace pump/motor
    - Water use has dropped off since August and Lane with Central Drilling has everything ordered to come out and do the work. We can work with Well 2 while doing the Well 3 work.
- Everything else is looking good, BacT are coming back good, Olive Tank is getting it's new level indicator today, and the backup batteries are getting put in place.
- We've been giving water to phase 4 for flushing and pressure testing.
- We have had to rent a mini-excavator for 4 or 5 hours and it costs about $400. We are thinking maybe we should get a skid steer or something, or mini-excavator, it might make more sense to get a skid steer because of what we are dealing with right now which is mainly slumping and settling. We are working to get costs for getting one. A used one with a trailer would be $80,000 to $90,000, a new of both would be $200,000. Also looking at a lease program. Want to get all the information together to present to the board.
- We have to buy some relays for all the sites, they have to be switched out regularly and for all the sites we need about 40 of them.
    - **Motion** to approve the purchase of the relays by Allen, motion seconded by Dave L., motion carried.
- **Jeff Sell**
    - Would like to see pricing for the equipment proposed and a projection on how much it would get used. This early on, not sure it is needed.
    - Wheatland County Fire Department had a fire up north here last week. They used one of the fill hydrants and said it took 19 minutes to fill a 3000 gal tank. I'm wondering if they were doing something wrong and didn't have it opened up all the way?
        - **Sam**: we do not provide fire flows, it is just a fill hydrant so we don't shock the system by anybody turning it on. So it is going to take time to fill.
    - They also brought up that all the blow offs are painted red and is there the possibility of them using the incorrect hydrants?
        - **Sam**: if someone goes to the wrong fill hydrant (to a blowoff) they won't be able to open it. I have them shut off with a curb valve and it needs an 8ft key to turn it on.
        - **Jeff**: Would like Sam and Zach to do some training for the local fire departments. can they do damage to it if they operate it incorrectly? Would it be possible to repaint them? Or put signs with the ones that are for filling?
        - **Sam**: the fire district leadership knows where the fill hydrants are and training has been provided to Harlowton and Judith Gap. The bollards around the fill hydrants have red tops if they are for the fire department to use.
- Discussion regarding cost of potential remobilization of Baker Hughes and confusion on cost that needs to be clarified.

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES UPDATE

- **Monty** talked to Jennifer and explained what is going on (not needing her services any longer); she said she was not surprised and wondered that we didn't do it sooner. And so we are done paying that.

PHASE II-TO ROUNDUP-STATUS

- Punchlist Items - **Amy**
    - We have a punch list item and there is a meeting onsite tomorrow with the electrical engineer, Sam, Elly, and COP to determine what is left to be done. That inspection will result in a final list of what is complete and what isn't and then they're also going to go through each of the vaults and show COP what still needs to be done. A lot has been cleaned up this week, just waiting on verification.
    - There is still $100,000 in retainage being held until this inspection is completed. Then there will be a pay application from COP for the release of that retainage. Depending on the results of the final inspection, that will determine what amount of retainage is released.

PHASE IV TO MELSTONE-STATUS - Amy

- Schedule update
- Change Order No. 6 – this is for additional service costs, riprap at the Roundup Tank, and the connection point for MMCWD.
    - **Motion** to approve the change order by Allen, motion seconded by Jeff, motion carried.

- They are currently pressure testing the line from Roundup to Griffith, will start moving water from Griffith up to Sunset next week. They are getting the fiber conduit installed, and then will start blowing in the fiber from Roundup to Sunset. We are probably a month out from getting water to Sunset. And then they will continue east towards Melstone.

PH III TO BROADVIEW-STATUS - Susan

- State – has been approved, getting a fully executed copy for site title
- MDT permits – 2 have been conditionally approved, waiting on final comments for the third.
- Town encroachment permits – Lavina had a meeting on 10/7, Broadview has their meeting on 10/14
- BNSF Permit – executed and included in the plans
- Fergus Electric – Middle Rd PRV and Lavina Tank agreements for signature
- NWE – Broadview booster pump, Broadview meter pit, waiting on easements/agreements
- Eagle Survey – Power Engineers will complete in March 2026
- Schedule Update
    - Began advertising Oct. 2
    - Pre-bid meeting in Lavina Oct. 14 at 11 am
    - Bid opening at GWE in Helena/online on Oct. 30 at 2 pm
    - Anticipate reviewing bids and having a recommendation to award at the Nov. 12 board meeting.
- Project is out to bid and we have been taking questions. The pre-bid is in Lavina on 10/14, and hope to open the bids on 10/30 unless we get a lot of pushback from contractors that it needs to be extended. Either way we will intend to have a recommendation to award at the November board meeting.
- We are still working on the site title opinion – Oliver needs the MDT permits.
    - **Monty** – all title insurance has been sent to Oliver except 1
- There will be a cost associated with the line extension to the booster station from Northwestern Energy and hopefully we will have that at the next board meeting.
- In terms of schedule, we are going to be somewhat flexible with a contractor start date. We would say around the beginning of March and our goal was to complete the project by the end of 2026, we may or may not hit that, it could end up being the beginning of 2027.

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

- Environmental and Cultural Work – still some cultural field work to complete.
- Initiated Design Work
- **Bob** – we have been working on the pipeline route, starting that process and getting some easements and meeting with some of the land owners. There is a big chunk on Wilks property north of Hedgesville, and the ROW is narrow and it is technically an MDT road but it is maintained by the county, so we would like to put the pipe on a private easement. I sent an email to the attorney that we worked with when we got the easement for Phase 2 and I have heard nothing.
    - **Jeff** – will get Bob a contact email if needed.

  Everything else is in the MDT ROW south of Hedgesville to Shawmut.

PHASE III B-TO RYEGATE-STATUS

- **Matt Smith** – working on final easement, and cost to obtain the easement.

WELLS 4 & 5 SYSTEM CONNECTION-STATUS

- Schedule update
- **Amy** – was out on the site today, it is looking good, they have pipe laid down right in front of Cody's house. They will probably make the corner by the end of this week. Central Drilling should be out to set the pitless adapters tomorrow.

MIDDLE MUSSELSHELL DISTRICT

- **Matt Smith** – working on topo.
- **Bob Church** – not currently working on the water supply agreement as there is some additional information that we need in order to draft that. The board has asked me what the estimated monthly cost is going to be and I relayed to them that all I can tell you is what the regional water is going to cost. You'll have to work with your engineer, Matt, to determine what a part time operator and administrator would cost and how many connections there are. And we can't write the contract until we have more design information from Stahly such as average day demand and maximum day demand, and you can coordinate with Susan on that. I don't think we are in a hurry or is there a reason to be in a hurry?
- **Matt Smith** – I don't think there is a huge hurry to get the contract, I think they are just trying to get their ducks in a row. I can work with Susan to get that information to her. The number of connections seems to be changing,

nothing significant, but a few here and there. But we can get you a number that's pretty close. We are also looking 10 years down the road to think about how many connections there are going to be.

- **Bob Church** – from the regional water perspective we assumed that everyone in the subdivision would connect to ensure that there was enough water. But if the MMCWD could submit a formal request with the number of connections, average day and max day water demand, and clarify what they want that would be helpful. But instead of just trading emails and phone conversations there should be a formal request to the board and then we will have something concrete to work with.

PHASE V TO HOBSON-STATUS

BOR -Greg

- Question about the SHPO consultation, Susan got the amendment from Brian and is sending to Emily. And that should be it.
- Reminder to Monty that we are at the end of the quarter and financial and progress reports are due by the end of the month.

DNRC – Shawna Swanz

- Acknowledge years of contribution by Rick Duncan
    - Comments on history of the work done with Rick.

RD

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

- November 12, 2025

OTHER BUSINESS

Central Montana Regional Water Authority
October 08, 2025
Harlowton, MT 59072

Name	Address	Representing	E-mail/Telephone
Gabriel Flanscha	90 W. Sundin Rd Roundup	MMCWD	gob455@gmail.com 719-242-7455
Shawna Swanz		DNRC	shawna.swanz@mt.gov
Susan Hayes		GWE	
Paul Otter		Harl	
Allen Dano		RYEGATE	
Lon Sibley		Roundup	
Jeff Sell		Harlowton	
SAM KLEFZIG		CMRWA	
Dave Liggett		Roundup	
JIM KALITOWSKI		HARLO	

Central Montana Regional Water Authority
October 08, 2025
Harlowton, MT 59072

Name	Address	Representing	E-mail/Telephone
Bob Church		Great West	
Amy Deitsler		Great West	
Scott Keller		Shawmut-Deadmans	
Brenda Huffman		BOR	
Greg Kruzich		BOR	
Anna Miller		DNRC	
Matt Smith		Stahely	