

Rural Water District No. 1
Ellsworth County, Kansas a/k/a Post Rock Rural Water District
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2024

At 6:36 pm Chairman Bland called the meeting to order and called for roll call. Directors present at roll call: Director Bland, Director Christy, Director Griffith, Director Dolezal, Director Wehrman, Director Robbins, and Director Griffith were present. Director Teppe arrived at 6:46 pm.

Staff present: Jon Wright, Angela Naegele, and Roxanne Stevenson
Others present: Leslee Rivarola (consultant)

Chairman Bland called for public comment. Ms. Juanita Hanson who owns a property at Kanopolis Lake addressed the board with concerns on the benefit transfer fee. At 6:55 pm, Ms. Hanson departed the meeting.

Chairman Bland called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Director Griffith motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Director Dolezal seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman Bland called for discussion on the minutes from the February 20, 2024 regular board meeting. Director Wehrman inquired about amending the minutes to include Director Ralph Larson's resignation from the Board of Directors. Director Wehrman motioned to approve the minutes with the amendment discussed. Director Christy seconded the motion. All directors present voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman Bland and the board discussed benefit unit transfers.

Chairman Bland called for the expense report and bills to be paid and asked if there were any questions or discussion. Director Wehrman asked about the expense for boots and if that was a District expense. Ms. Stevenson shared the District has paid for one pair of boots per year for employees. Discussion regarding the Employee Handbook and the expense of boots followed and the budgeted expenses. Mr. Wright is going to research this item with staff. With no further questions Director Griffith motioned to approve the bills to be paid in the amount of \$67,590.92. Director Robbins seconded the motion. All directors present voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman Bland called for the next item on the agenda for the annual meeting. The agenda for the annual meeting is identified in Article 12. Public comment is not identified on the annual agenda. Director Griffith suggested clarifying in future notices of the annual meeting that the meeting does not have a public comment period. Discussion followed. Chairman Bland addressed the concern during the annual meeting for nominations from the floor and the process for verifying the candidate is a benefit unit holder. Discussion followed. The board inquired if the by-laws prescribe the process by which someone can become a candidate for the board.

Chairman Bland called for the general manager's report. Mr. Wright delivered the general manager's report. Mr. Wright provided an update on Viking's inspections for tower 2 and tower 5 and the quotes for repairing the towers. The total for repairs to both water towers was approximately \$35,000. Discussion followed. Mr. Wright provided an update on water usage and Saline 7's desire to add the feedlot to their contract. Discussion followed with options for how the District could provide that water. Discussion regarding Purefield and the water being furnished by the District. Mr. Wright provided an update on finalizing the hydraulic model with the engineering firm. Mr. Wright interviewed a gentleman for distribution. That information has been provided to the personnel committee. Director Wehrman asked how the AMR installations were going. Mr. Wright provided an update on installations over the last month including getting meters to some of the outer counties. Discussion followed. Mr. Wright shared an update on the water rate increase and the limited feedback received by customers. Mr. Wright provided an update on the lead and copper surveys.

Chairman Bland asked if the board had any further questions or items to discuss.

Chairman Bland called for a 5-minute break at 7:50 pm.

At 7:55 pm Chairman Bland called the meeting back to order.

Chairman Bland called for a motion to recess into executive session. At 7:56 pm Director Christy motioned to recess into executive session for 20 minutes under K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) to discuss non-elected personnel with the justification to discuss performance of individual employees to include all board members, Mr. Jon Wright, and Ms. Leslee Rivarola. Director Teppe seconded the motion. All directors present voted in favor of the motion.

At 8:16 pm the board reconvened in open session taking no action from executive session. Director Christy motioned to enter into executive session for 15 minutes under K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) to discuss non-elected personnel with justification to discuss performance of individual employees to include all board member, Mr. Jon Wright, and Ms. Leslee Rivarola. Director Griffith seconded the motion. All directors present voted in favor of the motion.

At 8:31 pm the board reconvened in open session. Chairman Bland called for any motions. Director Griffith motioned to authorize the general manager to administer pay raises as discussed. Director Dolezal seconded the motion. All board members present voted in favor of the motion. Director Christy motioned to increase the general manager's purchasing authority to \$10,000. Director Griffith seconded the motion. All board members present voted in favor of the motion.

At 8:33 pm Director Dolezal motioned to adjourn the meeting. Director Griffith seconded the motion. All board members present voted in favor of the motion.

Respectfully Submitted:

J. Adams
Secretary/Treasurer

4-16-24
Date