

Custer Water Association (CWA)
Annual Business Meeting Minutes
Custer School Library
November 13, 2023

1. Meeting called to order at 7pm by Curtis DeVries, President
 - a. Quorum: 27 Members in attendance representing 250 shares.
2. Minutes from the previous Annual Meeting held, December 5, 2022.
 - a. Read and approved for record
3. Reports of Officers and Committees:
 - a. Maintenance Projects include:
 - i. Electronic pump controls installed on wells and reservoir to monitor and record water level.
 1. Ongoing project complying with WA Department of Ecology reporting requirements.
 - ii. Reservoir cleaned Jan 24, 2023 by Integrated Underwater Services, Ferndale WA
 - iii. Line flushing occurred two times: March and July.
 - iv. Two major leaks occurred and repaired.
 1. Arnie / Valley View - April 2023
 2. Portal Way - July 2023
 3. Inquiry about water leak November 2023
 - a. Will be reported next fiscal year.
 - v. Major water usage by Fire Department:
 1. Feb 22, 2023 - Arnie Rd
 2. July 28, 2023 - Bruce Rd
 3. Sept 17, 2023 - Fire Department filled up at Custer Elementary.
 - vi. Cover at well site to protect valve manifold constructed and installed.
 - vii. GIS System - Initiated the mapping of water lines, hydrants, meters and blowoffs.
 - b. Annual Financial report.
 - i. Distributed. All members able to view.
 - ii. 10 Shares sold 2023 - Well certified for 280 Shares
 1. 3083 Main St - Share #241
 2. Ham Rd - 9 Shares #242 - 250.
 - iii. Good progress on delinquent accounts
 1. Less than \$7,000.00 currently outstanding
 - a. Down from \$20,000.00 this time last year.

4. Election of Trustees – **Officers**
 - a. Curtis DeVries – President, term expires 2023
 - i. Agreed to another term:
 1. Voted and approved - new term expires 2026
 - b. Bill Coughran – Vice President, term expires 2024
 - c. Rae Spain - Member at large, term expires 2024
 - d. Nancy Brandt, Secretary / Treasurer, term expires 2025
 - e. New Officer nomination
 - i. Ben Vahl nominated
 1. Voted and approved
 2. Term expires 2026
5. Unfinished / Old Business
 - a. Property tracts around current well site that were approved for sale.
 1. Board is researching, tracts have not been listed
 - b. BNSF Train Derailment – Dec 22, 2020
 1. Work completed April 19, 2023.
 2. BNSF was invoiced and paid in full: \$139,869.69
 - c. WA Department of Ecology Nooksack adjudication 2024
 1. Update with information gathered at September 13th public forum.
 2. Suggestion to contact Yakima River Basin about the process.
 - d. Pole building at well site needs repair. Door not closing properly.
 - i. No update
 - e. Accountant - update
 - i. Email Invoices - available
 - ii. New Invoice - in progress
 - iii. Ability to pay via credit card, debit card or ACH bank transfer - researching
 - f. Website- up and running
 - i. Suggestions for changes or additional information needed
 - g. Security System at well.
 - i. No progress to date
 - ii. Suggestion to install wireless camera with 5G capability.
 - h. Interconnect with adjacent water systems
 - i. Contact information has been obtained for Percie and Old Settlers water associations.
6. New Business / Open Discussion
 - a. Cost of water share is \$9,200.00 and monthly maintenance fee \$30.00.

- i. Recommend no change to monthly rate - \$30.00/month.
 - 1. Change billing to 2 rather than 3 tiers.
 - a. Proposed pricing
 - i. Up to 700cf - \$30.00
 - ii. 701cf and above - additional \$0.022
 - iii. Voted and approved - Starting 1 Jan 2024.
 - ii. Recommend raising water share cost to \$9,500.00
 - 1. Voted and approved - Starting 1 Jan 2024
 - b. Monthly meter read:
 - i. Recommend reading + billing 6 times per year versus 12.
 - ii. Voted and approved
 - 1. 2024 readings will occur Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, Nov
 - 2. Billing will occur when meters are read.
 - c. New projects presented to group:
 - i. Filtration System - installed at well.
 - ii. Redo line from the Museum south along Custer School RD down Portal Way just past the concrete fence business. This line has had 5 leaks in the last 4 years. Up line to 6" and install hydrant.
 - iii. Redo line on Main St, Bruce Rd west to dead end, increasing to 8" and adding hydrant (s)
 - iv. Interconnect with Old Settlers - 6" line on south side of Grandview 1,900ft.
 - v. Phase 2 completion - Run line north along Portal Way between golf course and Creasey Rd (project already drawn up).
 - vi. Bore under train tracks at Main St to tie into downtown Custer - This would bring connections crossing the tracks to 3.
 - vii. Re-run line on Fox Rd. Currently 2 1/2" small and odd size. Eventually run a line across Vista and down Fox and put a hydrant on corner of Vista and Fox.
 - viii. Expand line at corner of Bruce turning to Arnie to 8" to Valley View.
 - d. Open Discussion + New Business
 - i. Addition to project list.
 - 1. Repair line on Valley View, between Arnie and Portal Way. Line is prone to leaks
 - ii. Question concerning amount of water supplied to blueberry growers.
 - 1. By-Laws do not stipulate how water is used.
7. Meeting Adjourned by Curtis DeVries at 8:20pm.