VISTA REDONDA MUTUAL DOMESTIC WATER CONSUMERS ASSOCIATION

(VRMDWCA)

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

Monday, March 23, 2020 – 4:30 PM

Via Zoom

1. **Call to Order:** Nirvair Singh Khalsa called the meeting to order at 4:32 PM.
2. **Certification of Quorum:**  S. Rule certified that 7 of the 8 Board members were present via Zoom. A quorum was met.
3. **Board Members Present:** Nirvair Singh Khalsa, President; Harvey Simon, Vice President; Susan Rule, Secretary and Treasurer; Directors: Laurent Cavalie, Peter Frank, Audrey LaFehr, Chris van Schayk.

**Not Present:** Director Bill Berra (joined at 5:15); Adjunct Directors Phil Marineau and Matt Waller.

**Community Members Present:** Valerie Arnett, Sam Berger, Mary Costello.

**Others Present:**  None.

1. **Approval of the Minutes of the December 2, 2019 Meeting:** H. Simon made the motion to approve the Minutes, Khalsa seconded the motion, and all approved.
2. **Financial Report and Budgets:** S. Rule presented the financial statement, noting that very little has changed. The Capital Budget is much the same as expected. Of note on the Operating Budget, our liability insurance has jumped up from $2,000 to $4,900 for various reasons involving our support contractors. Simon would like to revisit the insurance increase after we consolidate some of our outside contractors.
3. **III-D Contract, Progress and Proposal:**  Simon summarized the email he and Khalsa and van Schayk put together and sent to the Board members on March 18. It involves the long-discussed employment of an outside company to take over the operation and management of our water system. We have begun to work with III-D, a local company that manages two nearby MDWCAs, on the Well 3A uranium abatement project, and all interactions with them have been positive so far. Therefore, we have requested and received from them a proposal for Phase 1 management and operation of our system. III-D will be replacing two of our existing contractors and where there is an overlap, individual contractors’ responsibilities will be adjusted. We will thereby defray a significant part of the III-D cost. Our experience with this first phase will inform our next step in the integration process. Van Schayk made the motion to approve going ahead with III-D’s proposal for Phase 1, Rule seconded, and all approved.
4. **Remediated Violations:** van Schayk reported on the August 19 and December 6, 2019 violations of Total Coliform on PESW, and noted that we completed a Level I and Level II Assessment to the satisfaction of the NM Environmental Department on September 13 and December 31 respectively. We also updated our NMED Sample Plan. We are initiating a series of actions targeting suspected hydrants and other facilities as well as monitoring water quality on PESW.
5. **Nominating Committee:** Khalsa reported that Bill Berra, Chris van Schayk, and Peter Frank will make up the nominating committee for next year’s Board, and the Board approved the committee. We are primarily looking for a new Secretary/Treasurer, or two Board members to split the job. Van Schayk appealed to the Board for suggestions of new Adjunct Directors for the coming year.
6. **New Business:**

**Well 1A:** van Schayk noted that we have asked III-D to look into what’s going on with the well and its reduced production. Estimated cost to test is under $1,000.

**Tank Refurbishment:** van Schayk said that III-D has come up with some names to do the work and we are currently vetting those people. Simon stated that it is a high priority and that we expect the work to be done this coming fall, after the high-use summer water season.

**Budgets:** Rule requested estimated costs for upcoming projects in order that she and/or the new Treasurer can put them into the budgets. She noted that the figures we have currently budgeted are nearly two years old. Simon suggested staying with the figures we have now and the costs will likely be similar.

**Water Loss:** van Schayk explained that the significant water losses in January and February were not due to leaks, but to having too many wells running at once which caused the tank to overflow. The system will be monitored more closely with III-D now on board.

**Annual Meeting:** Rule suggested that we give some thought to how to hold the Annual Meeting in July if we are still under the threat of the Coronavirus and must continue to practice social distancing. Khalsa described the ability to hold virtual meetings with up to 75 people and the various things that need to be done to ensure that anyone who wants to participate in the discussion can do so.

1. **Adjournment:** van Schayk made the motion to adjourn, Berra seconded, and all approved. The meeting was adjourned at 5:18 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Audrey LaFehr

Director and Acting Secretary