

**FOREST LAKES DOMESTIC WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
WORK SESSION
May 16, 2024**

The Forest Lakes DWID Work Session called to order by Chairman Gary Richardson at 9:00 am at The Water District Office. Present were Board Member: Dan Parks and Lou St. Germain. Staff member present Grant Cooper, and Amy Belch. Mr. Taylor was absent. Pat Murphy was a guest.

1. Discussion and Review of Automation Electric Quote for all Wells

Mr. Cooper reports Automation quote reduced to \$47,088.00 with a lead time of 30 weeks. Forest Lakes DWID could pay \$25,000.00 in this fiscal year. \$22,088.00 could be paid in the next fiscal year.

2. Discussion and Review of Projects for Forest Lakes DWID by Priority

Mr. Cooper reports Wildcat, Bailey, and Meters are all priority projects. Mr. Cooper states Wildcat project is 3146 feet but can be reduced to just fixing the band aids that are in place now which would be roughly 500 feet @ a cost of \$150.00 a foot. On Wildcat there are 8 repair cup links. If FLDWID board elected to do the whole project on Wildcat, it would cost \$471,900.

Bailey total repair line is 3187 feet. It has 4 repair cup links. Mr. Cooper states the repairs to Bailey could also be reduced to 500 feet at \$150.00 a foot. If FLDWID elected to do the whole project of Bailey, the cost is estimated at \$478,050.

Mr. Cooper states he could order 3000 feet of parts, including hydrants, connectors, and cup links. Pipe time is roughly 4 to 6 weeks lead time. Cooper parts are about 30 weeks lead time. The project could not happen until 2025.

The meters on the south side need replaced, some are failing, and it won't be long before the rest follow.

Mr. Cooper reports he has 50 replacement meters available in inventory. South side meters total 102 meters.

North side meters total 804. The cost of the meters is estimated at \$98.00 per meter. The meter pit covers cost \$26,000, for 455 covers. Mr. Cooper will have a total in next month's meeting.

Mr. Parks recommends adding title to the priority documents. Mr. St. Germain suggests ordering the reader and meters for south side of the highway. Mr. Park recommends spending \$30K to \$35K for meters to be put into inventory. Create a list of installed meters and inventory meters.

3. Discussion and Review of Water Rates for Meters

Mr. Richardson states the meter rates need increasing. Ms. Belch has not seen when FLDWID board raised rates but it's before 2010. Mr. Parks suggests \$40.00 for meter rates and adding a dollar to the usage. Mr. St. Germain suggests \$45.00. Mr. Parks recommends Mr. St. Germain meet him in the middle at \$42.00 for meter rates. Mr. St. Germain states he will meet him in the middle. The rate increase would cover the cost of material, installation, daily operations, hydrants, and equipment cost. A \$42.00 meter rate would generate \$456,624.00 in revenue and usage would total an extra \$35,000.00. The projects on the table exceed the rate increase that is proposed.

4. Discussion and Review of Public Hearing for Water Rates for Meters

Mr. Parks recommends having the public hearing on a Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday at 7pm and the location can be determined later. Ms. Belch states the FLFD will accommodate FLDWID Thursday, July 11, 2024, at 5:00pm. Mr. Richardson suggests bringing history, purchase history, and if all FLDWID board could attend with staff available to answer questions. Ms. Belch states one announcement in the local paper, emailing customers along with mailing customers that are not on email billing, website and post at library, general store and FLDWID office. Mr. Richardson recommends bringing the rate sheet from other water districts in Arizona.

5. Discussion and Review of Preliminary Budget for Forest Lakes DWID 2024-2025

Mr. St. Germain states the preliminary budget stay at \$28.00 for base rate since the public hearing will not be until July 11, 2024. Mr. Parks suggests reducing the meter number be reduced in the capital outlay. Mr. St. Germain suggest leaving the meter number the same in capital outlay. Mr. Richardson stated the FLDWID employees are underpaid. Mr. St. Germain recommends a 4% raise and no additional staff needed at this time.

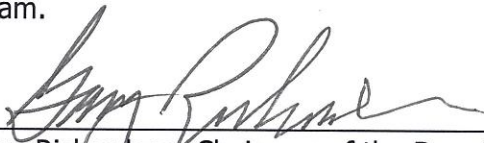
6. Discussion and Review of Appointing an Open Position for Forest Lakes DWID

Mr. Parks recommends Mr. Murphy do a 3-minute bio on himself. Mr. Murphy stated he traveled a lot with his dad, being in the service. He spent 30 years in California and owned a Garbage Company named Waste Connections. He lived in Ahwatukee and got into real estate. He retired in 2007. Mr. St. Germain suggest appointing Mr. Murphy to Ms. Humes position until November 2024.

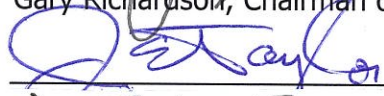
7. Discussion and Review of Mr. Taylor's Medical leave of Absences until June 8, 2024

Mr. Richardson informed the board Mr. Taylor is on Medical Leave until June 8, 2024.

Mr. Gary Richardson closed the meeting at 10:59 am.
Forest Lakes DWID
Minutes By: Amy Belch



Gary Richardson, Chairman of the Board



Joe Taylor, Treasurer

16 MAY 2024

Date