

Norwood Water Commission  
Tuesday June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024- Regular Meeting  
Norwood Community Center 7:00 P.M.

**Call to Order:**

Tony Daranyi called the regular meeting of the Norwood Water Commission to order at 7:01P.M. The Norwood Water Commission of San Miguel County, State of Colorado, met in regular session at the Norwood Community Center, 1670 Naturita Street, Norwood, Colorado. Those being present were as follows:

**Present:**      **Chairman** – Tony Daranyi, **Vice Chairman** – Finn Kjome, Brad Campbell, and Ray Cossey

**Staff:**          Deana Sheriff– Town Manager, Randy Harris – ORC, and Shawny Darby – Secretary

**Absent:**         Richard Nelson and Mike Grafmyer

**Others:**        Mark King, Mark Ragsdale, Mike Palmer, Glenn McGovern, Randy Marshall, and Paul Muldowney

**Via Zoom** – Alexander Pape, Candy Meehan, Terri Lamers, Mark Ragsdale, Sherri Reeder and Shawn Fallon

**Public Walk-In Period:**

**Review/Consent Agenda:**

There was a **motion** by Ray Cossey to approve the consent agenda as presented. Brad Campbell seconded the **motion**. **All voted yes. Motion passed.**

**Board Member Reports and Announcements: (if any)**

Ray Cossey made a **motion** to move item V) Board Business g) Water Shack Cards Discussion to a) so the water shack customers could participate in the discussion and be free to go when they are finished. Brad Campbell seconded the **motion**. **All voted yes. Motion passed.**

**New Business:**

a) **Raw Water Billing for Seniors - Update**

Deana Sheriff explained that we do not keep vital statistics. We potentially have between 3 to 10 people so it's not feasible. Mark Ragsdale also mentioned that the remote taps are floating taps just like the floating taps for regular water were when people were investing in that system. Mark feels this is exactly the same type of situation. The NWC Board discussed what the potential consequences would be and came to the general consensus to stick with the way we are currently billing customers.

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**b) Mike Bordogna – Update on San Miguel River Water Rights**

Mike Bordogna was not present. However, Mark Ragsdale was in attendance and was able to give an update. Mark states that there is no decree yet and that we have never seen the agreement. Tony Daranyi asked where we could see the agreement and if it changes the point of diversion. Mark states that the draft says the point of diversion is Saltado Creek with an offer of 5cfs to the Town of Norwood. There are a lot of provisions. The NWC Board further discussed this with Mark but without a decree, there isn't much to discuss. Mark states he will come speak with the Board once there is a decree.

**c) Grant Discussion Regarding Security Cameras – Amanda Pierce**

Amanda Pierce gave a presentation on what the plans were for installing security cameras at the water treatment plant and explained the Homeland Security grant funding. She asked if we had any funds to contribute as we are missing \$8,680. She also states that the Town of Norwood may be able to help contribute as well.

Finn Kjome made a **motion** to approve providing funds up to \$8,680. Brad Campbell seconded the **motion**. All voted **yes**. **Motion passed**.

**d) Grant Regarding Drinking Water/Aerators – Deana Sheriff and Randy Harris**

Deana Sheriff gave a presentation to the NWC Board. She explained that we would like at least two solar powered aerators in reservoir 2 in order to help keep the algae down. There are two grants that are coming up. One is due July 1st and another one due July 1st. We may be able to go after both of them. The Board discussed with Deana and Randy Harris. Finn Kjome stated that we should be cautious about the management of the grants. Randy also states that LG has an ultrasonic option to destroy algae.

**e) Discussion Regarding System Upgrades (if any)**

**1. Update on Redundant Line Grant Application (if any)**

Deana Sheriff turned in over 40 documents as she was asked for all the history and asked for NWC documents accepting all assets. Every one of our historical documents are now scanned and saved. The State did accept our legal standing. Catherine Corella is continuing to work on this with us. Deana states that we are in good shape to move forward.

**f) Attorney RFPs**

Deana Sheriff states that 5 proposals came back. All of them seem very qualified and have a lot of experience. One did come in late. Finn Kjome states that he has experience with Balcome and Green as well as Garfield and Hecht. He feels pretty comfortable with both of them but has a lot more experience with Balcome and Green. JVAM was very clear about having worked with SGM, however, came in late. The NWC Board would like some time to go over the proposals and will continue the discussion at next month's meeting. The NWC Board requested to have all the RFPs sent to them again next week for review and Deana

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agreed to send them out as soon as she returned from CML. Deana also let the Board know that Rob Pierce has been engaged on the San Miguel River Project.

**g) *Water Shack Cards Discussion***

Tony Daranyi states that he thinks this is an issue of confusion more than anything else. He states that staff asked for direction at the last meeting on what to do with water card requests that they were getting for the water shack and what the policy was as to who was eligible to receive a water card. He states that the NWC Board discussed it for a bit and decided not to change the policy. The policy as stated on the water dispenser station page of the website very clearly states it is for residents who live within the water boundaries that are eligible for a water card. The question was asked if there are exceptions, and the answer was no. Ray Cossey had brought up his concern for rural water users. We were operating under a map that is consistent with the water service line boundaries. Tony doesn't know how word got out that the Norwood Water Commission was restricting water cards, cutting people off, or could not get your water cards renewed. Tony stated that all of those are erroneous; staff has not restricted anybody's water card. It has since come up that the actual boundary map for the water shack card users is a much broader map. At the prior meeting we were operating with lack of information. Finn Kjome was able to provide historic context as to what the water shack map looks like and it includes Miramonte Ranches, Gurley, and Beaver Pines. Deana Sheriff and Shawny Darby spent an inordinate amount of time researching and found that this map had been discussed in 2018 but could not find where it had made it into any official record anywhere. It never made it into our Master Plan which was redone in 2020, on the website, and no recording at San Miguel County. As far as we could tell, it was not discussed formally at the 2018 meeting and it was not approved formally. Finn discussed what he recalled from previous NWC Board meeting discussions. He explained that he was operating on the 2018 map when we discussed this at the last meeting and if we adopt this map it is a simple fix for this situation. He remembers this because part of the conversation was because we didn't want to go all the way to Hastings Mesa or Wilson Mesa as we felt that was more of a Telluride end of things and we wanted to try to keep our water down here. Tony asked if we wanted to make a motion. Finn preferred to discuss it with the public first.

The public asked questions and discussed the water shack with the NWC Board. They wanted to know where the water came from. Finn states that it comes mostly from Farmer's Water Development Company. They asked if the County were to build a water shack, if the water would come from the same source. Ray Cossey states that it would as we are a one water source system. The public expressed their concerns with water problems at Miramonte Ranch Subdivision. Mark King, the president of the Miramonte Ranch Homeowners Association, states that they would appreciate it if the Norwood Water Commission would maintain access at the water shack. The public also asked if we were going to lean on Telluride for funding in the future when there is increased usage at the water shack. Finn states that we need a little clarification. Finn states there is only so much moisture so he didn't know how we were going to make more water. The public

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mentioned an agreement from the 1950s regarding a reservoir that was going to be made in Placerville that Telluride, Norwood, Wright's Mesa could pump water from the reservoir. Finn asked if they have been following what was going on with the County, Sheep Mountain Alliance and San Miguel Water Conservancy District. He states that San Miguel Water Conservancy District did have all of those water rights but they are now down to a bucketful. The public asked the NWC Board if paying more taxes would help ensure they could be part of the system. Finn reminded them the water shack is not part of the "system" in the same manner and at the end of the day, we are going to take care of the tap holders first and if the water shack users got into a dire situation they may have to run to Naturita to get their water. Finn also explained the situation they had to deal with regarding San Miguel County involving the water shack as they wanted us to guarantee water and we can not do that.

Mr. Palmer explained that in order for him to build his house the county states he needs a well, a way to contain water or you need a way to contain water and a way to haul water. As a resident of San Miguel County and Norwood, the water shack is where he gets his water for his cistern. Edie Montague approved him to build his house based on this. Mark Ragsdale states the state may have an issue with the county but that he accepted those terms. Mr. Palmer explains that when they were sold their properties they bought with the understanding that this was their source of water if they don't have a well. He thinks Miramonte Ranch should be grandfathered in. Tony Daranyi and Ray Cossey both stated that they are in and that they fall well within the map boundaries. Ray feels that their problem is resolved if that's the map we adopt tonight. Brad Campbell weighed in to clarify that those within that larger map are absolutely able to get a water card but in the event that the water shack had to be shut off we would have to focus on the smaller map (tap holders).

Direction was given to staff to have the map sent to the county for GIS so we could better pinpoint the boundaries, update the website, update Division 4 and SGM. Also, going forward, there will be a customer application form filled out prior to approval of issuing a water card.

Brad Campbell made a **motion** to adopt the 2018 map as the Water Shack Boundary. Finn Kjome seconded the **motion**. All voted **yes**. **Motion passed**.

### **Staff Reports/Announcements**

#### **a) Public Works Director's Report:**

Randy Harris states that both Craig Greager and Jason Greager continue to make progress on their water tap installations. We topped off reservoir 2 at 150. There's a new application for Bob McKeever. The Redvale Project is moving forward although the HDPE pipe is back ordered – it's sitting in Wyoming and the contractor is willing to go get it but the contractor will be starting this month with no price change. Randy updated the Eades. Raw Water started up great.

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**b) Administration Reports:**

Deana Sheriff states that we are working hard on the website. The State has made it where we have to make it accessible. Finn Kjome suggested that she reach out to a few other entities to get extra help. Deana also let the NWC Board know that we were working with Kattie Neesham from the County on this.

Director's report hereunto attached.

**Adjourn:**

**Motion** by Finn Kjome to adjourn the meeting at 8:41P.M. Brad Campbell seconded the **motion**. All voted **yes**. **Motion passed**.

**Approved:**

**Approved As Corrected:**

**Date:**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'S. D.', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

7/9/24