

NORWOOD WATER COMMISSION – REGULAR MEETING

SEPTEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 AT 7:00PM

NORWOOD TOWN HALL

---

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Tony Daranyi called the regular meeting of the Norwood Water Commission to order at 7:00pm. The Norwood Water Commission of San Miguel County, State of Colorado, met in regular session at 1670 Naturita Street, Norwood, Colorado. Those present were as follows:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: **Chair** – Tony Daranyi, Mike Grafmyer, Ray Cossey, and Ryan Howe

STAFF: Interim Administrator - Amanda Pierce, Secretary – Shawny Darby, and ORC – Randy Harris

ABSENT: **Vice Chair** – Finn Kjome and Brad Campbell

OTHERS: Richard Nelson and Catherine Carella

Via Zoom: Jenny Russell and Kerry Welch

**PUBLIC WALK IN PERIOD**

**REVIEW AGENDA**

Ray Cossey made a **motion** to amend Board Business A. to say Resolution No 0910 Series 2024 A Resolution to Support the Reappointment of Finn Kjome and Mike Grafmyer to the Norwood Water Commission Board Discussion. Ryan Howe seconded the **motion**. The NWC Board **voted**. Mike Grafmyer **abstained** as the resolution included him. **Motion passed.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Minutes of August 13, 2024**

**B. August Bills and Accounts**

Mike Grafmyer made a **motion** to approve the consent agenda as corrected. Ray Cossey seconded the **motion**.

Discussion regarding the need to correct the August 13th, 2024 regular meeting minutes to show that Ray Cossey was in attendance as a board member at the time of the meeting.

All voted **yes**. **Motion passed.**

**BOARD BUSINESS**

**A. Resolution No 0910 Series 2024 A Resolution to Support the Reappointment of Finn Kjome and Mike Grafmyer to the Norwood Water Commission Board Discussion**

The Norwood Water Commission Board members discussed whether the support for Finn Kjome and Mike Grafmyer should be a resolution or a letter of support. They discussed being cautious due to the current political environment. Amanda explained the importance of the NWC Board taking action for the Town of Norwood Board of Trustees to know where they stand and how it would look if only one board

member spoke up without the NWC Board taking action. Tony Daranyi reiterated the importance of retaining continuity and having board members with historical knowledge at this time, due to what we are currently engaged in with the redundant line. Randy Harris added that he is crossing into his third year, and he relies heavily on Finn and Mike for his job. Mike also added that we have always supported board appointments, however, we said nothing about Richard Nelson, and he was replaced. The NWC Board agrees that all the points are valid and irrefutable but that a resolution may come off too strong.

Ray Cossey made a **motion** to write a letter of support as written. Ryan Howe seconded the **motion**. The NWC Board **voted**. Mike Grafmyer **abstained** as the resolution included him. **Motion passed**.

### **B. Merger Agreement Discussion**

Tony Daranyi states that there were concerns about whether or not a person can serve on more than one board. Amanda Pierce states that she has not heard back from the attorney yet.

### **C. CBI Investigation Update**

Tony Daranyi updated the NWC Board on CBI matters stating that Candy Meehan had received a letter from CBI stating that she had been absolved of any misuse of funds. Tony reached out to our IT person, Jason LaFlamme, who did not think there was reason to investigate. We are done for now, until we hear anything else back from CBI. Amanda Pierce states that the staff is in support of hiring a third party to come in that does not know any of us as it is still an active concern.

### **D. Redundant Line Grant Update**

#### **1. Catherine Carella – SGM Discussion**

Tony Daranyi cautioned everyone to not discuss the State Land Board. He thanked Ray Cossey and Amanda Pierce for doing work on the easements.

Catherine Carella updated the Norwood Water Commission and states she is pleased with the progress we have made while she's been here. There was discussion regarding the which direction to take the pipeline and what to do regarding the wetlands. They discussed the challenges regarding gas infrastructure as well as coordinating with the ditch companies. The State Land Board parcels will need work on alignment especially near the water treatment plant and the reservoir. Ray Cossey has not been able to further discuss the easement with the owner of the Valentine Jubilee property and will make further attempts. There was also discussion regarding low pressures and what could be done to help.

### **E. Private Sector Funding – Ryan Howe**

Ryan Howe gave a presentation on potential private sector funding along with examples of those that have pursued funding through the private sector. He further

discussed how infrastructure is a community issue and the potential for asking the community for help through peer-to-peer philanthropy. The general consensus of the NWC board is to run these ideas by the attorney so we know what is legal and how to proceed appropriately and continue the discussion at the next regular meeting.

**F. Employee Compensation – Ray Cossey**

Ray Cossey discussed the potential for staff raises with the NWC Board. There was discussion of budget sessions, base pays, cost of living raises, and merit raises. Mike Grafmyer suggested they wait until the end of year and discuss this with the other boards before making a decision so they could get a sense of where they are. Amanda explained that some of our employees are shared. Reminders were given that we were getting ready for budget season, and we will be discussing these topics as we work through the budget for 2025.

**G. Uncompahgre Field Office Resource Management Plan**

The NWC Board discussed the impact the utility solar map would have on Norwood, specifically the areas of McKee Draw, Burn Canyon, and Beaver Canyon. There are concerns as there does not seem to be a cohesive plan and concerns regarding the potential impact on our San Miguel River point of diversion. Amanda will send areas of critical concern to Nicole Garrimone-Campagna for review.

**BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**STAFF REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

▪ **Randy Harris, Public Works Director**

Randy Harris was commended for earning his Class A Water Treatment Certificate. He states that it was as high as you can go. He discussed the certifications necessary for public works regarding water and state requirements. The homeland security camera project is going well and is about 85% complete. He is pursuing quotes for the reservoir aeration system. PRV #1 replacement quote came back at \$78,000.00 and is pursuing a couple of more quotes. He will ask about the floating solar panels as well. Randy discussed the annual tank cleaning, and the new company is half the price on a signed contract for the same inspections. He discussed the issues with the tank needing more vents as the tank is sweating and there is roof pitting. He will also look into tank mixer quotes.

▪ **Amanda Pierce, Administrator**

Amanda updated the NWC Board regarding emails. They will officially be [norwoodwater@norwoodwater.org](mailto:norwoodwater@norwoodwater.org). Jason LaFlamme is building out sharepoint. Scott is still running the numbers for the rate study. Patti Grafmyer has been asked to come in to help catch up on the audits. Amanda and the board members discussed available dates for a budget work session in October.

**ADJOURN**

Ray Cossey made a **motion** to adjourn the regular Norwood Water Commission meeting at 9:35pm. Mike Grafmyer seconded the **motion**. All voted **yes**. **Motion passed**.

**APPROVED**

**APPROVED AS CORRECTED**

