

Norwood Water Commission
Tuesday, October 8, 2024 – Regular Meeting
1670 Naturita Street, Norwood, CO 81423
7:00pm

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, **Vice Chair** – Finn Kjome, Ray Cossey, and Jenny Russell

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

ABSENT: Brad Campbell and Ryan Howe

OTHERS:

VIA ZOOM: Kerry Welch, Catherine Carella – SGM, and Nancy Willis

PUBLIC WALK IN PERIOD

REVIEW AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of September 10, 2024
- B. September Bills and Accounts

Ray Cossey made a **motion** to approve the consent agenda as corrected. Jenny Russell seconded the **motion**. **All** voted **yes**. **Motion passed**.

Amanda Pierce let the NWC Board know that the payment to ACM was actually for the Town of Norwood and not the Norwood Water Commission. The Town is reimbursing the payment.

Tony Daranyi asked if they could have the budget to actuals and Amanda explained that Patti Grafmyer is working on this.

Shawny Darby is to correct the accounts payables to say September instead of August.

BOARD BUSINESS

A. Redundant Line Grant Update – Catherine Carella (SGM)

1. Status of Easements
2. Temporary Access Permit
3. Environmental Assessment Progress
4. Project Needs Assessment Approval and Next Steps

Catherine Carella gave updates to the Norwood Water Commission board. Ray Cossey will continue to reach out to Valentine Jubilee farm to obtain landowner permission as he has left multiple messages and emails with no response yet. The board discussed alternate alignment options for the redundant line if we cannot use the current easement. Catherine mentioned the wetlands they found on the water treatment plant site and explained that they needed to do more fieldwork but held off on the cultural resources work until they are further along on an alignment. They also discussed agricultural runoff and agreed on the need to find a way to drain it away from our reservoir site. Catherine states that CDPHE had some questions that were addressed and confirmed the approval of the PNA. There mention of a couple of requests from DOLA. The confusion surrounding the project's funding and paperwork requirements were clarified.

B. Area of Critical Environmental Concern Legal Opinion – Nicole Garrimone-Campagna

The NWC Board discussed the information sent regarding the area of critical environmental concern. The BLM is very vague so it would be premature for us to do much right now.

C. Private Donations - Nicole Garrimone-Campagna

The feedback was that taking private donations is doable but we are limited to TABOR at 10%. The general consensus is they would like Ryan Howe to flesh it out more.

D. San Miguel River Project Update – Jenny Russell

Jenny Russell discussed the potential use of the water rights remaining for the San Miguel River project with the NWC board. There was discussion on the feasibility of moving the point of diversion to Beaver Creek and it was suggested that we reach out to San Miguel County for help on the project as they have previously shown interest in providing water for Norwood.

E. Colorado Water Conservation Board Capacity Grant Discussion – Jenny Russell

Catherine Carella asked what the level of effort it would take to apply for this grant. Jenny Russell updated the NWC Board on what she had done so far on the grant. Once a draft is complete she will give it to the board. SGM has to put together a budget and a schedule as this is for the raw water irrigation system. This is the last year for this particular funding. Southwest may be able to help add in some funds. It is a twenty-five percent match and half of that can be in kind. Tony Daranyi expressed his concerns as this has not been discussed in a formal meeting.

Ray Cossey made a **motion** to file the application. Finn Kjome seconded the **motion**. **All** voted **yes**. **Motion passed**.

F. Raw Water Reservoir Pond Run – Jenny Russell

The NWC Board discussed the possibility of a pond run for the raw water irrigation system. Randy Harris stated that they are trying to increase the capacity but that this was not a possibility as the suction causes damages. The current pond run is for livestock as there are storage limits.

G. Draft Presentation of 2025 Budget

1. Employee Compensation Status and Projection
2. Schedule Budget Work Session

Amanda Pierce discussed the 2025 draft budget with the NWC board with a focus on the need for more employee compensation, employee insurance, and other employee benefits. Bonuses remain uncertain until reconciliations are complete. Ray Cossey felt that three percent for cost of living was not really enough. There was discussion on

possibly hiring a contract employee for administrative tasks. It is difficult to proceed with what an administrative employee would cost as the Town of Norwood does not want to share employees so we have to see how they will proceed. There will be a work session prior to the regular meeting next month which will be followed by a public hearing in December.

H. Meeting Time Change Discussion Update

The NWC Board briefly discussed what could be done but that it would have to wait until the end of November. This will be on the next agenda.

I. Executive Session

For personnel discussion under C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(f).

1. Personnel Matters Relating to Administrator – Amanda Pierce

Jenny Russell asked if this really needed to be an executive session. After the NWC Board and Amanda Pierce discussed this, it was decided that it would be done in an open session. The Board and Amanda discussed her position as interim administrator as she is contracted through the end of the year. Tony Daranyi reminded everyone that the contract is subject to renewal. Upon further discussion they decided to discuss it during the budget work sessions more so they had a clearer picture of what they had to spend.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAFF REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Randy Harris, Public Works Director

There was an abandoned water line that broke on the school side. It had been capped off 5 years ago.

Randy gave updates on the security projects regarding the camera installations.

There was high disinfectant by product levels due to the warmer summer conditions.

He discussed potential aeration solutions that would need engineering approval, some clean up efforts and dam inspection.

He has completed the lead inventory.

There was an application for new water service for Carol Cook's property at Raptor's Point. There is no main line going to the property so they have applied for a mainline extension. They may need to replace the lines going toward them to a 4-inch line to increase pressure.

There have not been any complaints regarding the Redvale project.

- Amanda Pierce, Administrator
 1. Rate Study Update
 2. Norwood Water Commission Emails Update

Amanda gave an update on the rate study.

Jason Laflamme has executed the norwoodwater.org domain and is now building it out.

Amanda let the NWC Board know that she has been tasked with putting together a Christmas party that will be for all of the entities.

Amanda also let the Board know that she and Becky Hannigan had been nominated for Clerk of the Year and Rookie of the Year through CMCA.

ADJOURN

Ray Cossey made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting at 8:46p. Jenny Russell seconded the **motion**. All voted **yes**. **Motion passed**.