



BEATTY WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 21, 2024

Frank Jarvis – Board Chair
Derek Stonebarger – Vice-Chair
David Bryan – Secretary/Treasurer

Albert Verrilli – Member
Amina Anderson – Member

ITEM #	SUBJECT
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1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Call to order at 4:00 pm. All board members present. D. Stonebarger present via phone. Refer to sign in sheet for public attendees.

2. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – Three-minute time limit per person for matters both on and off the agenda. No action will be taken by the Board.**

None.

3. **Approval of the agenda for Beatty Water and Sanitation District Meeting August 21, 2024. (Non-action item)**

Approved.

4. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION – Approval of the minutes for July 24, 2024.**

Motion to approve by Amina Anderson, 2nd by David Bryan. 5 yeas.

5. **PRESENTATION: OFFICE REPORT – Update from Office Staff, Nye County, Utilities Services and/or Day Engineering regarding system breaks, illegal and new connections, and system projects update. No action will be taken by the Board.**

Joel Murphy (General Manager) – Surveys will be mailed out with bills. Quick questionnaire on mater of their indoor plumbing. This is in regards to NDEP Lead and Copper Inventory. Residents can call the office for any assistance or questions. A thank you to residents for their participation. Admin assistant will be taking leave at end of December. Possibility of bringing in a replacement or temp. What direction to go in. Need to get himself on some of the accounts. Joe Westerlund, Tonopah Town manager, made offer to borrow a jetter service truck. Would be responsible for the maintenance, declined the offer at the moment. Don't have good place to store it. Finances look good for the month.

6. **PRESENTATION – Presentation and discussion by Palistha Shrestha with Desert**

Research Institute on data for the Well 2 Study of fluoride removal conducted.

Palistha Shrestha (Desert Research Institute) – Presenting data on their experiment in removing fluoride in water by using marina plant extract combined with electricity that is run through the alumina plates. Team that helped was Director Dr. Braimah Apambire, assistant Jasmine, Amina from Beatty Water and assistant Victoria (not pictured). High fluoride causes permanent damage to both teeth and bones. Also known to cause a lot of different destruction in internal organs. Beatty in particular has had high fluoride. Beatty had a fluorspar mine not far from town that excavated the fluoride minerals. Well 2 currently not in use due to high fluoride concentration, perfect for their experiment. Moringa leaf grounded into a powder form and combined it to the water they wanted to treat. Water was then put into the treatment tank and the electrical lines were connected to the metal plate. The electricity dissolves the aluminum into the water which then combines with the fluoride and becomes sludge. They found the sludge size was 1-4 micrometers big. Also found that it removed fluoride but also arsenic calcium magnesium and sodium. When they looked at the fluoride concentrations, two different conditions tested. One was using little electricity but ran longer versus using higher electricity and running for a shorter amount of time. (Graph) There is a very short decrease of the fluoride concentration. Well below the allowed EPA levels that are in forcible. Fluoride removal rate was at 90% at lower electricity in 60 minutes. 75% at higher electricity in 15 minutes. A longer treatment time can improve the removal rate. Both the experiments costed the same per liter water treated in terms of electricity costs. What they plan to do with the information from Beatty, look at more timed intervals to make the process more efficient. Also, explore adding solar panels to the system to make more independent. Knowing the size of sludge, they can move forward with the added to the filtration system. There are systems that take sludge and produce bricks and plan to explore for zero waste. Thanks Beatty Water for helping with the study and putting on the meeting. A. Verrilli asks how they removed the fluoride waste. Palistha says they took the sludge to DRI in Reno for analysis and plan to explore more the options of the waste being used to make bricks and other material for zero waste and not having to take it to a waste facility.

7. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION – Discussion, Deliberation and Possible Decision on Will Serve for parcel 018-221-31 (425 S A Avenue) submitted by Sullivan and Sullivan LLC.

Gus Sullivan – recently purchased property and currently has one RV spot on it. Applied for two more water meters on the property to hook up two more RV spots to be a little more profitable. Will be for 2 water and 2 sewers. Motion by Albert Verrilli to approve will serve,

2nd by David Bryan. 5 years.

8. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION – Discussion, Deliberation and Possible Decision on moving forward with a public notice to auction off Beatty Water vehicle truck Chevy 1500, Hyster Forklift, Baker Forklift, walk behind Asphalt Saw and Drain Snake and Trailer.

Joel Murphy (General Manager) – for equipment that is not being used. The cost to get everything up and working is not there. Currently have an asphalt cutter and snake in working condition. Would like to clean up yard a bit. Public notice will be posted. Closed sealed envelope bid. Can put money towards some other equipment. Motion by David Bryan to start the bid process for the 5-equipment listed, 2nd by Amina Anderson. 5 years.

9. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION – Discussion, Deliberation and Possible Decision on approving the purchase of 3 pumps for the Booster Station in amount of \$32, 970.00 from Carson Pumps to be transferred from Local Government Investment Pool Capital Improvement account.

Joel Murphy (General Manager) – One pump currently down. Bid from Carson Pumps to replace all 3 pumps. Wouldn't want another pump to go down. Board asks for 2 more bids. Motion by David Bryan to get to more bids, not to exceed \$32,970, 2nd by Amina Anderson. 5 years.

10. PRESENTATION – Presentation and discussion by Thomas Gallagher with Nevada Water Solutions on the interest by his client on the possibility of leasing or purchasing of water rights in Sarcobatus Flat.

Thomas Gallagher – (Civil Engineer, Nevada Division of Water Resources) Client he is representing is originally Bonnie Venture Nevada, Inc. Have filed an application for water out by Death Valley's Scotty's Junction. Bonnie Venture is now Nevada Lithium. Very early stages of planning and design. Application protested by National Park Service and has been for 9 years. Been working with the Park Service to find out what they need from them to drop the protest. Client has agreed in principle to a monitoring plan in exchange for them to withdraw the protest. He has done a survey of all water rights in Sarcobatus Basin. Nothing really going on and no one is pumping anything. (Section unheard due to public on phone speaking during presentation.) T. Gallagher goes into explanation of the potential of losing water rights and process. T. Gallagher explains in detail Beatty Water's water rights and applications submitted in the past. Beatty Water declined notion of purchase back in February. Are at the possibility of possibly leasing the water rights or having first right refusal. Has documents that confirm the value of the water rights. Different examples are

given. Gallagher asks if there is someone or an agency that represents Beatty Water and F. Jarvis says yes. Gallagher says maybe they can do a lease agreement to get the ball rolling with first right of refusal with conditions; amenable to both sides. In the interest in protecting his client, part of that condition of lease or purchase subject to the approval that they would be transferred into mining. At some point manner of use will need to be changed. A. Verrilli would be more inclined to lease than to sell. He mentions as a Water District they have a little more of the ability to hang on to the water. Roni Odin (public comment) asks what lithium is exactly and its connection to water and where the mine is relative to Beatty Water's water rights. T. Gallagher goes into explanation of the mine. Matt Dyck (public comment) asks who the client is and if they are out of Canada and Gallagher repeats Nevada Lithium out of Reno. Does not know so can not answer to it being a subsidiary to Green Energy. Discussion between the two on disclosing certain things and being transparent. Catherine Charles and Mr. Macintire (public comment) they are retaining an attorney. Looks to them they are trying to steal them (water rights). They have gotten higher offers and not going to sell for anything less than what they are getting an offer for.

11. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION – Discussion, Deliberation and Possible Decision on starting the process for the leasing or selling of water rights.

Joel Murphy (general manager) – revisiting the State Engineers letter, it is something that they need to consider. The location of where it is and the expense of running a water pipeline out there, and water testing; he believes the best interest would be leasing or selling the water rights. Amina asks how far it is and how much it would cost for them to find a new source of water and drill new wells. Joel says it would be a lot cheaper than out there. That they are a lot cheaper (referring to 200–300-foot wells). Amina's understanding is that in the past the intention of the water rights was to use them to support the potential growth of the community and that growth is immanently on the horizon; should really touch base with some engineers to see the reality of change in costs from then to now. It will help consider the options. Frank states how much water rights Beatty has and that it is plenty to sustain growth. The leases that he has seen all have exit clauses based on need. Roni Odin (public comment) asks what the current use of water rights is. Frank explains. Roni also asks the dangers of lithium to water rights. How close the lithium mine is to Sarcobatus. Frank doesn't know but would guess around a couple miles. Teresa Sullivan (public comment) – doesn't see the negative. Says it would take years for them to build a pipeline. As long as there is a clause in the lease, they can regain it. Doesn't see the negative in the District making money. Frank goes into the explanation of the leasing of water rights process. He

says the upside to selling would be one time, it would be a bulk payment and would never have to deal with the water rights again. The room is more in favor to leasing rather than selling. Board would like to get more information first. Motion by David Bryan to move forward and get more information to refine their process, 2nd by Albert Verrilli. 5 yeas. Joel Murphy will bring in Guy Hobbs with LVVWD to help with information.

12. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS/COMMENTS –Announcements or topics / issues proposed for future workshops and agendas. No action will be taken by the Board.

A. Anderson – Mentions Rate Study, unit audit and Conservation Plan update. Need to get a move on it.

Marty Ugalde (Day Engineering) – September 3 will be the South Tank tie in and 9th work will begin on Booster Tank. Should be up within 3 weeks. Mentions SRF has \$25 million uncommitted funds. Current project needs to close first.

13. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION – Schedule next Board of Trustees meeting date and time.

Motion by David Brayn to schedule meeting for September 25, 2024 at 4:00 pm, 2nd by Albert Verrilli. 5 yeas.

14. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – Three-minute time limit per person for matters both on and off the agenda. No action will be taken by the Board.

Roni Odin – (Cannot hear through recording.) Says something about the rainfall.

Male #1 (Corvus Gold) – Repeats their interest also in water rights.

Nancy Sullinger – Says thank you for providing number for meeting to be able to come in.

Catherine Charles – Says thank you for being able to listen in.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 5:38 pm.

Translated By: _____ Date: September 23, 2024

Signature Approval of the Minutes

1. _____
Frank Jarvis

2. _____
Derek Stonebarger

3. _____
David Bryan

4. _____
Amina Anderson

5. _____
Albert Verrill