

1 COLTON WATER DISTRICT
2 MEETING OF THE BOARD
3 September 17, 2024

4 **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

5 **Board Members Present:** Colin Wait, Teresa Bricker, Alan Gross, and Carl Stephens

6 **Other's Present:** Betty Hodges, Pete Dostert, Cody Seelye, and Dan Belles

7 Upon calling the meeting to order, the Board moved public comment to the first agenda item to allow
8 Mr. Dan Belles to address the Board without needing to remain for the entire meeting.

9 **PUBLIC COMMENT: Daniel Belles** (21995 S Belles Way and Grays Hill Rd) spoke for 39 minutes and 13
10 seconds.

11 **Mr. Belles** addressed the Board regarding a bill for \$500 (the actual amount is \$291.95) related to a
12 broken water line on his property. He claimed he should not be responsible for the bill as he was
13 unaware of the Colton Water lines' locations and expressed dissatisfaction with **Pete Dostert's** attitude.

14 • **Timeline of Events:**

15 **Mr. Belles** confirmed he called for locates on July 17, 2024, and began excavating before the 48-
16 hour locating period expired. **Colin Wait** noted that the time-stamped photos showed the break
17 occurred on July 18th, within the 48-hour for locating water lines.
18 window

19 **Additional Concerns:**

20 **Mr. Belles** raised concerns regarding a separate leak on the main water line, claiming he was not
21 responsible for that damage either. **Mr. Belles** also asked **Pete Dostert** if he wanted the large water
22 valve back that was left at his property for a previous project that **Mr. Belles** abandoned. Pete
23 replied, "No, you can keep it because it is no longer useful to the District."
24

25 • **Board Discussion:**

26 **Colin Wait** asked the Board if they believed a reduction should be given on the bill. A motion was
27 made for Board members to vote in favor of or against reducing or waiving the bill. No Board
28 members voted in favor, and the motion did not pass.
29

30 • **Potential Legal Action:**

31 **Mr. Belles** indicated that he may pursue legal action if billed for the mainline repair, then left the
32 meeting after voicing his frustrations.
33

34 • **Documentation:**

35 **Pete Dostert** assured the Board that there is thorough documentation of the incident.
36

37 • **Incident Report - Return of Daniel Belles:**

38 25 minutes after leaving, **Mr. Belles** returned to the meeting, forcefully pushed the door open, and
39 hurled an 80–100 pound water valve into the room, exclaiming, 'Here's your valve. Thanks for your
40 help bud!' The Board expressed concerns about his behavior and promptly secured the meeting
41 room.

46 **APPROVAL OF AUGUST MINUTES:**

47

Carl Stephens moved to approve the minutes from the August 13, 2024, Board meeting. **Teresa Bricker** seconded, and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

48 **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

49 **Betty Hodges** reported that the new LGIP account accrued \$941.26 in dividends within 11 days. The
50 Board agreed to maintain the Umpqua Money Market account with a balance of approximately \$50,000.

51 An additional \$40,000 was transferred along with the regular monthly transfer to reduce the general
52 checking account balance. This amount will be included in the budgeted yearly transfers.

53

Carl Stephens made a motion to accept the financial report for August 2024. **Alan Gross** seconded, and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

54 **MANAGER'S REPORT:**

55 **Betty Hodges** informed the Board that auditor, **Russ Ries**, conducted the annual audit today (September
56 17, 2024) and provided an A+ review. He will schedule an appointment to present the audit findings to
57 the Board in October or November.

58 **Betty** also reported that the new hydrant meter had arrived at a cost of \$759.38. However, the company
59 scheduled to begin purchasing water has not yet provided a start date. The Board decided that the
60 meter should be stored in the office when not in use, and businesses must schedule ahead for its use.

61 **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

62 **Cody Seelye** reported that several repairs have been completed, including repairs to the chlorine alarm,
63 sonic flow meter, and the water line break at Daniel Belles' property. He also informed the Board that
64 the Lead and Copper Rule Revision report, due on October 16, 2024, has been submitted.

65 **Cody** noted that Keith Male conducted the scheduled Sanitary Survey and expressed satisfaction with
66 the improvements made, though he identified a few areas for further enhancement.

67 **Colin Wait** inquired about Matton's involvement in the repair work on Hult Rd. In response, **Pete**
68 **Dostert** mentioned that Grady Johnson (ET Excavation) has proposed an alternative solution that would

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72 be significantly less expensive and would not require an engineer. The Board is currently awaiting a
73 quote for this proposal.

74 **OLD BUSINESS:**

- 75 • **Water Rates and Fees (DP102.3):**
76 Discussion was tabled until Ken Carroll is present. **Teresa Bricker** provided additional
77 information, including comparisons with other districts.
78
- 79 • **Grant Team Update:**
80 **Teresa Bricker** reported that the district was not awarded the OREM grant; however, our
81 application will remain open until June 2025. The CWD WaterSMART grant application was
82 removed from review due to a misclassification. The error has been corrected, and the District's
83 application will continue through the review process. In the event the grant application is not
84 funded, the District will reapply in January 2025.
85
86 **Teresa** also noted the challenges in securing grants for a new treatment plant and is actively
87 seeking a technical assistance grant to fund an updated Water Master Plan. The Grant
88 Committee is scheduled to reconvene on October 17th.
89
- 90 • **Hult Rd Water Line Repair:**
91 Covered in the Superintendent's Report.
92
- 93 • **Lead and Copper Project:**
94 Completed, as discussed in the Superintendent's Report.
95
- 96 • **LGIP Update:**
97 Discussed in the Financial Report.

98 **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 99 • **System Development Application:**
100 The Board accepted a check for \$2,629 from Mr. Belles for system development at 21995 S
101 Belles Way.
102
- 103 • **Email from CwMH2O:**
104 The Board agreed to proceed with the request for 0.4 CFS for permit S-44505.

105 **ADJOURNMENT:**

106 The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

107 _____ Director _____ (Date)