

RAE SUBDIVISION COUNTY WATER & SEWER DISTRICT NO. 313
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
July 16th, 2025 at 7 pm

Present:

Andrew Williamson, Board President
Nikki Penniman, Vice President
Rich McLane, Board Member
Bob Ingram, Board Member
Perry Hofferber, Board Member

Ken Ridgway, Manager
Val Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer
James Connolly, Hyalite Engineers

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 by Andrew Williamson, Board President. The meeting was held in the main office at RAE Water District.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes from the June 2025 board meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the June 2025 minutes was made by Nikki Penniman and seconded by Perry Hofferber.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The treasurer's report for June 2025 was reviewed. Payments were noted for a dig repair to Xtreme Restoration for \$6,408 #199 King Arthur and Western Skies landscaping for \$4,480 for work around new office addition. Other payments were typical monthly payments. A motion to approve the June 2025 minutes was made by Nikki Penniman and seconded by Perry Hofferber. The motion passed unanimously.

- A motion to approve the May treasurer's report was made by Nikki Penniman and seconded by Bob Ingram. The motion passed unanimously.
- Val noted that we did receive the MCEP (Montana Coal Endowment) grant for \$40,000 on July 1st, 2025, in relation to last fiscal years' Wastewater PER.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Water tank expansion Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement is still in progress through both parties' lawyers. It should be available by August 2025 meeting.
- James Connolly from Hyalite Engineers gave an update on water expansion. He stated the timeline to be up and running with the two wells and water tower is July 2026. The cost to date is \$758,000 with approximate total cost of \$3,400,000. He will be submitting information to DEQ within the next week or so. James stated they are considering a vault for the well controls instead of a well building. He will further discuss with Ken to determine

feasibility. Nikki Penniman gave a presentation on water towers and discussion was held concerning color and graphics. There will be further investigation on cost of graphics and color and will be further discussed at August 2025 meeting. The discussion also included RAE Water District logo and pursuing an update for our old logo. There was agreement that this needs to be updated.

MANAGERS REPORT: Ken

- A structure has been erected around the fuel point location. We are waiting on Christy Electric to complete the electrical requirements. Once electricity has been installed, we will put up a fence and install a roof. It does require open sides for air flow. There will be an up-front cost for filling the tanks of approximately \$2,500 to \$3,000 for gas and diesel.
- RAE Water is still waiting on Lyons Excavation for water leak repairs.
- RAE Water is still waiting on a new mag flow meter to be installed by Williams Plumbing, who have been contacted for installation.
- We are currently running a sludge dewatering pilot system at the digesters. Ken was pleased with the results. The sludge dewatering is part of the upgrades discussed in the Wastewater PER with a cost of approximately \$1,100,000. Ken will pursue ideas on removing the waste from the property if we were to install the dewatering system.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Fiscal year 2025/2026 budget was discussed. There will be minor changes made on operating costs and the Board will further review. This will be further discussed and adopted/not adopted at the August 2025 Board meeting. An excel spreadsheet will be sent to the board with previous years' actual costs prior to FY2025.
- Capital improvements and projections were discussed. The Board will do further review and will discuss at August 2025 Board meeting.
- HRA annual review and discussion on the Fiscal year 2025/2026. There was not any request to change the HRA policy at this point. Further discussion at August 2025 Board Meeting.
- James Connolly from Hyalite Engineers, as representation from Woodbury Grove subdivision asked when more houses can be built. It was requested that developers come to a Board meeting to further discuss.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for August 20th, 2025, at 7 p.m. We will meet in the RAE Water District office.

ADJOURN: Nikki Penniman motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m. and this was seconded by Bob Ingram. The motion passed unanimously. Board requested executive session for employee evaluation.

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