

The Meadows of Melody Ranch

ISD

Board of Director's Meeting
Monday, January 8, 2024 1:00 pm
Zoom

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: 1:02

Attendance:

Bob Hammond- President

Demerie Edington - GTPM

Kent Van Riper- VP

Jim Hammerel- Treasurer

Justin Daraie- Board Member

Robert Wikoff- Board Member (joined meeting at 1:30)

Matt Ostdiek- Rendezvous Engineering

Brock Walters & Chris Blayne – Silverstar

1. Homeowner and Guest Time

Brock Walters & Chris Blayne from Silverstar attended the meeting to discuss bringing an Open Access Fiber Network into Melody Ranch. They have been doing this in other communities in Teton County including Cottonwood. This fiber access will be capable of providing 10 Gig to each house. That would be 1000 times faster than the 100 Mbps that most homes currently get. The prices are lower and the program allows for competition. There are three providers currently available that will charge owners a monthly fee with no contract for fiber service. The construction and installation of the fiber will be at no cost to Melody Ranch or the homeowners. Silverstar will work with the Melody ISD to discover placement for the cables and fiber within the utility corridor and they will bore the lines down in that right-of way. Silverstar will pay for all construction and reclamation fees and customers who sign up for service now will not be charged for installation. Silverstar will obtain all necessary permits including one to cross Flat Creek. The goal is to start the project in May

The board unanimously agreed to allow Silverstar to take the next step to implementing this service and move forward.

2. Approval of Minutes 11.15.23

Jim moved to approve the minutes from November 15, 2023. Kent seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

3. Financial Report

a. Year-to-date financials

Demerie reviewed the financial statement noting that the ISD has collected \$160,800 in income so far this year. There are a few expense items that have exceeded the budget including the legal fees for the LVE Sewer Connection work in the amount of \$13,346. Street maintenance is also over budget due to the asphalt work that was done by Evans Construction over the summer. Special projects are also over-budget currently as a result of the pump and wiring work that was completed by Peak Water, Delcon and Westwood Curtis. Only \$21,250 has been deposited into the reverse account in an effort to keep sufficient funds in the operating account. The deposit will be made in the coming weeks, once the property tax deposit is received.

b. Delinquent Account Update

There are no accounts that are of concern at this point.

4. Business

Matt Ostdiek reported on the current issues as they pertain to the water system.

~ The pump cable has been delivered. It will be installed during the next regular maintenance call, as previously discussed.

~ There have not been many high alarms. However, homeowners need to be reminded not to flush wipes of any kind down the toilet. These continue to cause clogs and issues.

~ Matt has submitted two pay requests to ARPA. The one for \$43,000 is being processed. The one for \$27,000 for the new pump has not been reviewed yet.

~ The third pump is working great, though not often. Use of this pump is higher on the weekends. The two smaller old pumps will need to be replaced as well, even though they are currently keeping up with demand. Matt is looking at a new BFD drive and pump, but does not have a precise cost. He will present something more formally once the costs are known.

~ The agreement with Kilmain has been completed. That is the extent of that work at this time. Should he want to connect, there will be charges to him directly. Kent is the point of contact.

~ We were expecting six bids for the well. Only three were received, and all were over the engineering estimate. The lowest bidder did not include a bid bond (they sent a personal check instead). The state will not accept this and will not fund it. The second bidder from Riverton did not complete the paperwork correctly. The board discussed whether or not it would be worth the time and effort to rebid the project for a third time. They also discussed the possibility of paying for the exploratory test

drill (at an approximate cost of \$140,000) out of pocket and submitting that for reimbursement to the state. Another option is to reject all three bids and get the project rebid in phases. The board discussed opting for a shallower aquifer at 100' which would save between \$100,000 and \$200,000 over digger down to 500'. Ultimately, we will hold all three bids while Matt, Bob and Kent meet with the state to discuss questions and options. The board will meet afterwards and decide what to do.

5. Schedule Next Meeting

The board will meet again on Wednesday, January 17th at 3:00 pm to review the conversation with the state and determine what to do with the bids.

6. Adjournment 2:53