

The Meadows of Melody Ranch

ISD

Board Meeting

Thursday, May 28, 2026 at 9:30 MT

Zoom

Minutes

Attendance:

Bob Hammond

Demerie Edington - GTPM

Justin Daraie

Robert Wikoff

Jim Hammerel

Others:

Bruce Keller

Julia Belopotosky, Midwest Assistance Program.

Nancy Martino

1. Call to Order 10:02

With four of five board members in attendance, a quorum was established.

2. Guest time

Julia Belopotosky from the Midwest Assistance Program attended the meeting to discuss rate studies and other ways she could help the ISD. Her organization is fully funded by state and national sources, allowing it to help with local rural and wastewater needs. She is able to help bridge the gap by providing managerial, financial, and/or technical assistance. They can test for water loss/infiltration, help determine rates, conduct asset management, reserve studies, cost analysis, and study asset management. They can help locate funding and grants by tapping into their large network and partnerships that extend throughout the entire county. The more the ISD needs, the more they can be involved. At a minimum, they will provide one call per month and one site visit every three months.

3. Budget Hearing to approve amended 2025-26 Budget

The budget hearing started at 9:52

Demerie indicated that it was a little tricky since invoices have not been received from Matt Ostdiek for his engineering fees. The "Street Maintenance" overage expense includes a \$5k invoice related to roadway tree trimmings around Melody, and willow trimming and mowing around the Lift Pump station.

After reviewing the line items that needed to be adjusted according to actual expenses, Jim moved to approve the amended budget for 2025-26 as presented. Robert seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes May 4, 2026

Jim moved to approve the meeting minutes from May 4, 2026. Robert seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

5. Financial Review

a. 2025-26 Y-T-D Financials

Total operating expenses have been paid in the amount of \$208,933. \$258,962 has been collected in income. The operating account has a balance of \$173,698, and there is \$510,302 in the reserve account.

b. 2026-27 Draft Budget Review

The proposed budget for 2026-27 carries over the current adjusted budget based on expenses. The board expressed disdain for having to amend the budget throughout the fiscal year and would like to take half of the earmarked reserve deposit for the next fiscal year and spread it over the various expense categories to create a cushion that would preclude needing an additional budget meeting to amend. Then, at the end of the fiscal year, take any extra revenue and sweep it into the reserve account. They would also like to see the engineering category as one large aggregate number, with a breakout of the specific line items noted. Jim moved to approve the draft budget as presented for the purpose of submitting a draft to the state. Robert seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

6. Business

a. Engineering Report

Bob reported that he attended the meeting with Matt Ostdiek and the contractors working on the 3rd well project. There is currently a very long delay in receiving the electrical materials, as they are 40-weeks out. The goal will be to have the civil work outside the pump house done in the fall and be ready for the electrical work when the equipment is received. Melody does have one large and one small backup pump, but they would like to keep an eye on water use. Encouraging conversation efforts may be helpful this summer.

b. ISD Expansion for LVE

The agreement for the expansion of the ISD to include Lower Valley Energy has been shared. The agreement for cost disbursement basically calls for LVE to pay all the expenses related to expanding the District and its services. Justin moved to authorize

Bob to sign the agreement as presented. Jim seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

c. Other Items

The ISD is very encouraged by the presentation from Julia and would like to have her help with an asset review and rate study, as well as find the leaks and infiltration with the smoke test she described. They need to prioritize and have her do one thing at a time.

7. Schedule Next Meeting

Budget and engineer update meeting Tuesday, June 23rd at 10:00 am

Budget hearing July 8 at 10:00 am.

8. Adjournment 10:26