

Norwood Water Commission  
Tuesday July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024- Regular Meeting  
Norwood Community Center 7:00 P.M.

**I) Call to Order:**

Tony Daranyi called the regular meeting of the Norwood Water Commission to order at 7:00P.M. The Norwood Water Commission of San Miguel County, State of Colorado, met in regular session at the Norwood Community Center, 1670 Naturita Street, Norwood, Colorado. Those being present were as follows:

**Present:**        **Chairman** – Tony Daranyi, **Vice Chairman** – Finn Kjome, Brad Campbell, Ryan Howe, Mike Grafmyer and Ray Cossey

**Staff:**            Randy Harris – ORC and Shawny Darby – Secretary

**Absent:**

**Others:**         Ellen Bradley, Mia Rupani, and Mandy Shirley

**Via Zoom** – Richard Nelson, Kattie Neesham, Ellen Metrick, Regan Tuttle, Alexander Pape, and Shawn Fallon

**II) Public Walk-In Period:**

**III) Review/Consent Agenda**

- a) *Minutes of June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024***
- b) *June 2024 Bills & Accounts***

Mike Grafmyer made a **motion** to review the present agenda. Brad Campbell seconded the **motion. Motion passed.**

Mike Grafmyer made a **motion** to approve the consent agenda as presented. Brad Campbell seconded the **motion. Motion passed.**

Randy noted that he will review the Ferguson bill as it may have been for the Town of Norwood.

Mike Grafmyer made a **motion** to add to the agenda IV) Board Business a) 1. Refusal of Chairman Resignation. Ray Cossey seconded the **motion. Motion passed.**

Mike Grafmyer made a **motion** to add a Discussion of Hiring Interim Employee to VII) Staff Reports/Announcements c). Finn Kjome seconded the **motion**. **Motion passed.**

Finn Kjome made a **motion** to add Appoint a Second NWC Board Member to the Personnel Committee to IV)Board Business b). Mike Grafmyer seconded the **motion**. **Motion passed.**

Brad Campbell made a **motion** to add a Discussion Regarding Retaining Staff to IV) Board Business c). Mike Grafmyer seconded the **motion**. **Motion passed.**

#### **IV) Board Business:**

##### **a) SMWCD Appointment – Ryan Howe Introduction**

The NWC Board welcomed Ryan Howe. Ryan introduced himself and let the Board know why he felt he would make a good asset for them, including his grant writing experience. The Board introduced themselves as well.

##### **1. Refusal of Chairman Resignation**

Mike Grafmyer let Tony Daranyi know that we needed him right now. Brad Campbell let Tony know that he is an asset to the NWC Board and the Norwood Water Commission. Ray Cossey reiterated what the others felt. Tony states that he appreciates the support. Tony feels that the politics are starting to overwhelm our to move forward with losing a team member and Town Manager. He feels that we all want the same but have reached a boiling point. Tony will take this under advisement.

Mike Grafmyer made a **motion** to not accept Tony Daranyi's resignation. Ray Cossey seconded the **motion**. Ryan Howe **abstained** as he has not been on the NWC Board until today. **Motion passed.**

##### **b) Appoint a Second NWC Board Member to the Personnel Committee**

##### **c) Discussion Regarding Retaining Staff**

##### **d) Legal Firm Selection**

The NWC Board discussed the legal firms they had narrowed down to and felt that Garfield and Hecht in Telluride stood out due to their extensive experience with government work as well as water experience.

Ray Cossey made a **motion** to accept Garfield and Hecht as our law firm. Brad Campbell seconded the **motion**. **Motion passed.**

Finn Kjome will let Garfield and Hecht know that we have decided on them.

**e) Ellen Bradley Water Tap Discussion**

Ellen Bradley discussed what has progressed regarding her water taps that had been originally approved by the NWC Board. She explained that \$186,000 was the estimated cost and that ACM Excavation would be the contractor. Randy Harris has been discussing it with them. ACM Excavation needs 3 to 4 months to get their permits together. Ellen is seeking reapproval for November 2024 as she is concerned about hitting bed rock. She is asking to be able to make both tap purchases of a total of \$24,000.00 thirty days after that. Ray Cossey asked about her right of way and if it has been recorded. She states that it will be recorded in Montrose County.

Finn Kjome made a **motion** to reapprove both taps for both properties as Ellen Bradley has asked. Ray Cossey seconded the **motion. Motion passed.**

**f) Discussion Regarding System Upgrades (if any)**

**1. Update on Application for Redundant Line Grant Application**

Finn Kjome gave an update regarding the grant for the redundant line. We should move forward on the environmental assessment. Mike Grafmyer asked how long it would take and Finn states he will ask and let the NWC Board know that Lauren Kirn is still helping us out. We have essentially gotten through the PNA but this is the next step. The PNA is in review. Finn had been trying to get ahold of Chad Hill but found out he has passed.

Ray Cossey made a **motion** to move forward on the environmental assessment which cost approximately \$50,800.00 - \$65,000.00. Finn Kjome seconded the **motion. Motion passed.**

**g) Raw Water Replacement Cards Discussion**

Mike Grafmyer made a **motion** to table this discussion until the next meeting. Ray Cossey seconded the **motion. Motion passed.**

**h) Water Dispenser Update & Survey**

**1. Website Update**

Tony Daranyi expressed concern regarding the verbiage for the Water Dispenser service boundaries.

Ray Cossey made a **motion** to change the verbiage to “special potable Water Dispenser boundary map” to differentiate between the regular NWC service boundaries and the Water Dispenser. Brad Campbell seconded the **motion. Motion passed.**

**2. GIS Map Update**

The NWC Board mentioned that this has gone out to the county GIS to get updated.

**V) Board Member Reports and Announcements: (if any)**

Brad Campbell states that his phone has been blowing up. He received Deana Sherrif's resignation last night and (Town) lost an employee this morning. Shawny Darby reached out for direction. Brad told her to just worry about her normal job and everything else beyond that gets tabled. Mike Grafmyer gave direction for Shawny to remain open other than for PTO on Wednesday.

Mike Grafmyer recommends hiring Amanda Pierce as the interim administrator for the NWC until we can get everything hashed out indefinitely. Ray Cossey asked if there would be a conflict of interest with her having been an employee of the Town of Norwood. Finn Kjome will ask the attorney.

Mike Grafmyer made a **motion** to hire Amanda Pierce as our Interim Administrator until we get everything figured out. Ray Cossey seconded the **motion**. **All voted yes. Motion passed.**

Brad Campbell will approach Amanda Pierce for discussion.

The NWC Board discussed the personnel committee. Finn Kjome is the existing member of the personnel committee. Richard Nelson was the other. Brad Campbell feels that Mike Grafmyer and Finn Kjome should be our representatives as they are familiar with our history. The Board discussed further.

Mike Grafmyer made a **motion** to nominate Ray Cossey to be the new member of the personnel committee. Brad Campbell seconded the **motion**. **All voted yes. Motion passed.**

#### **VI) Executive Session:**

**For the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiation; and instruction to negotiators under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e).**

Mike Grafmyer **moved** to go into executive session at this time for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiation; and instruction to negotiators under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e). Finn Kjome seconded the **motion**. **All voted yes. Motion passed.**

Executive Session has begun. It is Tuesday, July 9th, 2024 and the time is now 8:20pm. For the record, I, Tony Daranyi, chairman of the Norwood Water Commission, am the presiding officer. As required by the Open Meetings Law, this executive session is being electronically recorded. This is an executive session for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiation; and instruction to negotiators under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e).

Tony cautioned each participant to confine all discussion to the stated purpose of the executive session, and that no formal action may occur in the executive session. If at any

point in the executive session any participant believes that the discussion is going outside the proper scope of the above stated purpose of the session, please interrupt the discussion and make an objection. Additionally, all conversations within this executive session must remain confidential.

Tony states that he hereby attests that this recording reflects the actual contents of the discussion at the executive session and has been made in lieu of any written minutes to satisfy the recording requirements of Open Meeting Law. I will direct the NWC Secretary to retain the recording for a 90 day period.

The time is now 8:39pm and we conclude the executive session.

The time is now 8:40pm and the executive session has been concluded. For the record if any person who participated in the executive session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in the motion to go into executive session occurred during the session, or that any improper action occurred during the executive session in violation of the Open Meetings Law, I would ask that you state your concerns for the record.

There were no concerns.

#### **VII) Staff Reports/ Announcements**

##### **a) Public Works Directors Report**

##### **1. Randy Harris – Class 3 Water Distribution System Operator**

Public Works report hereunto attached.

Randy Harris has earned his Class 3 Water Distribution System Operator certification.

##### **b) Administrative Reports**

Town Manager Norwood Water Commission report hereunto attached.

##### **c) Discussion of Hiring Interim Employee**

The NWC Board discussed recent events surrounding the termination of Town Clerk – Amanda Pierce which was subsequently followed last night by the immediate resignation of Town Manager – Deana Sherrif which was then followed with the immediate resignation of Deputy Town Clerk – Becky Hannigan this morning. The secretary for the Norwood Water Commission and Norwood Sanitation District, Shawny Darby, remained in the office. The NWC Board further discussed the need for an Interim Administrator for the Norwood Water Commission with the possibility of advertising for a permanent Administrator in the future.

#### **VIII) Adjourn:**

Ray Cossey made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting. Mike Grafmyer seconded the **motion**.

**All voted yes. Motion passed.**

**Approved:**

**Approved as Corrected:**

 August 13, 2024