

DURANGO WEST METROPOLITAN DISTRICT No. 1
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING November 20, 2024

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Melissa, 2nd by Jeanne.

Board Present: Melissa Schneider, Tom Phelps, Jeanne Matthews, Jordan Groetken, Joel Peterson.

Staff/Reps Present: Janet Anderson, Brian Davies, Kathy Phelps, Mike Roussin.

No visitors were present.

Minutes: September 25, 2024, minutes were approved by motion from Jeanne, 2nd by Tom, Joel abstained as he was not present that meeting.

Fire Mitigation: Scott Nielsen set up a crew to clear trees and Brian has been working to stack and move logs with equipment. Janet said residents want firewood but Scott does not want liability issues due to it being private land and he'd like to continue the project without people removing everything until he's completed as much work as funds allow. Janet said she was most concerned about obtaining credit for fuel removal. Anyone who removes wood is saving the District and Fire Crews so it's a benefit. The board asked about selling the logs.

Subsequent to the meeting Janet asked Scott about large lumber haulers who will purchase the types of quantities the District is accumulating. Scott said unfortunately ponderosa pine does not make good board wood as opposed to fir, cedar, oak, etc. He recommended residents be allowed to take wood once strategic piles are made and pieces are cut smaller. Injury and power equipment on private land remains Scott's concerns and Janet promised to relay to the board and the District would happily accommodate what is best for his crews and everyone's insurance coverages.

Heavy Equipment: Janet has been approached with an exceptional offer of 0% 5 year financing by the same salesperson who has been calling her for 30 years even though we've never purchased in the past. After running some numbers Janet reported now that Dw1 is down to renting every winter in order to maintain reliable snow plowing it may make sense to strongly consider purchasing or lease/purchasing something new. It would be a great asset as the District has limped along many years on pretty old equipment. Putting money into repairs no longer pays off. The board agreed

this was an item badly needed and it would be difficult to turn away if payments are affordable and having an extended full warranty also adds value given the costs of heavy equipment repairs.

Janet said she'd found a replacement billing software for our current software that is being discontinued. Board unanimously approved new contract terms to switch our accounts receivable software to Muni Billing, motioned by Tom, 2nd by Jeanne.

Janet said she originally visited with Jordan about participating with the District in safety grant work such as security cameras so she had made initial plans for increasing video use on the roadways. Jordan was then later appointed to fill a board position to serve until the next election. Because the security project was already in process and Jordan's profession is in security and IT, she felt it was in the best interest of the District to continue to allow some consultation and special project work when needed. Janet explained board members are not allowed to be employed or compensated on a regular basis; however, when properly disclosed and when extra services end up serving the District more efficiently, it can make sense. Janet and Jordan discussed a rate for future work could be discounted to \$30/hour and minimal services are needed to complete the project. The board indicated they appreciate Jordan's assistance in having professional consultations and installations set up properly. The board agreed IT services are typically over \$75/hour and this would be helpful to Janet and Brian when needed.

Budget: The rest of the meeting was spent reviewing budget line items. Mike presented several scenarios for capital projects, pointed out areas within each fund, and explained items that are split among all funds and not split. The District has had several years of depleting reserves, but was able to recover a good portion in 2024. The 2025 budget also reflects a more solid cash flow. The board asked questions and overall felt comfortable with their understanding of the draft. The next hearing will and discussions will be on December 4.

Meeting schedule for 2025. Janet reminded the board we would be back on the 4th Wednesday schedule beginning in January.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by motion from Joel, 2nd by Jordan at 8:30pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Schneider". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.