

MINUTES

Tularosa Community Ditch Corporation
Quarterly Commissioners Meeting
September 21, 2015
Tularosa Municipal Building
609 St. Francis Drive, Tularosa, NM 7PM

Attendants: Commissioners Bookout, Hobson, Lerner, Accountant Roberts, Mayordomo Robert Baca, Trustee Pat Garcia, Trustee Ray Telles, Joseph Penn, Steven Lightle, Mary Hobson, Dave Greenwald, Kenneth Owens and Mrs. Nowell.

A. Call to Order: 7:01 PM

B. Pledge

C. Public Comments

No comments were made

D. Approval of Minutes from June Quarterly Commissioners' Meeting

Commissioner Hobson made a motion to accept the minutes as presented

Commissioner Lerner seconded the motion

Motion passed

E. Financial Report June 2015 through August 2015.

Mrs. Roberts explained our losses and pass through funds which has to appear as income. We are taking money from our investments to cover the legal expenses incurred with the Dávalos case. Maurice Hobson commented that we are joined in that case with the Village of Tularosa as we are for the Kelsey Smith problem. Kelsey Smith is tearing up the land below Bent and stealing water by pooling it. As a consequence, the Village of Tularosa is spending thousands of dollars changing out the filters on the water plant because of turbidity. Trustee Garcia agreed that Smith is a detriment to the water situation for the Village and the Ditch.

Maurice Hobson made a motion to accept the financial report as submitted

Karen Lerner seconded the motion

Motion carried

F. Approval of Minutes from August 31, 2015 Commissioners' meeting to open quote packages from auditors.

Commissioner Lerner explained that the Ditch has to have an outside audit because of the state monies we received for the reservoir repair and the pipeline replacement. Trustee Garcia said that the Village of Tularosa is doing the same thing yearly for the state and federal money they receive. The Ditch will more than likely have to pay for the engineering on the second phase of the pipeline replacement as the engineers of NRCS are four years behind on projects. Maurice Hobson said it could cost us 10% of the overall cost of the project.

We have chosen CPA James Hartogensis of Albuquerque for the Tier 3 audit for the years 2010, 2011 and 2015. Commissioner Lerner and Danielle Roberts are working with the Office of the State Auditor to try and secure grant money for the independent audit. The application for that consideration will be decided in December, 2015.

Karen Lerner made the motion to accept the minutes as presented

Maurice Hobson seconded the motion

Motion carried

G. Old Business

1. The Ditch will increase the maintenance fee by 5% for the upcoming billing cycle. This is just a reminder that it is in place. Bills going out this November will reflect that increase.

2. People interested in learning the commissioners' jobs. No one answered the call at this meeting.

3. ICIP approval for Capital Outlay. Our priority list was submitted to DFA and approved. We are clear to request funding for the upcoming legislative session.

H. Archaeologist Dave Greenwald: Mr. Greenwald has been excavating east of Tularosa and has found data confirming several large kivas. These have not been found in previous years this far south although he suspects that even Alamogordo might have some. Generally, they are found around the San Juan area in the Northwest. He explained that being large kivas, there had to have been a significant population to support and by extension, significant agriculture and water use. He has found ancient ditches that support that conclusion. The area is named Creekside Village. He has dated the area to be from approximately 650 CE to 730 CE. His company has also identified botanical and pollen remains from the pit house indicating food production. All this indicates that water has been used for production for thousands of years and the Village of Tularosa is here because of this fact.

He is looking to State Historic Preservation Office for grants to continue his excavations approaching them for the 1870 and 1880 Tularosa Ditch Water Wars. Because of these wars, the fact that the Village was organized and regulated, they won out. Mr. Greenwald is looking to apply for grants somewhere in the month of January as those for this year are finished. His plans are to speak with Jeff Pappas and Dr. Jeff Hanson for financial and physical support. Also, it would be ideal for doctoral students to continue their field work.

The Trustees of the Village expressed interest in the findings recognizing that there is an economic development aspect to the digs people interested in going to supervised digs for the experience would be coming into the area.

Mr. Greenwald asked that those interested in helping out the work to send letters of support for this project; Jornada Research.

I. New Business

1. Audit quotes and selection for IPA-this was covered in the presentation of the minutes from the meeting to select a CPA for the independent audit in item F on the agenda.

2. Phase 2 Pipeline Replacement Project-Commissioner Lerner explained that we are at the corrected part of our ICIP with DFA/LGD and that gives us the opportunity to request capital outlay in the upcoming legislative session. We are investigating the engineering part to possibly get it done before we request money. If that is exceedingly expensive, we may have to wait and put it in as part of the overall request. The other part of being shovel ready is to have out easements in order. The commissioners said they were contacting the property owners along the easements to get their acknowledgement.

J. Adjourn

Commissioner Lerner made the motion to adjourn

Joseph Penn seconded the motion

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm