

Tularosa Community Ditch Corporation
PO Box 925, Tularosa, NM88352
Quarterly Meeting of the Commissioners
March 5, 2020
Minutes

- A. Meeting called to order at 3pm. Those attending Chairman Danke, Commissioner Tyler, absent due to illness Commissioner Newhart, Bookkeeper Nancy Carr, Karen Lerner, Neil Lyn Dunning, Joel Marr, Joan Price, Diana Chantalle, Bill Dick Gililland, Mary Harding, Ben Sainz, Mary Hobson and Maurice Hobson.
- B. Pledge
- C. Public Comments (limited to 3 minutes per person)...Joan Price said she was glad the newsletter was started as it keeps the Village informed. She offered historical pictures if needed. Chairman Danke said it was actually started in 2005 and 2006 with two issues so this is just a big renewal. He also said a website was in the planning stages.
- D. Approval of Minutes from Sept. 23 ,2019 meeting. Date corrected, Karen Lerner corrected the minute dates to read Sept. 23, 2019. Not June 2019.
Joan Price asked for a clarification of the name "Cathay" from State Engineer's Office and Ms. Lerner clarified the name as Craig Cathay, Regional Director at State Engineer's Office. Chairman Danke asked for approval of the minutes of the Sept 2019 Quarterly Meeting with the corrected dates. Ms. Lerner made a motion to accept the minutes as presented and Joan Price seconded.
Motion carried
- E. Financial Report from Dec. 2019 through Feb. 2020. Date corrected Ms. Lerner corrected the dates to read Dec 2019 through Feb 2020. Not June 2019 through Aug 2019.
Mrs. Carr read the financial report and explained maintenance fees and expenses from the attached 1st Quarterly Financial Report.

She said the ending balance in Dec 2019 was the same as the beginning balance in Jan 2020 and that our deposits and expenses for the 1st quarter and the Edward Jones account balance. She was asked if all fees were in and she said all but 5 of the farmers, 1 came in and paid and she had re invoiced the others. We're still waiting on the 49 blocks as they have been invoiced for 2020 season but some are still in arrears from previous years. We are starting to get money from previous billings. Mrs. Carr stated that she is in daily contact with Mr. Baca and he has a list of who has paid and who has not. The tax return for 2019 has been done but not submitted as yet but she was mailing the 2018 New Mexico tax. Chairman Danke said we were going to work on computerizing all our systems for better responses to the billing and other office procedures. Chairman Danke asked for a motion to approve the financials with corrected dates of Dec 2019 through Feb 2020.

Ms. Lerner made the motion to accept the financials and Commissioner Tyler Seconded. Motion carried.

F. Mayordomo

Robert Baca was not present therefore no report was presented

G. Old Business

1. Capital Outlay Project – Pipeline Replacement Update

Ms. Lerner said she spoke with Robert Storey from Souder, Miller and is waiting on his response for getting the new easements, changing out some of the old ones but getting that done is a slow process. We have three that were no problem but for others we have to play "nice". We're replacing the pipeline to straighten and get rid of the "dog-leg" to allow us to increase the water volume from a 14 inch line to a 30 inch line. This is being done in 4 Phases 1st Phase was from the re-cycling center, along the City Park and Across S. Bookout. This easement was easy because the Village owned the property. We're by-passing the middle Phase 2,

Bookout to Marshall for now because it's not the worst but we had to do the engineering on that first so we could get rid of the "dog leg". So the 2nd Phase is Marshall to 1st Street. The 3rd Phase will be Bookout to Marshall. Eventually we hope to rip out all the old pipeline from Bookout to 1st Street, except the upper part and replace with poly-pipe. The pipeline that's in there now is from the 60's Chairman Danke said. Final 4th Phase will go all the way down 1st Street. This will be really complicated because of water lines, sewer, fiber-optics and who knows what else. All the monies for these projects comes from Capital Outlay Funds.

H. New Business

1. Engineering Report

Ms. Lerner said the 1st one-half of Bookout to Marshall is done on the new easements, new survey and ground testing to see if it will handle the new pipe. When we get past the Phelps property we can take out the old line and replace it with the 30 inch line. Capital Outlay funds paid for the engineering. This is the first year the State Government approved the engineering costs could be paid out of the Capital Outlay funds. We can start the project in Oct. 2020 after the watering season for the 49 Blocks and some of the farmers. I still have to submit monthly reports to the Department of Financial Administration even though we aren't actually working on the project. Once the engineering is approved, we go out for open contracting bids, because it's government money we will be spending and wait for 60 days for the approvals before we can go ahead.

I. Other Business

Commissioner Tyler said she was glad to see the article, "Message from the Mayordomo" in the newsletter reminding everyone about the importance and responsibility of maintaining the ditches and laterals. Also to just be a good neighbor and water user.

Mrs. Carr asked about the Blessing of the Water Ceremony and there was an an open discussion with Commissioners Danke & Tyler, Mrs. Carr, and Ms. Chantalle about the history of our Acequia, the history of the Blessing Ceremony and how important preserving the water is. It is a tradition we would like to start and with the information in our First issue of the Quarterly Newsletter, get our community not only informed but involved with it's preservation. We are unique in the state because we have the only spring fed creek. There are several factions out there that would like to have the water we so sometimes take for granted, so we have to safe guard this precious gift. Chairman Danke invited everyone to come to Casa De Sueños on March 28 at 11am to help celebrate.

Chairman Danke said, as the new board we are working on other items of concern along the creek, unresolved, long standing litigations about water usage, pollution of the creek, repairs to existing ditches/ old gates and many more issues that we need to address. What issues can be verified and what can be done legally to fix them. We're getting local and county officials involved, plus doing a remapping of the Acequia.

Chairman Danke asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Chantalle made the motion we adjourn and Ms. Lerner Seconded.

Motion carried

Meeting Adjourned at 9 minutes till 4 pm.