

PURGATORY METRO DISTRICT
MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

A regular meeting of the Purgatory Metropolitan District and the Purgatory Metropolitan La Plata-San Juan Sub-District was held Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at the Purgatory Metropolitan District Community Center. Directors John Ogier, Mark Gebhardt, and Sharon Henschen were present. DeeDee Carlson and Susan Voorhees attended via Zoom. Also in attendance were District Manager Eric Hassel, Attorney for the District David Smith, guest Carrie Cline, and Administrative Assistant Amy Ward. Gary Henschen attended via Zoom as well.

Minutes

Mark Gebhardt made a motion to approve the minutes from April 2023 meeting of the Boards. Sharon Henschen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Oath of Office

Sharon Henschen verbally performed her oath; followed by John Ogier.

Election

Mark Gebhardt nominated John Ogier to be re-elected as Board President. The nomination was accepted by John Ogier and the Board. John Ogier nominated Sharon Henschen to be re-elected as Board Secretary. The nomination was accepted by Sharon Henschen and the Board. Both members received unanimous votes from the Board and re-elected for another term.

Oral Communication Public Input

Carrie Cline, owner of Mother Cline's Liquor, was present to address the board regarding her liquor store sales tax reimbursement request. She expressed her support for Purgatory Metro District and the Board but stated that she was not notified properly in regards to the new sales tax. She stated that she only saw one story in the newspaper and felt as if the lack of communication was a failure on the part of Purgatory Metro District and the state. At the time that she was notified that she was late, she owed close to \$5,000 in taxes. Brandon Davis, liaison for the state, reversed the state late penalties. However, she is requesting help from the Purgatory Metro District to cover the \$3,500 she still owes in taxes. The Board maintained that, while sympathetic to her situation, as a quasi-government, they were not in a position to provide loans. The Board suggested that she reach out to Brandon Davis again and inquire about an avenue for relief from the state. Attorney for the District David Smith stated that they would support the State's determination.

WWT Plant Update

Eric Hassel reported that the planning portion of engineering is wrapping up quickly. Bids will be sent out on June 1 with the intention of having all bids in by July 7 and a meeting on July 12.

Eric has prepared another request for reimbursement from our loan in the amount of \$922,062. The request needs board approval. The reimbursement is for pilot-era engineering and includes pilot data, sewer, and everything related to consultant work, including HVAC and structural engineers. These are all costs that have already been paid by the District. Mark Gebhardt motioned to approve the reimbursement of engineering cost from the loan; Sharon Henschen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

USFS Public Access

Eric Hassel presented a map of a stand-alone easement that is part of the L&M Project that Gary Derck would like “cleaned up” as it does not actually line up with what is reflected by the county. The Forest Service would like assurances that they will have access to the easement. Eric Hassel provided a letter prepared by David Smith that will serve to satisfy the bureaucracy regarding the easement. Sharon Henschen motioned to approve the letter; DeeDee Carlson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Easement Terminations

Eric Hassel presented maps detailing two easements. David Smith stated that he has reviewed and approved the easement terminations. Mark Gebhardt motioned to approve the termination of the easement with Reception Number R507436; Susan Voorhees seconded the motion. Sharon Henschen motioned to approve the termination of the water line easement with Reception Number R374201; Mark Gebhardt seconded the motion. Both motions passed.

Summer Vendor Proposals

Eric Hassel presented a summer vendor proposal from Tyler Lawrence. The Board amended the request to include that everyone must wear a life jacket, despite age. DeeDee Carlson motioned to approve Tyler Lawrence’s summer vendor proposal with amendments; Susan Voorhees seconded. Motion passed, and the amended proposal will be returned to Tyler Lawrence.

Financial Report

John Ogier expressed concerns that by borrowing at lower rates than we are earning on our ColoTrust account we could find ourselves in an arbitrage situation. It was suggested that the next reimbursement should be deposited into the Bank of San Juans. DeeDee Carlson motioned to approve the financial report; Susan Voorhees seconded. Motion passed.

Manager’s Report

Eric Hassel reported that Titan check engine light came back on. It is currently at Nissan due to an air flow sensor. He is going to take it to True Auto to inquire about trading it in. There will be more information regarding this at next meeting.

The SDA Workshop will be held June 23rd. Everyone on the Board is welcome. Next meeting 6/21/23 at 9 am PMD Community Center.