



NAVAJO WESTERN WATER DISTRICT

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS (REGULAR) MEETING

Thursday, March 12th, 2026 @ 1:00 pm.

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Navajo Western Water District Board of Director's Regular Meeting was called to order by President Dave Rogers on Thursday, March 12th, 2026, at 1:01 pm.

II. ROLL CALL:

In Attendance: President Dave Rogers, Vice President Rick Williams, Treasurer Vanna Morningstar, Director Dan Palmisano, Director James Bierly. Water Operator (ORC) Dave Rabideau, Bookkeeper Beckie Ferrell, and Secretary Debbie Palmisano were also present. *A quorum was met.*

III. READING/APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (Debbie Palmisano, Office Secretary) Thursday, February 12th, 2026 (Regular) Board Meeting

- **MOTION TO AMEND THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 12TH, 2026: TO REMOVE SALARY INFO (DOLLAR AMOUNT) FOR KEITH SAINT-PETER'S ANNUAL RAISE FROM THE FEBRUARY BOD MEETING MINUTES by Director Dan Palmisano and MOTION 2ND by Treasurer Vanna Morningstar. Discussion ensued. Vote. *UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.***
- **MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS AMENDED by Treasurer Vanna Morningstar; MOTION 2ND by Director James Bierly. Discussion. Vote. *UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED.***

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT(S): None

V. TREASURER'S REPORT: (Vanna Morningstar, Treasurer)

A. FINANCIAL REPORTS: (February 2026) – see attached.

- **NWWD needs a new "Designee for Elections" for COLOTRUST. (Susan Smith was previously the "Designee").**
- **Susan did an excellent job training Beckie.**
- **Beckie asked if it would be possible to maintain Susan Smith as a Consultant? President Dave Rogers was going to suggest this.**
 - o **Susan would like to remain on an hourly basis until the end of the pay period. Beckie will keep track of Susan's time.**

- **We will look at the (previous) salary when Susan was a consultant for NWWD. (Susan had more duties at that time). The BOD will need to figure out the salary for Susan as a consultant.**
- **Vanna Morningstar has requested training for COLOTRUST. She still cannot log-in.**
- B. BOOKKEEPER REPORT: (Beckie Ferrell, Bookkeeper)**
- **The NWWD Bookkeeper cannot transfer funds from one account to the other (per Bank of Trinidad). The bank told Beckie that two (2) signatures are now required. Beckie will call the bank, and she will keep the BOD updated.**
- **Beckie and Vanna will call COLOTRUST and get Vanna permission to log-in.**
- **President Dave Rogers asked Beckie how she feels she is doing. So far so good. She will be doing her first payroll and first billing alone this month (without Susan's assistance). She will update the Board next month.**
- **MOTION TO ACCEPT THE TREASURER'S REPORT AS PRESENTED by Director Dan Palmisano; MOTION 2ND by Director James Bierly. Discussion. Vote. *UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED.***

VI. OPERATIONS REPORTS:

- A. Water Facility Operator Report – for February 2026 (Dave Rabideau, Operator Responsible Charge) – see attached**
- **#5) CL2 diaphragm pump (metering pump). These get worn very quickly – this is the 2nd one in three years. A new pump is \$641.00 but it will last longer.**
 - **Dave Rabideau is recommending purchasing a new pump. He is asking the Board of Directors for approval. Approval was given by the Board.**
- **#7) Done until 2029. Dave is waiting for results. The 1st round of tests has been received and he will post. Dave is waiting for results from the 2nd round of tests, which should be available in a week or so.**
- **#11) Dave and Keith will install a fan.**
- **#12) We need to pay attention to water levels.**
- **We should add a message on the monthly bills: “DROUGHT WARNING”. Beckie will work with Dave Rabideau to create a message for this month's bills.**
- **There are two (2) \$5,000 grants available for water systems, which Dave Rabideau has gotten approved - for design improvement. (Dave needs to attend a designated number of hours of webinars to be eligible.)**
 - **Question: What can we use the money for? (1 grant) – we will purchase a generator for Well #8.**
 - **Question: Can we record the Webinars and post them on the NWWD website? YES. Once the webinars begin, we can begin to post them. Dave Rabideau will keep track of this.**
- **Well Draw Down Recovery: Well #7 and Well #1 rebounded great. Heading to the west takes the wells more time. Recovery times are still very good.**
- **Dave Rabideau used some vacation time this month.**
- **Dave (ORC) would like to do “mid-month readings” again. Especially due to the current water situation. Vanna will look back on her previous Minutes (June/July**

2024?): Why was this process stopped? Did it cause Billing issues? Vanna will present her findings at the next BOD meeting.

- **Dave Rabideau's CRWA Conference is next week (3/16/26-3/19/26. He will be returning to work Friday, 3/20/26). Dave is very excited about attending. He will be taking a water sample from NWWd for testing.**
 - o **Keith will be the ORC back-up. Tom Northup will also assist Keith if necessary.**
- **Dave and Keith have lots of projects coming up in the near future.**

a. WATER OVERAGES:

- **4231 County Rd. 510: There was an overage at this residence one month ago (9,453 gals in January 2026 - the previous overage was forgiven by the BOD). There are six people living at the residence.**
- **A Letter of Forgiveness was submitted (February overage 10,263 gallons). Dave Rabideau verified the leaks. The customer provided photos, but Dave could not print them out.**
- **PER THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS: BILL THE CUSTOMER NORMALLY THIS MONTH TO SEE IF THE CUSTOMER CAN PROVIDE MORE INFO/PROOF OF REPAIR (RECEIPTS/PHOTOS). *The Board will revisit this next month.***

B. OFFICE REPORT: (Debbie Palmisano, Secretary)

1. **Delinquent Accounts: (4) new accounts (3) last month. (2) new accounts due to water overages. (1) customer w/overage has set up a Payment Plan. (17) credit card issues (14) corrected.**
 - o **We presently have (2) customers on Payment Plans (due to water overages).**
2. **Dutch Door for NWWd office: We have decided not to install a Dutch door on the interior office. It would need to be a pre-hung door, and it would be very costly. (Dave Rabideau returned the previously purchased door to Home Depot for a refund.)**
3. **SDA Grant: There is a reimbursement (up to \$300) for creating an ADA Accessible website. I will check with Benny Askloff (Max Inc) to see what is necessary to make the website ADA Accessible.**
4. **Should the salaries (\$ amounts) of NWWd Employees be posted in the Minutes? They are public record, but do they need to be posted in the Minutes or just provided if requested?**
 - o **Per President Dave Rogers: We can remove them from the minutes if the employee prefers.**

C. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: (Dave Rogers, President)

1. **The Joint Terrorist Task Force (JTTF) is predicting that "Sleeper Cells" are being activated all over the country. BE CAREFUL! IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, REPORT IT!**
2. **President Dave Rogers stated that he is very appreciative of everyone here at NWWd! We have had lots of positive comments from customers.**
3. **Memorial Service for Charlene Baldwin (former NWWd BOD Member) – Celebration of Life on April 3rd, 2026 @ 11:00 am at the Walsenburg Bible Church.**

- **SUGGESTION:** Can we send flowers, or donate to the charity of choice, from the NWWD? **YES.** We will check to see if donations are being made to a specific charity.

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Rules & Regulations:** The Board of Directors needs to clarify the Abandoned/Locked/Stand-by Meters. (We need to decide on the wording). There are a couple of other clarifications which need to be made so we can finalize the Rules & Regs. Debbie suggested that we hold a Workshop to get this finalized.
- *The Rules & Regs Workshop will be held on Friday, March 27th, 2026 @ 1:00pm at the NWWD Office.*
- B. Water Reconnection Fee?** If water is shut off to a residence, should there be a “reconnect fee” to turn the water back on?
- a. The Board will table this discussion until the workshop.
 - b. Deb will research other water companies (Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Cuchara, etc.) and report back to the Board.
- C. QUESTION:** Have we received the “NO SHOOTING” signs? Dave Rabideau (ORC) reported that he has received two (2) signs to see how they are going to work out. (He ordered 7-foot posts, so they will be very sturdy). Dan Palmisano, Director, asked if we could put one (1) sign near the HOA kiosk, but on a separate post (so it is not on the kiosk).
- Dave Rabideau also had two (2) signs made up: *“ATTENTION – No Discharging of Firearms on NWWD Property. Thank you.”*

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Deb Palmisano’s annual evaluation.** (Dan Palmisano, Director, reclused himself).
- The Board was pleased with Deb’s work for the past year and agreed to give her annual raise. **A MOTION WAS MADE TO GIVE DEB PALMISANO HER ANNUAL RAISE by Director James Bierly; MOTION 2ND by Vice President Rick Williams.**
- B. Can we get signs which state “NO OUTSIDE WATERING” to be placed near the kiosk?**
- C. We have a customer with two or three previous Water Overages. They have animals: chickens, goats, dogs. Can we send a (friendly) letter or something reminding the customers of the Rules & Regulations – no outside watering is allowed?**
- President, Dave Rogers, stated that if a customer is continually over with water usage, the Board could issue a Shut-Off Notice, if proper procedure was followed.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING WAS MADE by Director Dan Palmisano; MOTION 2ND by Vice President Rick Williams. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Palmisano, Secretary