

**REDLANDS MESA WATER USERS, INC.  
ANNUAL SHAREHOLDERS MEETING  
JANUARY 26, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Annual Meeting of the Redlands Mesa Water Users, Inc. was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Tom Meyers.

**CALL OF THE MEETING**

Secretary, Deb Christner read the call of the meeting.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Everyone introduced themselves:

Tom Meyers, President,

Board Members, Kay Adams, Lance Rundle, David Whittlesey and Bryan Klaseen

Secretary, Deb Christner

Ditch Manager, Josh Kasper

Lead Box Setter, Lawrence McKendrick

Water Administrator, Evan Cummings

Credentials, Michelle Meyers and Sue Whittlesey

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT-Tom Meyers**

2023 was a good water year.

RMWUA had a new employee in 2023, Evan Cummings. Evan ran the box card program and is a box setter. He will be updating the box card program in 2024.

In February a subcommittee worked on the Reinstated Bylaws and Articles for RMWUA. They were adopted in November.

In June there was a large clog in the ditch at the intersection of Redlands Mesa Road and North Road. It was jetted a couple of times with no success, Lance Rundle dug up part of the pipe and found a log wedged in the pipe. There was also pipe that had been previously broken by TDS contractors and bandaged together with broken pipe and duct tape. Board members and personnel all worked together to get this fixed.

Staff did a great job in 2023, everything ran smoothly.

**DITCH MANAGER'S REPORT-Josh Kasper**

21,200 acre feet of water was delivered in 2023 versus 7,000 the previous year. The 10-year average has been 7,610.

Snowtel is reading 82% of average currently. It was a dry Fall so the ground will be thirsty in the Spring, absorbing runoff.

The projects for 2024 will be additional ditch cleaning, a trash rack installed

at the intersection of Redlands Mesa Road and North Road and a foot bridge with railing installed at the Moore box.

Josh reminded everyone they are responsible for their own box, the company takes care of the main ditch, laterals and main boxes.

Water will be ready for use April 1<sup>st</sup>, with a reminder to shareholders that they are responsible for opening their box initially to the measurement reading on the box card.

If a box needs to be repaired and this is not done by the shareholder, the company will fix the box and the shareholder will be billed.

During heavy Spring runoff shareholders desiring more water can let RMWU staff know. If available, more water than allocated to that shareholder may be approved to balance the system and inhibit flooding.

Large shareholders are asked to advise staff when they plan to open or close their boxes. This is necessary for planning needed to balance the distribution system.

Please feel free to communicate with staff.

## **QUORUM**

The credentials committee of Michelle Meyers and Sue Whittlesey reported that 20 shareholders were present and 18 were represented by proxy, for a total of 38. 26 is needed for a quorum.

## **MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL SHAREHOLDERS MEETING**

MOVED BY: Nomi Gray moved to approve the Special Shareholders Meeting, November 29, 2023 Minutes.

SECONDED BY: Reg Cridler

MOTION CARRIED with no opposing votes.

## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL SHAREHOLDERS MEETING**

MOVED BY: Melissa Carlson moved to approve the Annual Shareholders Meeting, January 27, 2023 Minutes.

SECONDED BY: Bryan Klaseen

MOTION CARRIED with no opposing votes.

## **FINANCIALS**

Shareholders received copies of the 2023 Balance Sheets and 2023 Budget Comparison, proposed 2024 Budget and water delivery fee detail. Secretary Deb Christner went over the financials.

MOVED BY: Sue Whittlesey to approve the 2023 financials

SECONDED BY: Greg Knight  
MOTION CARRIED with no opposing votes.

## **2024 BUDGET**

Secretary Deb Christner went over the 2024 Budget, which includes raising wages for personnel, necessary to stay current with overall wage inflation, updating the box card program and funding additional ditch projects works.

Leroux Creek Water cost is increasing significantly due to work on the dams, restoring operation of idle reservoirs and raising the Doughty's spillway.

MOVED BY: Reg Cridler to approve the 2023 Budget and set the call at \$5.00 as needed.  
SECONDED BY: Karen Marty  
MOTION CARRIED with no opposing votes.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Grant money was used for a feasibility study of a combined Water Optimizing Project by Redlands, Overland, Durkee and Stull. The completed feasibility study will be placed on the website.

Overland and Redlands were going to use the Project Ditch on the upper part of the system, allowing abandonment of the Redlands Mesa segment of the Overland Ditch. The Highline ditch is experiencing slope destabilization between it and the Overland ditch above it, potentially impacting the stability of the Overland. The combined ditch runs through BLM land. Due to a change in flow volume, BLM has stated that a new lease agreement is required between BLM and RMWU. BLM representatives have stated they will only grant a 30-year lease and there will be an annual lease payment necessary. Nowhere is it clearly stated the BLM has the authority to do this aside from vague policy directives. The combined ditch coalition is currently working with the Colorado River District personnel to facilitate a meeting with BLM to discuss the policy source and options to accommodate the piping project.

The Durkee ditch operates outside of the BLM on private land. Their application for Bureau of Reclamation salinity grant funding was turned down due to their system's design not being pressurized. They intend to resubmit with a pressurization scheme that may involve some lower Redlands Mesa ditch sections.

The accuracy of the historical legal description of the ditch in RMWUA Articles of Incorporation is being reviewed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Lease Agreement-** All water leased will require an executed Lease Agreement, which is on the website. Overland will be looking into implementing a similar requirement for Overland water.

## **SHAREHOLDERS CONCERNS-**

Reg Cridler-laterals should be locked. The company needs an operation manual. Darca has many

resources for manuals and policies.

Barry Wilits-Wanted to make everyone aware of The Grange's (where the RMWU meetings are held) program changes, and future events..

Nomi Gray-Would like the water delivery charge to be reviewed and made more equitable.

New owners Erica and Cody asked where to begin to learn about their water. The answer is staff and your neighbors, everyone is willing to help.

### **ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS**

The terms of Kay Adams and Tom Meyers are expiring.

MOVED BY: Nomi Gray to elect Tom Meyers

SECONDED BY: Lawrence Mackendrick

MOVED BY: Bryan Klaseen to elect Greg Knight

SECONDED BY: Barry Wilits

MOVED BY: Reg Cridler for nominations to close

SECONDED BY: Barry Wilits

ALL ABOVE MOTIONS CARRIED with no opposing votes.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED BY: Melissa Carlson to adjourn

SECONDED BY: Bryan Klaseen

MOTION CARRIED with no opposing votes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

*Deb Christner*

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Deb Christner, Secretary