



CITY OF GILLETTE

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City of Gillette Regional Water Panel Minutes October 10, 2024

PRESENT

PANEL MEMBERS	YES	NO
Bill Brewer (WWDC)		X
E. Loren Crain, Board Chairman		X
Robert Hollander	X	
Levi Jensen	X	
Ralph Kingan, Board Vice Chairman	X	
Don McKillop	X	
Charles "Pete" LeRoy	X	
MEETING QUORUM	Yes	

STAFF MEMBERS	YES	NO
Joff Pilon, Utilities Director		X
Howard Jones, Water Manager	X	
Joe Schoen, City Engineer	X	
Matt Olsen (County)	X	
Connie Anderson, Admin Coordinator	X	

I. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm by Ralph Kingan.

II. Approval of Minutes (July 16, 2024)

Ralph Kingan requested a motion to approve the July 16, 2024, minutes. Robert Hollander made a motion, seconded by Levi Jensen. All members voted Aye. Motion passed.

III. Engineering Projects Updates (Joe Schoen)

Well Installation Project 2C:

All work that can be done, is done. The contractor is not onsite as they are waiting on well equipment and electrical switch gear to be delivered to the site before starting work. As soon as materials and equipment are delivered, the contractor will complete the project, estimating approximately 30 days of work

remaining.

Regional Water Ph 3: American Road et al

Awarded to DRM. Construction is anticipated to end of October or early November. Completion is anticipated in summer of 2025.

Regional Water Ph 4: Fox Ridge

Awarded to Dan Hart Patrol. Construction began Sept 30, 2024. Project is 60 working days (3 months) and will be completed before June 1, 2025. A winter shutdown is expected once poor weather hits.

Regional Water Ph 5: Airport Extension

Almost at 50% plans. The new alignment will head west in Northern Dr ROW to Hwy 14/16 and then north just outside of Hwy 14/16 ROW to the Airport. Working on securing easements along the new alignment. Three are completed and nine more need to be secured.

Regional Water Ph 6: Stroup MHP, Eagle Ridge Subd, and People's ISD

Project has been bid and awarded to Hot Iron. Work is expected to begin this fall and completed before July 1, 2025.

Regional Water Ph 7: Hoy Subd, and Countryside Subd

Reviewing with WWDC staff and administration if we want to move forward with these projects at this time. WWDC application deadline for design and easements is Aug 31, 2025 if we move forward with an application. At this time, WWDC staff is recommending to complete some of the other projects before submitting a new one.

Levi Jensen questioned if the Regional Water Phase 5: Airport Extension line shift in alignment has created any additional interest in the Industrial Park. Joe Schoen replied that it most definitely has created interest from everyone West of Highway 14/16 and they are looking to form an Improvement District.

IV. Water Operations (Howard Jones)

A complete copy of the Operations Update as provided by Howard Jones is attached as a supplement to the minutes. Discussion included:

- Review of water consumption and summer seasonal impacts, including Camporee. It was noted that no substantial impact was felt due to the hot weather conditions or the Camporee.
- Fall work on regional lines and regional control/connection buildings
- Fall work on 30" and 40" transmission lines
- Fall work on Regional Wells & Pump Stations
- Regulatory; LCRI & LCRR updates

- UCMR5 (PFAS/PFOA/Lithium)
- UCMR6
- Cybersecurity, Physical Security & Emergency Response

Howard made note that the City of Gillette owns and maintains a backup standby generator fleet of five (5) 250kW diesel mobile generators. As part of WYOWARN, we offer and make it well known to the entire State of Wyoming as we are the only utility that has a fleet of generators.

Howard advised the group that we are currently taking soil samples at all digs in anticipation of creating a soil corrosivity map to predict areas of concern in the future.

Charles LeRoy asked if there is any way to predict other areas that may be subjected to this same type of corrosion as recently occurred at the leak in the Sage Bluffs area. Howard responded this will be the purpose of the soil corrosivity map as it could indicate areas that need to be looked at sooner than life expectancy.

Charles LeRoy inquired regarding the amount of time that elapses between the time a leak occurs, and an operator is on-site. Howard responded that we usually have an operator on-site within 10-20 minutes and restoration occurs within 3-4 hours.

Robert Hollander commented that the notification system being used for planned water outages is working quite effectively in his opinion. He has personally received several notifications.

Levi Jensen inquired as to how the Lead & copper rule impact the regional water districts cost of compliance. Howard responded that the Lead & Copper rule is entirely a distribution related rule. The burden of this compliance is by each public water system and is being absorbed by them. The entire cost of whatever compliance they need to perform is not hitting the regional rates or the regional customers because it is entirely distribution based.

Levi Jensen inquired whether there is risk to the regional system for water districts compliance or non-compliance and is it addressed in the water service agreement. Howard responded that there is only one example of when a regional water system actually impacts us as a regional system if they fall out of compliance which would be a regional system receiving a total coliform + which triggers the total coliform revised rule and we have to go and sample for total coliforms and we have to sample every well and every entry point to the distribution system that was active at the time.

If Gillette were to fall out of compliance, the two people who would be held liable are the "Owner" who is the Mayor and the "Designated Licensed Operator" which is Howard.

V. Next Proposed Meeting (TBD) – January 2025 (Send Survey for Optional Dates)

The meeting was adjourned at 12:52 pm

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

ABSENT

E. Loren Crain
Board Chairman



Ralph Kingan
Board Vice Chairman

DATE APPROVED: January 7, 2025

RK/cla