

**Approved Minutes East Berkshire Fire District 1 Regular meeting
October 11th, 2023 @6:30pm
Berkshire Town Hall**

Attendees:

Board Members: Katie Boylan, Tracy Bushey and Bonnie Stowe
Treasurer/Clerk: Samantha Elwood

Visitors: John Kiernan (RCAP) Ross Dunham & Lance Perlee(SOS) Jon Kim & Ben Dejong
(State Geological society) Dylan Gendron (A&D Excavating) Andy Hoadley, Andrew Horner,
Heidie Levell, and Merle Van Gieson

Meeting called to order at 6:32pm

1. Recognition of visitors- no new business
2. Tracy nominated Katie Boylan for chair, seconded by Bonnie, passed unanimously.
3. Katie nominated Tracy Bushey for vice chair, seconded by Bonnie, passed unanimously
4. Katie motioned to accept minutes from September 26th, Tracy seconded, passed unanimously.
5. Moved to later in the meeting
6. John submitted USDA pay request MPBR#15- waiting for those funds to come in.

7a. Ben and Jon from the state geological society made a presentation of their findings. They went out to find out if the existing wells were high or low yield and why as well as look at the rocks and rock formation to gather information. The existing well by the pump house is not producing water (0 gallons per minute) and is not in use; that well is 740 feet deep. The well on the Godbout property is producing 80 gallons per minute at only 227 feet deep. It was found that the Godbout well is close to a fault line and goes into the ancient sandstone that exists at the fault. The well by the pump house is in the Green Phyllite, which may account for why it is not producing as well as the other well. Jon recommended that we may do more studies along the fault lines to see if there are other good locations for a well or a spot that is producing even better than the current well. We would need to look up property boundaries and get more permissions. It has previously been found that the Godbout well water contains Manganese. There are options to treat/filter for this, will need to investigate more to weigh safety concerns and see if the cost for treatment is worth the additional water source.

7b. GW Tatro and NA Manosh will provide estimates for work to replace the portion of pipe previously discussed at the September meeting. John Kiernan will also speak to Ron Desroches to see if they are interested in putting in a quote. For this project there will need to be a day where the water is shut off, and will have to provide advance notice of this. Will see if this improves the Jamka property pressure issues. Will also try to get approval to replace the Jamka's service line to see if that also corrects the issue.

7c. Supply line replacement- Dylan Gendron- He spoke to Ross about the location of shutoff valves. He is concerned about sewer lines at each individual property, since all the homes are on their own systems. He will meet with each homeowner before the project to find out the

information he needs. Katie will provide a list to Dylan/Ross of homeowners who have already signed a release so they can begin the project as soon as possible.

7d. Ross was not able to attend for the maintenance of the generator by Brookfield service. He did leave the gate open so they could get in to do the work. Will follow up to ensure this was completed.

8. New email domain- Katie has gotten into the new domain and has started migrating things over.

9. Andrew Horner and Heidi Levell of the Barn Owl provided a statement. They requested, among other things and audit/review of billing, as they believe their invoices are not accurate and that there must be an error somewhere on our side. Ross and Lance will work with them to investigate for a potential leak to ensure that is not the ultimate problem.

Merle Van Gieson was asking about bylaws and ownership for the service line replacement. He also wanted to ensure there were steps being taken to collect on delinquent accounts. Merle provided statute numbers that he felt may be helpful as well as an example of a shut off notice.

Dylan Gendron needs an account opened at EJ Prescott for materials for the service line replacements. Katie will reach out to them to get this started.

Katie updated some of the ordinances- John K will review as well as follow up with Ross if needed for the changes. Will discuss further at the next meeting in November.

Tracy will complete a new public water systems officials contact form due to all the recent changes.

Board training- John K and RCAP provides training on how to run a board/ be a board member, will discuss a time to do this as it will need to be a public special meeting. John is willing to come up on a Saturday if that would be better for people. Will try to solidify a date at the next meeting.

5. Treasurer's report- no formal approvals- will add to agenda for November's meeting.

10. Katie motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 pm, Bonnie seconded, and passed unanimously.