

TWIN FORKS MDWCA

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August 1, 2005

Evelyn Schultz, President
Perry Daily, Vice President
Charliss Randall, Secretary-Treasurer
Robert Ledlow, Director
Lynn Melton, Director

Judy Henderson, Office Manager
Bob Billhartz, Utility Operator
Jared Mitchell, Assistant Utility Operator

The next regularly scheduled meeting of Twin Forks MDWCA Board of Directors will be 08-13-05 at 10 o'clock a.m., at the office.

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES for the 07-16-05 Board of Directors have been forwarded to Lynn Melton and should be posted on the website by 07-26-05.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES: We appreciate all the members who have provided their e-mail addresses to help defray our mailing costs. Please submit your e-mail address to twinforks@pvtn.net or schultz@pvtn.net. It will not be disclosed to anyone without your consent.

NOTICE

INTERIM PAYMENT: If you haven't paid your bill dated 05-01-05 in the amount of \$84.55, that amount is now PAST DUE. Please pay that amount now or your service will be disconnected immediately following the 08-13-05 Board of Directors Meeting.

PAYMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 07-01-05 thru 06-30-06: Billing for the new fiscal year beginning 07-01-05 in the amount of \$369.90 was due in full by 07-31-05 unless arrangements were made to pay pursuant to one of the approved payment plans. If you cannot make payment in full, please contact Judy Henderson, Office Manager, to make arrangements to be on a payment plan. If payment in full was not made by 07-31-05 and there is no payment plan in place, your account is PAST DUE and will be scheduled for disconnect immediately following the 08-13-05 Board of Directors Meeting.

OVERAGES: If your bill includes any additional charges for overages or a prior balance, those payments are due in full each month even if you are on a payment plan.

STATE MANDATED AUDIT THRU 06-30-05: The State Auditor has approved our request for Gilmore, Gannaway, Andrews, Smith & Co., LLC, to conduct the audit of Twin Forks MDWCA.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE: The Board of Directors unanimously approved reinstatement of employee health insurance for the employees at a special-called Board Meeting held at 9 a.m., 07-11-05. Health insurance was discontinued in 2002.

SHADOW GLEN PARK S/D WELL & INFRASTRUCTURE: Prentice Blanscett advised that the State has some objections to the County Roads and questions about drainage holding up approval of the Shadow Glen Park Subdivision.

SYSTEM SANITARY SURVEY CONDUCTED BY NMED 05-05-05: No results received.

COPIER: We have entered into a Lease-Purchase Agreement for a new copier in the office. The cost is \$106 per month plus .013 cents per copy. This includes monthly service and replacement of all parts including toner. Costs for copies have averaged \$150-200 per month in addition to one or two round trips to Staples in Alamogordo. We should realize substantial savings estimated at \$50-100 per month just for copies, not to mention toner cartridges and car expense. The old copier will be available for use during meetings.

SUPPLY CABINET: A supply cabinet was purchased for \$139.99 to store supplies previously stacked on the floor in the office.

FOREST VIEW WATER RIGHTS: The third of five annual payments (\$10,000) has been made to The Andrew Trust for our Forest View Water Rights.

RESOLUTION: The Board approved signature of a Resolution Letter to seek a mutual aid agreement with the City of Las Cruces. Las Cruces will prepare a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for acceptance by Twin Forks Board of Directors. This agreement will include language that during emergencies Twin Forks MDWCA may borrow parts, supplies and materials to be replaced by Twin Forks MDWCA. Replacement will be in a timely manner. This proposition was brought to us by Bill Lord, a member, who resides in Las Cruces. We were assured that Las Cruces would make parts available during emergencies even on weekends and holidays. Due to limited local outlets for purchasing parts, Bill volunteered and was appointed as Agent to pursue other outlets for purchasing. Bill and his wife, Carolee, have a cabin at 51 North Loop Road.

GUEST SPEAKERS: Mike Nivison was unable to attend but Paul Elders gave a very interesting presentation pertaining to regional planning and grants, water issues on the mountain and forestry. Paul is a free-lance writer, President of Cloud Country Estates, Chairman of the Board of Concerned Citizens for Clean Water, Chairman of P. B. Elders Corporation with 150 employees. Paul answered many questions from the audience.

NEW MEMBERS: Twin Forks MDWCA welcomes 4 new members: ROBERT N. EDWARDS @ 6 Wimsatt Road in Sixteen Springs; JOHN & PAM SHEFFIELD @ 15 Navajo in James Canyon Estates; RALPH & ANNA LEHMAN @ 25 Big Bend Loop; and STEVEN & LISA CALZADA @ 7 Deadwood Drive in Forest View.

GOOD-BYE: Welcoming new members sometimes means saying good-bye to long-time friends like JIM MITCHELL and VAN & HELEN RODEN. We will miss you!

BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUED SPEEDY RECOVERY: GEORGE SMITH; JACOB (BOATIE) BOATENHAMMER; STEPHEN SCOTT all report they are doing well following recent surgeries. BRENT HUGHES was observed enjoying a steak with his wife, Susan, at the Ski Area Restaurant only one week following surgery to remove a lung!

DEATHS: Twin Forks MDWCA extends condolences to the family of BILL MITCHELL. Bill owned a cabin at 16 Wild Rose. His family resides at 4518 Fredonia, Snyder, Texas 79549.

LEAKS: We are aggressively responding to dig out and repair all new leaks within 24 hours after they are detected. Only problem leaks are left open beyond 48 hours following repairs. If you see a wet spot in the middle of a dry road, please report it to the office at 687-3621.

METER READING is scheduled during the last 7 days every month. Your meter will be read approximately the same day every month. Please make certain there are no obstructions such a vehicles or aggressive pets preventing access to your meter. The meter reading sheets will be turned in to the office the last day of the month so billing can go out the first day of each month. Your bill is due upon receipt and delinquent following the last day of the month. 24-hour cut-off notices are issued on the 15th day of the following month.

GARAGE DOOR: We still have not purchased a garage door for conversion of the barn. Some preliminary carpentry work must be done first. This must be started soon so the new work truck can be parked out of the weather before the snow flies.

If you wish to volunteer to assist any committee or with any planned project, please contact the office and leave your name with Judy Henderson, the Office Manager.

ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA: If you have a matter you wish to have reviewed by the Board of Directors at any regularly scheduled meeting, please submit it in writing at least 10 days prior to the meeting to be placed on the agenda.

WHAT HAPPENED? It seemed as if a perfect 4th of July Holiday was in store for everyone. All tanks were full and overflowing on July 1st but the tanks were empty in 16 Springs-Forest View on July 3rd. Jared Mitchell was called in July 3rd and found 2 small leaks on Deer Run. Then on July 4th a wet spot in the middle of the road was discovered by George Doggett at the corner of Little John & Big Tree. Jared was called in again to make a temporary repair. A telephone call to County Commissioner Mike Nivison arranged for a driver to begin hauling water from our well again on July 4th and 5th at a cost of \$125 per day. Tanks were full again by midweek.

The area was heavily occupied. Less than 200 taps used 80,920 gallons in only 2 days! That is over 200 gallons per tap per day! Our standard water allowance is 100 gallons per tap per day. We will review the supply and usage. Although 8,640 gallons are flowing across the mountain every day and the well by the office is pumping 2,160 gallons per day totaling 10,800 gallons per day, this confirms our need for an additional water source for the 16 Springs-Forest View Area.

DRILLING A WATER WELL IN 16 SPRINGS-FOREST VIEW AREA: Bid Letters dated 07-06-05 were submitted to 4 area drillers for drilling a mutual domestic water well in the 16 Springs-Forest View Area. A written bid has been received from one driller and 2 other drillers have requested additional information. Our Drilling Permit expires 10-31-05.

GRANTS: By letter dated 06-20-05 Twin Forks MDWCA requested grants totaling \$805,380 from the New Mexico Water Trust Board for the drilling of a mutual domestic water well and installation of 3-35,000 gallon water storage tanks, a transfer pump, infrastructure and completion of the well in Shadow Glen Park Subdivision. Souder,

Miller & Associates have estimated cost at \$2.4 million to bring our water system up to meet our needs.

WHO DUNNIT? On July 18th a report was filed with Otero County Sheriff's Office because sometime between 7 a.m. July 18 and 7 a.m. July 19, someone turned off a valve causing the well to shut down as well as the pump at Tank 2 after it pumped all the water to Tank 3. Tank 3 was drained and no water was going across the mountain to 16 Springs-Forest View. Was it children playing or malicious mischief? Tampering with public water systems is a crime and punishable by imprisonment for not more than 5 years or fined not more than \$50,000 or both. For security purposes, locks have been installed on all tanks and pump houses. Now locks will be installed on all valve boxes. These locks delay the Utility Operator in performing his job and costs the Association Members. If you see anyone tampering with or loitering around any of the water facilities, please call 687-3621 or 687-2479 or 430-9930 immediately. If possible, write down any tag numbers and descriptions of the person(s).

JARED MITCHELL: More than 12 Work Orders were completed between 06-11-05 and 07-16-05, including the major leaks in the 6" and 8" line on North Loop and Pine Glen. The work schedule has been very full keeping up with leaks, installing valve locks, installing a new service in Forest View, replacement of leak-through ball valves, measuring tanks twice daily, monitoring the well during pumping and reading meters the last 7 days of the month. All but one leak required use of the backhoe. Water samples must be taken to Alamogordo every month. Quarterly Reports were filed with the State Engineer 07-01-05.

Jared's younger brother, Justin, has helped with some of the trench work on an as-needed part-time basis for \$6 per hour. Those Mitchell kids grew up working in the dirt with heavy equipment and learned from the best – their Dad, Neil Mitchell.

Jared is scheduled to attend a Rural Water Association Small Water Systems Seminar in Silver City in mid-August where he will earn 12 credits. With one (1) year experience in September and these credits, he will be eligible to test for a Level 1 Utility Operator by the first of the year.

KEEP THESE TELEPHONE NUMBERS HANDY!

We don't know there is a problem until someone calls in. If you notice **LOW WATER PRESSURE** or have an **OUTAGE**, please call 687-3621 and leave a message (your name, address and telephone number where you can be reached). Messages are checked regularly, even after office hours, evenings, weekends and holidays.

EMERGENCIES AFTER HOURS, WEEKENDS & HOLIDAYS:

- (1) Call 687-3621 and leave a message (your name, address and telephone number where you can be reached); then
- (2) Call EVELYN SCHULTZ @ 687-2479 or 430-9930. **IF NO ANSWER, CALL:**
PERRY DAILY @ 687-4165; or CHARLISS RANDALL @ 687-2088.