

**RAND COMMUNITIES WATER DISTRICT**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**MINUTES**

Wednesday, April 14, 2021  
501 Comstock Ave, Johannesburg, CA 93528

**I. Call to Order**

President Cliff Kennedy called to order the regular meeting of the Rand Community Water district at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 in Johannesburg, California. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**II. Roll Call**

Present were President Cliff Kennedy, Director Tom Williams, Director Brent Brown, and Vice-President Ernest Napolis, who came in late. Absent was Director Ghulam Din.

**III. Adopt Agenda**

Director Williams made a motion to add application for bulk water for Newmont to agenda. Seconded by Director Brown. Passed with three ayes and two absent.

**IV. Approve Minutes**

Director Williams made a motion to approve the minutes from March 10, 2021. Director Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed with three ayes and two absent.

**V. Bulk Water Application from Newmont**

Newmont wants to use water from Prather Well 1 and up to 20,000 gallons per day from the hydrant meter in Randsburg. Cost of getting the water from Well 1 is 2 cents per gallon and from the meter in Randsburg it is 2½ cents per gallon. Director Brown made a motion to approve the bulk water sale for Newmont. Seconded by Director Williams. Motion passed with three ayes and two absent. Newmont will be starting to get water on Monday April 19<sup>th</sup>.

Northwind is going to come back and buy water in about six months according to Director Williams.

**VI. General Managers Report**

(Copied from original report)

On 3/11/2021 a leak developed in Randsburg on Butte Ave near the Chime shop. We replaced the bad section of pipe with a new pipe as the old one was brittle. It had also been repaired previously.

On 3/24/2021 there was a small leak near the meter for Sydney Peak Stone, which was fixed with a band aid. Tiger greased all the booster pumps.

On 4/6/2021 we had a small leak by the Joburg Pitstop that was quickly fixed.

On 4/12/2021, a leak developed in the middle of the road on Redrock Randsburg road just before Lexington Ave. It had been repaired several times before, so a new section of

pipe was used for the repair. The hole was sealed with asphalt, and more asphalt was added to the older leak near the chime shop as the initial repair had sunk and caused a bump in the road.

On 4/5/2021 I took President Kennedy to see RMC 3 and RMC 4. RMC 3 is currently no danger to the public, and I had Mr. Clair cap the pipe sticking up so it is no longer open where things were being dropped down it. He also rolled up the fallen fence sections and put them to one side. RMC 4 is also no danger to the public and is fenced off by two separate fences.

On 4/7/2021 Shen Huang, one of the engineers from NV5, came up to look at the construction site. I spent the morning taking her to the wells and the boosters, which she inspected and took pictures of to take back to NV5. I talked to her about the system, how it is all manual right now, and about the poor-quality pipe that was used in the transmission line. She was shown an example of the pipe that should have been used, and what was actually used back at the office. She took pictures to take back to show Mr. Owens.

The Kern County permit for the boring work was finally approved. NV5 has decided not to use our backhoe for digging test trenches. They are just going to drill the test holes. Kern County seemed to have issues with disturbing the asphalt and how it was to be filled back in.

(End of report)

**VII. Communications from the Public**

Dan Stanton inquired on when the public will be able to physically attend meetings again. An estimate of sometime in June was given.

**VIII. Update on Rate Study**

Options for a 15% and a 19% increase were given. Discussion on which option would be the best one to go with. 15% and option 2 (no included water) was chosen. Vice-President Napolis made a motion to go with the 15% raise in rates and Option 2. Seconded by Director Williams. Motion passed with four ayes and one absent.

**IX. Mountain Well Security**

Replacing the fence was discussed and putting something over the hole. Vice President Napolis made a motion that we look for bids for replacing the fence at Mountain Well, get it secure and then look for something to cover the well with. Seconded by Director Williams. Motion passed with four ayes and one absent. The fence should be eight foot high with barbed wire along the top.

**X. Well RMC 4 Access**

The former general manager said that the lease agreement found was not valid, and that the person who signed it never came back. Discussion on testing the well to find out the quality of the water and gain access to the well. Director Williams was trying to get ahold of Tommy Treat to find out if he gave John Cruz the keys to the well. Director Napolis said we need to look into the legality of kicking him out. It was discussed to put a standpipe in so a company like Northwind could use the water.

Director Napolis made a motion that we draft a letter to John Cruz informing him that on a date not set yet, that would be set by the General Manager, that we are going to take the

property back, that he is welcome to meet us there on a date set by the General Manager, with the Sheriff department, and execute that, and tell him he has so many days to reply to us, and then if not, continue with our plan to take that well back and see what we can do to get it fit for service. Seconded by Director Williams. Motion passed with four ayes and one absent.

**XI. Audit Reports**

Chris from Fedak and Brown did a presentation on the latest audit. The audit went well, and the auditors provided an unqualified opinion, which is a clear opinion.

**XII. Red Mountain Water Tank Repaint**

President Kennedy did not like the quote given for \$37,000.00 because it was open ended for repairs. There was discussion on the tank and getting a diver to inspect the tanks, which the General Manager would investigate.

**XIII. Bills Paid**

All the checks presented were signed.

**XIV. Future Agenda Items**

District map.

**XV. Adjournment**

Director Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director Napolis. Motion passed with four ayes and one absent. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Debbie R Jones, Secretary  
RCWD Board of Directors