# NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Laclede Water District

208-255-4068

 Meeting date September 10, 2025 at Laclede Community Center – 6pm

Those in attendance were Justin Roberts, Chuck Thompson, Dave Stevens, Gloria Fletcher on the Board. Also in attendance were Stephanie Muellar our Bookkeeper, with Bob Hansen from Water Systems Management, Travis Hanson from Idaho Forest Group and Loren and Penny Eby and Betty Whipple customers.

**Bring meeting to order\***

Justin brought the meeting to order at 5:58.

**Approve Minutes\***

Justin asked if anyone wanted the minutes read and no one did. Chuck made a motion to approve, with Dave 2nd and it was approved.

**Changes in Agenda \***

No changes

**Old Business\***

 **Update from Ardurra \***

Justin told us that we were 1.2 million over budget. Intake system will go first, then the plant. Brent Deyo from Ardurra told us we could go to DEQ to ask for more money. So a document to them. Justin spent a lot of time explaining the process to our guests. He explained what has been taken out of the contract. The tank was going to be recoated. We were going to upsize the line going from the tank to the booster station. We weren’t required to do this, so it has been removed. Some distribution lines were going to be replaced but that has also been removed.

We have asked for partial We approval to get the project going. So they can start work on the new booster station, intake system, plant and new tank. Hopefully the project will be starting soon. The intake system has to be done first. Our ARPA funding expires next spring so we needed to move forward. The tank Justin feels comfortable with however the distribution lines are a concern.

The clear well can be saved it just needs a new baffle. The new plant will go to the right of the old plant. The new plant is completely redundant. Cut the electrical system out by the bank of the water. Minor things have been cut.

Borings came in pretty high. Looked at maybe going back to pumps in water.

New design was to put the wet well on shore. Boring was 2 million. There wasn’t a lot of money to put them in the water. LID remains the same cost.

 We’re still looking for more Grant money.

 **Cross Connection Document \***

Table till October.

 **Update on request for people with wells \***

Dave created a document for all the people with wells. He explained it. Four people were forced to put in a service connection. Trying to come up with an established policy. Legal said no problem in this. We are trying to establish a precedent.

There were several scenarios that Dave explained. He also talked about the bills people had received. So, lots of options.

Has not heard back from Zach. We do need to hear from attorney before we go on.

What we had approved as a Board is we can stop their payments right away. We talked again about the cost which would be “around” 27,000. We will work more on this when we hear back from our council.

 **Follow up on Travis Haller’s additional connection**

We decided we need to come up with a policy on this. Justin will look at this and get a draft policy for us.

 **Leak on Manley Creek Reimbursement \***

Justin will take it to Zach.

**Delinquency list letters \***

Letters were sent to 6 customers who would have gotten a lien on September 5th. Stephanie gave us a few more names tonight that will also get letters. Gloria will send them out. If the water is turned off it will cost $25 to turn off and $25 to turn on. So everyone has gotten the first round of delinquency letters. We were hoping to send it out right away but didn’t get out for a few days.

**Ordinances/By-Laws \* (next steps)**

There was a letter in the packet from Penny and Loren on the rate structure. Dave said some changes have been discussed with the rate structure. So he wanted to explain it to everyone.

**Rate Discussion \***

RAKA gave us this spreadsheet tool. So Dave went in and tried to use their approach and adapt it for our users. Dave worked with Travis and they went through more hours of trying to come up with a better solution to our water rates. We found out the approach that RAKA came up with are for a much bigger water system.

Dave explained the tool on depreciation and setting aside money. He explained the fixed costs for bookkeeping and Waters Systems Management. Producing water is a variable rate. Dave again put different options for us to look at and evaluate.

There will be a reduction on the rates. Dave figured out a way to change the “tool” to make it fit us better. He said we need to get the tool to work with our expenses.

Our base operating costs have gone way up. Dave recommended one of the options. We liked it and thanked both Dave and Travis for taking this project on again.

We will adopt the resolutions at the next meeting.

**Request from Melissa Shockey (again)**

One of their lots is being used the other is not. We should find out how many this could affect. Table till next meeting.

**New Business\***

Budget for 2026 \*

 Dave went through this year and last years budget and came up with the new Budget.

 Stephanie said we needed to add the LID into the budget. Just in and out.

 Stephanie can publish the Budget that was created after we add a line item plus two additional numbers for in and out. Total project for LID 5,938.00. Next month we can vote to approve.

**Plant Operation\***

Bob gave us a report on the water production as 3,926,400 for the month and a year-to-date total of 17,323,100.

Bob sent out letters on LED service line information. Of this only 123 people responded. He had 12 people that didn’t know. He wanted us to know what we should do. Everyone should have gotten a letter. Bob will try to figure this out. It will go on for three more years.

 **Update from Mike**

Mike and Gloria have been going around and checking meters that are problems. We have been sending the information to Shawn to fix the system. We both have to wait for a week or so to go back and check the remaining.

**Water User Forum**

Our visitors have asked questions throughout the whole meeting. No more questions.

**Treasurer’s Report \***

Gloria and Stephanie gave us the treasurer’s report.

 Umpqua Checking 425,579.16

 Umpqua Reserve Acct 24,130.46

 Mountain West Flex account 224,297,42

**Review/Pay the bills \***

Since we have money in the bank, Dave made a motion to pay the bills. Gloria seconded it and it was approved.

**Adjournment**

Chuck made a motion to pay the bills and Dave seconded it. It was approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:39pm

**\*Action items**

**Executive Session**

We went into a very long Executive Session.