

ASPEN SPRINGS METROPOLITAN DISTRICT
PO Box 488
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
970-731-5656

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors, Aspen Springs Metropolitan District was convened on September 12th, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Aspen Springs Metropolitan District building located on Metro Drive in Unit 5 Aspen Springs Subdivision. Elected board members Ken Barber (Chair), Pam Wallis, Kelly Evans, Eric Davidson & appointee Chris DeVries were in attendance. No employees attended. No owners attended.

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 17:59 by Ken Barber

Approval of previous Minutes

- August’s minutes were approved. – **Motion**: Pam, 2nd: Chris, Passed unanimous
- Secretary (Eric) will not be present for October’s meeting.

Public Works

- Pam reported that graveling & grading continue. Two employees are out hunting, but the remaining two are working where & when possible.
- The grader is in for maintenance in Durango so it will be ready to go before snows begin.
- Carey received the Magnesium Chloride he needed to finish this year’s magging. The material was sourced from Desert Mountain (see discussion below)

Treasurer's Report

- Kelly presented last month’s financial data:

August	2023		
Total Cash Assets: \$448,429		Total Assets: \$2,177,471	
	MTD (\$)	YTD (\$)	% of Budget
Total Income	25,649	370,230	80
Property tax income		257,352	92.27
Water Depot Income		16,374	65.5
HUTF income		100,591	69.37
Total Expenses	50,252	315,969	74
Primary/Major monthly expenses:	Crossfire	\$12,267.95	
	Brennan Oil	\$9,475.84	
	Day Lumber	\$4,228.57	
	Desert Mtn.	\$4,031.44	

- **Motion** to approve June’s Treasurer’s Report: Eric, 2nd: Pam, Passed unanimous

- Kelly transferred roughly \$220k of District funds to the Money Market account earning 5+% interest (at Chris' recommendation last month). Chris needs to be added to the Colorado Trust account as a back-up to Kelly for transactions.
 - **Motion:** Chris DeVries to be added to the Colorado Trust account for secondary signature: Pam, Eric 2nd, Passed unanimous
- *Kelly reported further information on the internet fraud situation with Desert Mountain (DM). She spoke with the Comptroller at DM. His forensic analysis showed 3 different counties affected. Two of those counties are not cooperating, and letters are being slow-walked. We received \$5k paid from insurance (\$4k after 20% deductible), and no real chance of seeing the other \$16k.
 - Ken stated we will pay Desert Mountain everything we owe except for the disputed/stolen \$21k. He reiterated "no invoice, no check" – we will not agree to any financial payout without a verifiable invoice, and all remitted checks must be in paper format.
- Kelly is looking into a different accounting firm (Cornerstone) and needs to confirm if they are capable of doing small government accounting.
- We need more time to discuss the available recourses we might have before we agree to pay the \$21k
 - **Ken** to talk to Ronnie Zaday to discuss options
 - **Kelly** to determine if Cornerstone can take over accounting duties

Review SDA calendar

- Certification of Values received. (Creepy name)
 - **Eric** to forward a copy to Chris
- Budget is due on 15 Oct.

Budget / Election

- Chris is working with the spreadsheet provided by Kelly to develop the 2024 budget.
- Kelly & Chris to determine if an addendum may be required for the 2023 budget year.

Park

- Lots of activity at the park. Three new foxes are enjoying the prairie dogs if not reducing the surplus population.
 - We should allocate funds for grass and for finalizing the commitments made to the county
 - **Ken** to compose a letter for BOCC consideration of future park improvements, as the parks fund is largely untapped.

Old Business

- Chris investigated security cameras at Buttercup, Metro building, & the Park. Proceeding at Buttercup first with an enclosure built for corrosive environments.
 - **Motion:** Chris is authorized to spend \$3k for a security system at Buttercup Water Station, with the assumption we will be

reimbursed for half the cost thru our CSD Safety Pool funds: Kelly, Pam 2nd, Passed unanimous.

- Eric reported on receiving information regarding Group/Cluster Mailboxes. The board reiterated that Property Owners are responsible for the purchase of such boxes, and ASMD will facilitate the base/pedestal construction.

Lot Consolidations

- Lot Consolidation Requests this month.
 - 69 Lisa's Court: Tentatively Approved
 - 844 Far View: Approved
 - 1020 Justins Road: Approved
 - 612 Ute Drive: Approved

New Business

- Errol Lord, Code Enforcement Officer for Archuleta County, attended the meeting to present information on recent & future activities. He provided a Resources List which he furnishes to each property owner facing a possible citation (Recyclers, automobile haulers, hauling services, etc).
- There will be a waste tire collection event on **Sept 29 from 9am to 4pm at the Archuleta County Public Works Bldg, 1122 Hwy 84**. See website or flyers on mailbox clusters for more info.
- Errol spoke about compliance activities in Aspen Springs. The process starts when a property owner completes a Complaint Form. Errol will investigate and work with the Owner of the highlighted property to arrive at compliance with County rules. Respect and Compliance are his two guiding principles, and seemed genuinely earnest in his desire to find workable solutions, even if they begin with small steps.
- The board went over a few of the original complaints (Boone & Jackrabbit) to get updates on progress made.

Property Owners' Concerns

- No property owners' concerns were raised.

Meeting adjourned at 19:05 by Ken Barber