

MOUNTAIN LAKES DISTRICT WATER COMMITTEE MEETING
at the District Office and via Zoom Video Conferencing
January 5, 2023
UNAPPROVED

Call to Order: Chair Ed Rajsteter called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

Roll Call:

- **Committee:** Ed Rajsteter, Robert Roudebush, Mark Johanson, Patricia Brady, and Facility & Water Manager John Mitchell.
- **Public Present: In-Person:** Bob Long **Via Zoom:** None.

Minutes Approval:

- **Dec. 1, 2022:** Mark Johanson moved to approve; Patricia Brady seconded and motion passed.

WATER SYSTEM AND WINTER STORM ELLIOTT UPDATE:

John Mitchell reported the Christmas storm caused power outages from high winds, and flooding due to heavy rainfall. The Office building basement had about four inches of standing water – no power, no sump pump system – roads around the Lodge were washed out, culvert was damaged on Skiway, and the bulletin board near the flagpole was blown over, among other damage.

Bob Long said the culvert in the infiltration well area was lost in the flood and the dam previously built was washed away so the well is not pulling as much water as previously. He estimated Woodsville Water & Light (WW&L) is now providing about 50% of the water used by MLD until the dam can be replaced. The spillways worked as designed, but claims will be filed with MLD property insurance carrier Primex for the building damages. FEMA funding may become available as well once storm damages for the local area are compiled and totaled.

John Mitchell reported a water break on Jan. 3 was found on White Mountain Road at the end of Rogers Road in the hairpin turn area. It was a 4-way T-connection with a cast iron tap that rotted away. The repair was completed just a few hours after it was located. He also reported average daily usage for December was 26,660 gallons per day, with the low being 17,656 gpd.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **State Testing:** John Mitchell said all of the state required lead and copper tests have been done and all results came back within limits and the final report was accepted by the state. He said he is also working on a waiver from the state for some required tests that have a negative “hit” (level above maximum allowed) history. The old waiver expired in 2018 and he is working to have it reinstated.
- **Water Operators:** Bob Long said he talked to water consultant Harold Clough who has been serving as the MLD water operator while John Mitchell was in training. John Mitchell passed his certification

exam with a 92% score and Harold Clough will continue with MLD for the first quarter of 2023 to help John Mitchell with any questions as he takes over the water operator duties.

- **Proposed Water Tariff Changes:** The Committee reviewed a proposed warrant article for a water tariff amendment to require all new homes to have a meter horn installed for a meter to “plug into” when MLD moves to a household metered system. They agreed to recommend the tariff amendment to the Commissioners and also agreed the tariff language about installing water lines below “freezing” needed to be clarified. **Bob Long will draft warrant article language for the second change and have both proposed amendments for the Commissioners to consider at their Jan. 9 meeting.**

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Discolored Water on Newport Drive:** Ed Rajsteter reported he met with a part-time resident on Newport Drive who reported their water is cloudy and has a chlorine smell. He said the resident told him the water issue has been going on for years and blowoffs of the nearby line would be done periodically. After discussion of possible causes and other homes possibly affected, the Committee agreed **John Mitchell will contact the resident to set up a time to investigate and Kristi Garofalo will provide him with the resident's contact info.**
- **Emergency Plan and Communications:** Kristi Garofalo asked about ideas for communication with residents during power outages and emergencies. After discussion of using the mailbox whiteboard for notices and info, and posting household notices in case a boil order was needed, the Committee agreed to table the issue for further consideration and bring ideas for an emergency contact procedure to the next meeting.
- **WW&L Meter Discrepancies:** Bob Long said the pump house meter for the WW&L connection is giving inaccurate readings. He will discuss the issue with water contractor Chris Dellinger and reconfiguring the meter may be a spring project. **Bob Long will work with Chris Dellinger and John Mitchell to schedule the project.**

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, Feb. 2 at 8:00AM. Patricia Brady noted the February meeting will be her last meeting as she is moving out of MLD.

Adjournment: Patricia Brady moved to adjourn; Mark Johanson seconded and the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10AM

Respectfully submitted by,
Kristi Garofalo