

**BEAVER FALLS WATERWORKS DISTRICT
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Minutes
April 9, 2024**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 7:08

WELCOMING: Chair, Board of Trustees, Ratepayers
Introductions made by Harold Walker, Chair

Acceptance of 2023 AGM Minutes

Motioned Laurie Moore Seconded Kyle Beeton Motion carried: Yes.

BUSINESS:

Chair Report – Harold Walker, Chair of Beaver falls Water Works District

Water Operator's Report – Wendy Settle, Water Operator

AGM 2024 Water Operator's Report

- In February of last year, we drilled well 4 after 2 attempts we were able to get a good productive well pumping 450 gpm. Filled out the construction permit and bought all the piping to connect it to the system. Through all of this we had to have a hydrologist that the drillers had to report to and would make suggestions as to where to drill and how deep and the drillers would take notes on the type of soils the drillers were drilling through. Then at the end of the drilling we did a pump test which we pumped for 48hours at 450 gpm and then the hydro took samples of the water, and all came back perfect. Then the hydro had to put together a full report regarding well 4. While all this was happening EOCP (Environmental operators certification program) along with Interior health did an evaluation on our water system and bumped us up from a small water system to a large system this included getting a new Water Officer who is my boss, I report to that person, so between the WO and the Hydrologist the 2 of them could not come to an agreement if there might be influenced from Beaver Creek so it came down to having to put in a full chlorination system which would be way over any kind of costs we could endure the only other option was to have a full water study done on the system and this would run us a very large sum of money 40,000 and up, and I was sure that they were only going to come back and tell us that we would have to chlorinate, but because well 2 is already established we can stay with well 2 they cannot make us chlorinate if we just use it and not move forward.

- We had a major water leak that we took weeks to find only to find it in the bottom of a creek bed by Beaver Falls Machine we were so lucky to find it before the creek started running or we would have never found it.

- In September we had a water quality alert which wound up being a sampling error and was rescinded 2 days later.

- We added 2 new water connections to our system on Robinson Rd.

- We had a major water leak on the highway @ 1520 HWY 3B got the call at 6:30 pm, we had to isolate a lot of Beaver Falls but worked on it till midnight and everyone woke up to water the issue was a 4" main blew a big chunk out of the top so we had to cut it out and replace with a new piece of pipe.

- We had a major blow out in PH 2 a weld rusted out and the water was running out the door, we had to order a new spool for the spot and now it is all good.

- Well 1 & 3 will be decommissioned this month, it is required by ministry of environment that all unused wells must be decommissioned, there was a time when you were able to do it inhouse but now you have to be certified and has to be registered with the province.

- I attended a couple of conferences in 2023 and the top issue on the agenda is water conservation, wildfires and flooding.

- Water samples have been great, and everything is running.

- Well 2 will be getting redeveloped this month to get it to produce more water when new it was pumping at 350 gpm, they will do a surge and bale this is to clean out the screens that over the years get plugged, so less water is able to make its way in and the recovery slows down, so with this redeveloping we are hoping to up the production about 50- 75% (from 250gpm now to 325gpm) and hopefully more.

Financial Statements 2023– Wendy Allen, Secretary/Treasurer

Financial statements for 2023 have been completed and signed by Harold Walker and Ellen Vallie at the Grant Thornton Trail Office on April 3, 2024. Recommended separating water operator and administrative wages to make year end invoicing more cost effective. Identified that the receivables are quite high. BFWD will receive a GST correction when we file in July. We have received a clean aspect for our year.

Trustees Honorarium: Voting on Trustees to be provided with an honorarium equivalent to the Water Tolls and Taxes to bring Beaver Falls Water Works in line with other improvement districts.

Tolls 2024 – 626.01 and Taxes 2024 from 270.68 +. (Tax amounts vary dependant on the size of the parcel of land owned by the Trustee.) A motion is required.

Motioned by Alan Plamondon Seconded by Tonya Hicks Motion carried: Yes.

Cost Savings Invoicing: Move to a one invoice per year system starting in 2025. One invoice with both Tolls and Taxes to be issued July 1 and become due September 1. This is a cost saving measure. A motion is required.

Motioned by Marla Walker Seconded by Donna Henschell Motion carried: Yes.

Auditor – Grant Thornton as auditor for 2024

Motioned by Bev Piccolo Seconded by Alan Plamondon Motion carried: Yes.

Budget 2024 – Provided to and accepted by ratepayers.

Motioned by Gary Stein Seconded by Monica Haines Motion carried: Yes.

Plans for Year 2024

- Reservoir rehabilitation
- Continue with locating and replacing valve boxes
- Decommission 2 old wells
- Redevelopment of Well #2

Questions:

How long will the well last? (Trustee)

- After the redevelopment we should be back up to 300-350 gpm from the current 256gpm and should last another 20-25 years. (W. Settle)

Is the Golder report not still valid? (Report Circa 2015) (Ratepayer)

- Parameters have changed and new rules now apply. (W. Settle)

How many wells are active? (Ratepayer)

- 1 well, Well #2 is the one we are using. The other well became crusted and was unusable. Then we drilled another well (#3) and tapped it but it didn't produce. (W. Settle)

How did we try to clean the well? (Ratepayer)

- Scrub brush and acid wash (W. Settle)

Why will the chlorination system cost a \$1,000,000? (Ratepayer)

- Because the new rules put in place mean that there has to be a certain amount of contact time and to make that happen, we would need to build a station that has reservoirs that allow it enough time to sit. (W. Settle)

What constitutes a small water system vs a large water system? (Ratepayer)

- When we started the well drilling process the 1st Hydrologist said everything looked ok. Then a new officer became involved, and they had questions about the closeness of Beaver Creek and new legislation surrounding the potential for viruses getting in the water. This changed some district's designations and as a result changed the parameters. BC is the last province to allow untreated water and it looks like they are trying to move all improvement districts towards chlorinated water.

Is the well sandy? (Ratepayer)

- No, there are always screens that progressively get smaller as they go down. They are permanent and cannot be changed. (W. Settle)

Water Operator suggests talking to the Water Officer and see if they will attend a meeting to explain and answer questions about the situation. We will notify people by mail and email if ratepayers send an email request.

Why can't the invoices be emailed to ratepayers instead of mailed to save money? (Ratepayer)

- We must physically make the attempt to put a paper copy into the hands of each ratepayer. Not everyone has an email. If you prefer to have an emailed copy as well, you just need to email beaverfallswaterworks@gmail.com to request a copy via this method. (W. Allen)

Election of Trustees: Scrutineer – Wendy Settle, Water Operator

Trustee for 2024 Position

We have one Trustee position to be elected.

Nominations received before March 26, 2024, at 4pm:

- Vicky Poulsen (Incumbent) Votes received 12
- Rod Haines Votes received 17
- Brian Dower Votes received 17

Names placed in a hat and drawn by the Chairman of the board, Harold Walker as per regulation laid out for Improvement District Elections in the even of a tie.

RESULTS OF ELECTION

ROD HAINES has won the 2024-27 Trustee Position at Beaver Falls Water Works District.

Adjourned 8:37 pm