

**DURANGO WEST METROPOLITAN DISTRICT No. 1**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
***SPECIAL MEETING November 15, 2023***

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 6:30pm by motion from Tom, Melissa 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Board Present: Melissa Schneider, Tom Phelps, Jeanne Matthews. Joel Peterson was absent for a family emergency.

Staff/Reps Present: Janet Anderson, Kathy Phelps, Brian Davies.

Visitors Present: No visitors were present. Mike Roussin was available by phone for questions.

Janet and Kathy verified no residents or constituents have presented comments yet to the draft budget. The budget was posted on the website and a notice was placed in the newspaper with hearing dates of November 8, 15, and December 13.

Budget and Rates: This meeting was primarily focused on the budget and rates. The board reviewed and digested the draft discussed last week. Unfortunately, the District has depleted reserves from prior development proceeds. Monies were used to purchase land, legal fees, purchase of a plow truck, and to supplement cash shortages.

Mike and Janet have discussed the situation with the auditor and Mike has started working on a 5 year cash flow analysis to delve further into each fund's financial position. The board will want to discuss the cash flow information early in 2024. There is general agreement rates do need to increase. Lake Durango has increased rates by 5% annually except when they missed a year after covid and personnel changes they still made it up by a 15% increase, so rates have increased with Lake Durango since 2009 by 65%. Dw1 has increased rates to help cover these increases but other expenses have continued to rise. The District was advised by the auditor to increase fees by \$30.00 in 2017. An increase of \$15 was implemented in phases by the end of 2018 but the remaining \$15 was increased in \$3-4 increments in 2019, one in 2022, and final \$3.50 late spring, 2023.

Current shortages were reviewed to balance the budget as presented: sewer=\$2, water \$4, general \$17, plowing \$10. The board discussed \$34. A schedule for setting up a rate hearing will be discussed in January.

The board decided to meet December 6 to discuss again. Janet will post notice for December 6.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm by motion from Jeanne, 2<sup>nd</sup> Melissa.

*M. Schneider*  
1-24-24