

**AMWC Board Meeting
May 23, 2008**

The Board meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. on May 23, 2008

Board Members present: Lewis McConnell, Paula Coombes, Elfriede Geiger, Joanne Schneider, Ken Kuencer (Fire Chief) (Treasurer Bob Tomko was unable to attend the meeting due to family medical appointments in San Diego County)

Minutes of July 3, 2007 Board meeting: Lew made the motion to approve the minutes, Elfriede seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Minutes of October 18, 2007 Board meeting: Paula made the motion to approve the minutes, Lew seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Lew reviewed the summary of AMWC accounts prepared by AMWC Treasurer Bob Tomko (who could not be present at the Board meeting), and the March 31, 2008 Financial Statements prepared by Van Tassell and Paegel, CPAs. AMWC has a savings account balance of \$25,076.56, checking balance of \$3423.50 and an investment CD of \$105,008. The CD account will mature on June 8, 2008. Lew reported that all the major expenses have been paid, including the water line replacement on White Pine Rd, fire hydrant replacements and well pump repairs. Elfriede noted that she had reviewed the first quarterly financial statement and found that the expenses were routine.

Fire Chief's Report: Ken Kuencer reported that all the fire engines are in good working order. The brakes on the '56 International engine were repaired last fall. The USFS engine experienced damage due to the unexpected freezing weather in the fall; the priming pump leaks but remains operational. Ken noted that this should be repaired, and that access to the pump is difficult. Ken stated that the fire training over the winter had been good; recent training has moved outdoors with practice with both the Crown and International engines.

OLD BUSINESS

Delinquent Bills: Lew reported that all but one AMWC member are making payments.

Dumpster: Ken reported that the dumpster had not yet been used to overflowing this season and so he had not yet ordered the second dumpster. He will do so when the need arises. Ken reported that he had investigated the costs of a roll-on dumpster. For a 20 yard dumpster there is a \$39 delivery charge and monthly cost of \$202. That cost includes two trips to the dump but does not include dump fees, which are considerable (Ken believes that they are \$9-10 per yard). The dump fees would be charged despite

the fact that the dumpster would be intended for green waste only, since the AMWC rental would be considered a commercial use. It is not known at this time whether the USFS plans another chipping event that might reduce the need for the large dumpster. Bill Donaldson expressed concern about the costs and the inability to control what would be placed in the roll-on, particularly since it would be open and not locked. There was consensus that this matter should be brought to the membership at the annual meeting, in light of the costs involved. By that time, it might be known whether the USFS will conduct a chipping event.

New Line on White Pine Road: Lew reported that the work had been completed. He indicated that numerous problems had been encountered during the work and that the total cost was therefore high (\$66,862).

Fire Hydrant Replacement: Lew indicated that the fire hydrants had been replaced on Iris and Cataract and that a new hydrant was installed on White Pine in conjunction with the water line replacement project. Fire-hydrant related costs were \$7902.

NEW BUSINESS

Independent Assessment of Water System: Lew reported that the assessment by Bruce Burnworth was proceeding (on a voluntary basis) and that Bruce had been provided with the information he requested, including data on the White Pine Road line replacement. Elfriede confirmed that she had sent Bruce the financial information he had requested. Lew indicated that he would contact Bruce to determine the status of the assessment.

Survey of Fire House Property: Ken reported that once the snow had melted he had been able to locate a monument behind the AMWC control building. He also traveled to Independence and got additional needed information such that he can now tell where the boundary points of the AMWC property should be located. Based on that information, Ken plans to go out with a metal detector to locate additional monuments. Ken indicated that the next step would be to do a topographic survey. He indicated that a friend had promised assistance with that task. Ken will contact him.

May Maintenance: Ken reported that he had completed most of the tasks on the maintenance list (posted in the Firehouse), including flushing the drain lines and hydrants and tasks associated with the reservoir. He noted that the well boxes need work; they are showing signs of their age. Some of the wood is rotten and the insulation needs to be replaced or patched. He suggested that this might be a good volunteer effort and that participants could be solicited at the annual meeting in July.

Plaque for Gayle Truxler: Lew reviewed the donation of \$500 by the Wilhelms in memory of Gayle Truxler. The donation is to go the new hydrant on Cataract Road. . The Board had determined that a plaque commemorating Gayle should be placed on the hydrant. Lew indicated that there were physical constraints to this but that a curved plaque might work. Lew indicated that the plaque will need to be obtained so that the presentation can be made after the annual meeting.

Finch Water Problem: Ken and Lew described the problem with the lack of water supply to the Finch home on White Pine Road. Efforts have been made by AMWC and the Finches to determine the exact nature of the problem but there is as yet no definitive answer. It is suspicious that the problem occurred after the White Pine Road water line replacement was completed, though, according to the as-built drawings, that work was well outside of the area that would affect the Finch's connection. Lew noted that the home was built many years ago (1964?) and that it was possible, if not likely, that the home was connected in a location other than that depicted in the as-built drawings. Lew reported that Bob Gribben, whose firm completed the White Pine Road line replacement, will visit the site to see whether he can offer insight.

TV for Fire House: Lew stated that a neighbor in Banning had donated a 32' TV for the Firehouse. It will be excellent for fire training videos. Betty and Lew plan to bring the TV up on their next trip to the southland.

South Fork Interest in Joining the Fire Department/Testing of Crown Pump: Lew indicated that he had spoken with Steve Silcott, who said that the South Fork residents continue to be interested in participation in the AMWC Volunteer Fire Department. Lew indicated that the immediate stumbling block is testing of the pump on the Crown engine. He said that Steve Silcott is investigating the possibility of getting the testing completed in Bishop, since the Bishop testing facility is now complete. Lew reported that Steve had acquired, at essentially no cost, a "tank truck" for use in fire fighting. The insurance cost would be prohibitive for an individual but would cost AMWC about \$300. The plan would be to maintain the "tank truck" at South Fork.

Schedule for Host Testing: Lew proposed that the hose testing event, followed by the barbecue, be scheduled for June 21st. Ken confirmed that this would replace the monthly fire training, typically scheduled for the second Thursday of each month.

Gallon Meters on Well #1 Inoperative: Ken reported that the gallon meters for well #1 became inoperative after the pump was replaced. Ken is able to judge water production reasonably well using the hour meter and assuming a pumping rate. However, the meter should be repaired.

Tap onto Propane Tank: Lew reported that Bruce Burnworth, who is beginning construction on his property, asked whether it would be feasible for him to tie into the AMWC propane line (with a separate meter, of course). There was discussion of the propriety of such a request; no other property owner has requested such an arrangement and other property owners have been responsible for their own connections to propane/kerosene tanks. Elfriede made the motion to "just say no". Joanne seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Newsletter: Topics to be included in the newsletter that will go out with the June billing were identified. The Board agreed that some of these topics, including pet clean-up in the community, should be brought up also at the annual meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Joanne Schneider
Secretary