

Big Mesa MDWCA

Minutes from May 9, 2026

BOD Attending: Jeff Mechenbier, Dave Artery, Jeff Strom, Rhiannon Peterson, Steve Jones

Meeting called to order at 8:00 AM

The members recited the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

Minutes: Minutes of the April 11, 2026, meeting was posted on the website and sent to members of the Board. There were no additions or corrections to the Draft Minutes.

Motion to approve Steve Jones, second Dave Artery. Vote was Unanimous.

Treasure's Report: Jeff Strom reported total of all accounts as of April 30 ,2026 was \$391,216.21. Misc. Trash Sales of \$719.01.

Motion to approve Dave Artery, second Steve Jones. Vote was Unanimous.

Water Managers Report: Jay Allen reported total gallons pumped 1,406,688 with total gallons billed of 1,274,688. Microbiologic sample 4/6, 2026 was Absent. HAA5 was N/A and TTHM was the same. There were one installation and no lockouts with no tampering fee imposed. There was one billed leak.

Motion to approve the Water Managers Report made by Dave Artery, second Jeff Strom. Vote was Unanimous.

Business Managers Report: Beate Merkert reported total amount billed for April was \$38,621.17 including \$531.06 in penalties and \$200 in membership fees with \$0 in transfer fees and \$2,000 in Installations. Monthly Expenses including payroll were \$32,424.56. Beate reported the new Payment Gateway is now operational. The Credit Card auto pay option will be available within the next few weeks. Motion to approve Office Managers Report Jeff Strom, second Dave Artery. Vote was Unanimous.

RAIL

- Big Mesa Capitol Projects – Jeff Mechenbier reported West Tech is here until completion May 28, 2029. The May completion date is approaching and on schedule. Friday the 15th we will replace one lake pump with a 7.5 hp pump.
OPEN

- Gateway Platform/ payment changes and notification- Auto pay is now back up and operational. CLOSED
- Kelly McFarland CPA- Will appear at next board meeting. OPEN
- Audit Bid- One and only bid submitted by DeAun Willoughby CLOSED
- Burn Pile- Will continue to accept green waste and await the lifting of the Burn Ban by San Miguel County. OPEN
- Board Training- Beate will send links to the Board. OPEN

NEW BUSINESS

- Open Meetings Act Resolution FY2027- Motion to approve Steve Jones, second Jeff Strom. Vote was Unanimous
- FY 2027 Interim Budget- Beate and Jeff Strom to meet and prepare for submission to DFA on June 1st. OPEN
- Volunteer Work- Beate to allow an individual opportunity to perform. OPEN
- Employee Leave time- Board agreed that all available leave time must be exhausted prior to allowing unpaid leave. CLOSED
- Encumbering Big Mesa access- Board discussed existing policy without any changes. CLOSED
- Compactor Container- Board discussed obtaining a third compactor. Beate and Jay exploring need and cost estimates. OPEN

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Adjourn Regular Session at 8:51

Adjourn Executive Session at 8:56 Staff and Part Time Staff discussed and no actions were taken.

ADJOURNMENT- Motion Jeff Strom, second Steve Jones. Vote was Unanimous
Time 8:56 AM.

