

Big Mesa MDWCA

Minutes from January 10, 2026

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

Meeting called to order at 8:02 AM

The members recited the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

Minutes: Minutes of the December 6, 2025, 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 Jeff Strom, second Dave Artery. Vote was Unanimous.

Treasure's Report: Jeff Strom reported total of all accounts as of December 31 ,2025 was \$378,952.05. Misc. Trash Sales of \$20.00.

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

Water Managers Report: Beate reported total gallons pumped 509,832 with total gallons billed of 384,594. Microbiologic sample 12/08/2025 was Absent. HAA5 12/09/2025 was 28 and TTHM was 80.9. There were no installations and one lockout with no tampering fee imposed. There were no unbilled leaks.

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

Business Managers Report: Beate Merkert reported total amount billed for December was \$37,054.58 including \$540.18 in penalties and \$300 in membership fees with \$400 in transfer fees and \$150 in reconnect fees. Monthly Expenses including payroll were \$41,901.71. Beate reported on repairs to the backhoe that totaled \$1,512.51. The Fidelity Simple IRA account application has been approved with contributions starting in March. Staff to complete Cybersecurity training this month. Motion to approve Office Managers Report Steve Jones, second Jeff Strom. Vote was Unanimous.

#### RAIL

- Big Mesa Capitol Projects- Jeff Mechenbier reported the work is moving forward and we expect the completion in May. Weekly construction meetings are ongoing. OPEN

- Water Meter Insulation- Moving forward with 270 installed and ready to order and install the next 100 kits. OPEN
- 120 Software for Sampling- Beate reported cost of \$2,500 and felt the cost was inefficient for our customer base. CLOSED
- Water Rate Increase- No Feedback no calls. CLOSED
- Quay County Property/ Arch Hurley Water Rights- Board discussed C J Weigel offer. OPEN

#### NEW BUSINESS

- 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter DFA Report- This was the 3<sup>rd</sup> from DFA. Motion to approve Jeff Strom, second Steve Jones. Vote was Unanimous. CLOSED
- IT Training- All employees to attend [3 hours] CLOSED
- Final Audit Report- Accepted by the State. We will make available to the public this month. CLOSED
- San Miguel County Exemption- Still no response from County. OPEN

Executive Session- not needed

Motion to Adjourn 8:37 Motion Steve Jones, second Jeff Strom. Vote was Unanimous