Big Mesa MDWCA

Minutes from September 12, 2026

BOD Attending: Jeff Mechenbier, 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 August 08, 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 August 31 ,2026 was $864,373.40. Misc. Trash Sales of $630.00.
Motion to approve Dave Artery, second Steve Jones. Vote was Unanimous.

Water Managers Report: Jay Allen reported total gallons pumped 1,924,128 with total gallons billed of 1,617,243. Microbiologic sample 8/10, 2026 was Absent. HAA5 as of 8/14/2026 was 10.5 and TTHM was 68.4. There were no installations and no lockouts with no tampering fee imposed. There were no billed leaks.
Motion to approve the Water Managers Report made by Steve Jones, second Jeff Strom. Vote was Unanimous.

Business Managers Report: Beate Merkert reported total amount billed for July was $45,530.10 including $410.07 in penalties and $200 in membership fees with $200 in transfer fees and $0 in Installations. Monthly Expenses including payroll was $34,810.61 Accounting services with McFarland has been terminated and accounting functions will be handled in-house with assistance from LNC Consulting. The Final quarterly FY 2026 Budget Report as well as the FY 2027 Budget have been approved. Motion to approve Office Managers Report Dave Artery, second Jeff Strom. Vote was Unanimous.

RAIL

- Big Mesa Capitol Projects – Jeff Mechenbier discussed Substantial Completion will depend on completion of the punch list and a 72-hour run of the plant. We hope to have it online and complete by the first of October. OPEN

- 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 regarding opportunities with RCAC the Rural Community Assistance Corporation. OPEN

- Electrical Cable for Pump Dock- On hold as we wait on multiple bids. OPEN

- Community Collection Center changes- Still a work in progress and we continue gather data and public comment. OPEN

- LNC Consulting- Beate is moving forward and working with Lindsey. OPEN

- Road Work- Jay reported on San Miguel County's completion with no damage to Big Mesa's infrastructure. CLOSED

NEW BUSINESS

- Transfer of Membership Upon Death Policy- Steve Jones to research on policy's used by other utilities and draft a policy to be considered by the board. OPEN

- Tank Painting- Ivonne is requesting quotes for next meeting. OPEN

- FY 2026 Final Quarter DFA Approval- Received and Approved. Motion to approve Jeff Strom, second Steve Jones. Vote was Unanimous. CLOSED

- FY 2027 Final Budget Approval- Received and Approved. Motion to Approve Jeff Strom, second Steve Jones. Vote was Unanimous. CLOSED

- Mueller Meter Reading Transceiver and Software Upgrade- Support for the system we have is being discontinued and the failed transceiver will not be compatible with the new software. Motion to replace with new software and transceiver Steve Jones, second Dave Artery. Vote was Unanimous. CLOSED

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Open Meeting Recess @ 9:01 AM

Legal Issues and possible acquisition of property were discussed and no action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

9:16 - Motion to Adjourn Jeff Strom, second Dave Artery. Vote was Unanimous