RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
MEEKER SANITATION DISTRICT

Regular Board Meeting

September 9, 2026

Chairperson Hoke called to order the Board Meeting. The regular meeting of the Meeker Sanitation District Board of Directors was held Wednesday September 9, 2026 at 7:00 P.M. at the Meeker Sanitation District Board Room at 265 8th Street. Notices were posted prior to the meeting at the Clerk and Recorder Office, Town Hall, Post Office, Office of the Meeker Sanitation District and published in the Rio Blanco Herald Times and on our website. The following people were present:

Director Hoke	Director Olson	Office Manager Willey
Director Day	Director Balloga	Office Assistant May
Director Baumgart	Attorney Borchard	Plant Manager Nielsen
		Plant Operator McGruder

Additions or Changes to the Agenda:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS WRITTEN OR WITH CHANGES WAS MADE BY DIRECTOR OLSON, SECONDED BY DIRECTOR BALLOGA.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 5, 2025 BOARD MEETING WAS MADE BY DIRECTOR BAUMGART, SECONDED BY DIRECTOR BALLOGA.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Property Leins for Delinquent Accounts:

Tax liens will be filed for those people whose accounts are 6 months and $150.00 or more delinquent. There are presently 10 accounts in that status. This information may change before the December 9th deadline to finalize tax liens. We will make another resolution and file at that time.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RESOLUTION TO FILE PROPERTY LEINS ON:

1. PROPERTY OWNED BY TRAVIS ADAMS, $420.00, 1080 GARFIELD STREET, CITY OF MEEKER BLOCK 089 LOT 5 & 6 & E ½ OF LOT 7; AND

2. PROPERTY OWNED BY DAVID CHAPIN, $280.00, 1069 CLEVELAND STREET, 77 LOT: E1/2 10 & 11 – UNIT 3 WESTSIDE TOWNHOUSES CITY OF MEEKER; AND

3. PROPERTY OWNED BY MICHELLE BUCKLER, $280.00, 1160 MAIN STREET, CITY OF MEEKER BLOCK: 094 LOT: 5; AND

4. PROPERTY OWNED BY LAURA WHITEMAN, $280.00, 1042 PARK AVENUE, CITY OF MEEKER BLOCK: 088 LOT: 3,4 & 5; AND

5. PROPERTY OWNED BY SHANNON MERRIAM, $360.00, 315 PARK AVENUE, CITY OF MEEKER BLOCK: 005 LOT: 12; AND

6. PROPERTY OWNED BY TASHA ARCHULETA, $360.00, 713 HILL STREET, PURKEY-COCHRAN RESUBDIVISION LOT: 1 ACCORDING TO THE PLAT RECORDED 2/6/15 RECEPTION #309747 FORMERLY KNOWN AS BLOCK 69 E1/2 OF LOTS 1, 2, 3; AND

7. PROPERTY OWNED BY JOHN KATSOCK, $265.00, 1283 PARK AVENUE, CITY OF MEEKER BLOCK: 097 LOT: 14 & 15 SUBLOT 3; AND

8. PROPERTY OWNED BY RAYMOND COMER, $360.00, 1036 PARK AVENUE, CITY OF MEEKER BLOCK: 088 LOT: AND

9. PROPERTY OWNED BY LARRY VAN DUSEN, $360.00, 101 JULIE CIRCLE, SANDERSON HILLS SUBDIVISION LOT: 22 SUBLOT B RESUBDIVISION; AND

10. PROPERTY OWNED BY LAUREN & SIOBAHN MILHOLM, $428.00, 1220 MAIN STREET, CITY OF MEEKER BLOCK:095 LOT: 2.

WAS MADE BY DIRECTOR BALLOGA, SECONDED BY DIRECTOR BAUMGART.

MOTION CARRIED UNANMOUSLY.

2027 Budget:

The preliminary 2027 budget was presented for review. Rio Blanco County's assessed valuation decreased from the prior year, reducing the District's property tax revenue by $3,793.09 at the 9.47-mill levy. The final assessment will be completed before December 9, 2026, Board meeting. The Board also considered a 2027 employee wage increase. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Denver–Aurora–Lakewood CPI rose 3.9% from a year earlier, while the West Region increased 3%. The Board tabled the matter until next month and requested reports showing the average and individual effects of 3%, 3.5%, and 4% wage increases on the budget. Office Manager Willey will prepare the reports for review.

Health Insurance Renewal:

For 2027, the District's health insurance renewal shows raised medical premiums of 16% and dental premiums of 5%, while vision premiums remain unchanged. Director Day suggested offering employees a benefits card or Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) to reduce health insurance costs. CEBT, the District's provider, recommended two HRA administrators. The Board reviewed the information, tabled the matter until next month, and requested comparisons of the PPO2, PPO4, and PPO7 plans along with HRA card amount options.

Plant Report:

Lab results were within permit limits.

Office Report:

Plant Manager Nielsen, Office Assistant May, Director Day, and Office Manager Willey attended budget training at the Town of Meeker, presented by Dana Hvalc of DOLA. The session provided helpful insights and a useful refresher on government budgeting. Dana emphasized that government entities should maintain an Asset Management Plan to promote transparency in the use of tax revenue and support future funding needs. He recommended contacting RCAC, a nonprofit organization that partners with rural and Indigenous communities to help develop, improve, manage, operate, and finance wastewater systems. RCAC was contacted, and the organization can assist the District at no cost with an asset management plan and rate study, as well as present its findings to the Board. A meeting is scheduled for September 15 at 9:00 a.m. for anyone who would like to attend.

The Board continued discussing a sewer rate increase. Members reviewed the reports requested last month and those presented during the previous two months. Office Manager Willey and Office Assistant May explained the additional revenue projected from accounts subject to overage charges if usage thresholds for commercial and residential accounts were lowered from 8,000 gallons to 6,000 or 4,000 gallons. The Board agreed to include a $5.00 service charge increase in next month's budget review and requested a report comparing overage rates of $5.00 and $7.00 per 1,000 gallons above the 8,000-gallon base. The Board also considered increasing the vault water charge from 16 cents to 25 cents per gallon.

DIRECTOR BALLOGA MOVED TO INCREASE THE VAULT WATER RATE FROM 16 CENTS TO 25 CENTS PER GALLON AND TO PUBLISH NOTICE OF AND HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE RATE CHANGE AT THE DECEMBER 9, 2026, BOARD MEETING. DIRECTOR OLSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Board discussed the capital improvement plan for the collection system and wastewater treatment plant. They would like to start projects that are within budget of the unrestricted Enterprise Fund, and it was asked of Plant Manager Nielsen to bring a list of these projects for further discussion at next month's meeting.

Board:

The Board reviewed the Delinquent Accounts, Profit and Loss Statement, Balance Sheet, and Bank Statements.

The Board reviewed the current bills and QuickBooks Accounts Payable Report.

MOTION TO ACCEPT AND PAY THE BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2026 IN THE AMOUNT OF $63,912.98 WAS MADE BY DIRECTOR BALLOGA, SECONDED BY DIRECTOR OLSON. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Director Day gave permission to use their signature stamps.

The meeting was adjourned; the next regular Board Meeting will be held on October 7, 2026.

ATTEST ____________________________________ Chairperson

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