

**MINUTES OF THE WASATCH COUNTY COUNCIL
ACTING AS
THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE TWIN CREEKS
SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT
PUBLIC HEARING
JUNE 11, 2019**

IRRIGATION METERS INSTALLATION RATE HEARING AND APPROVAL

Max Covey, the Assistant General Manager, addressed the Governing Board of the Twin Creeks Special Service District and indicated that the Twin Creeks Special Service District provides secondary irrigation water services to its customers in Wasatch County. 93 of these secondary connections historically have not been metered. Twin Creeks Special Service District is now prepared to install irrigation water meters on these connections and we are proposing that water users be allowed to either pay the \$900 cost up front or pay an additional \$15.00 per month on their monthly utility bill until the balance is paid off. The main purpose for these meters is to try and promote some conservation and to make the homeowners aware of the usage of the water that is being used to take care of their properties. Also, the new water rates will be frozen and not implement the new rates this year. That will give the water users time to adjust their water practices and habits so the water usage will be provided to the users on a monthly basis which will be done through a new tower system that will be installed that the water users can log into to see their usage. Then at the end of the year the data will be looked at and see if the rate increase is fair to the water users. Max Covey also indicated that they will try and match the water usage to the water rights that the individual lots have. Max Covey also indicated that an open house was held June 10, 2019 to all of the 93 water users at the Wasatch County Senior Citizen's Center and about fifteen to eighteen customers show up and no one was totally opposed to this process of installing meters taking place.

Public Comment:

Board Chair Jeff Wade then opened the Public Hearing for public comment.

Tom Kudla, resident of Wild Mare Estates, addressed the Governing Board of the Twin Creeks Special Service District and indicated that with this metering process he will have to redo his whole sprinkler system because he has not enough water pressure to run his rain birds. Board Chair Jeff Wade indicated that you are receiving your outside water from the Lake Creek Irrigation Company and to contact them with the problem with his water pressure because Twin Creeks Special Service District can't do anything with regard to this water pressure problem. Also, they handle all the billing for the water usage.

David Smith, residing at 3170 Wild Mare Way, also known as Lot 11, Wild Mare Farm Plat C, addressed the Governing Board of the Twin Creeks Special Service District and indicated that this hearing is not about the mechanics of metering but about money specifically the \$900-dollar installation fee. This fee of \$900.00 for the meters and installation should not

be borne by the property owners but should be budgeted and built into the rate base. David Smith

then went through what will happen with this water rate increase. David Smith indicated that he is against the rate study that was done because it is financial and is not helping the water user. Also, the \$15.00 per month metering installation fee will be part of the problem. Board Members this is the time to fix the problem rather than exacerbating the problem because then work can be done on the rate study. Ron Phillips, General Manager, indicated that this public hearing is about installing meters and meeting the cost of those. At the open house last night there wasn't an objection to meters being installed other than David Smith. Also, the rate study will be re-examined this fall and that is why the new rates have been put on hold for one year until some data can be obtained and the rate study is not what this public hearing is about.

Parker Mossman, resident of Lake Creek Farms, addressed the Governing Board of the Twin Creeks Special Service District and indicated that our subdivision did agree to pay the fee for the meters and everybody is okay with that. Also, my bill went up ten dollars this month when I wasn't even using the sprinkling system so what will happen when the weather gets hot and will be using more water. Board Member Steve Farrell indicated that the water system in Lake Creek Farms has greatly been improved over the years.

Board Chair Jeff Wade then closed the public comment period.

Board Chair Jeff Wade indicated that in his opinion that this is the only realistic way for everybody to pay their own fair share. Board Member Steve Farrell indicated that he would like to use this metering process as a management tool to keep the water here in our valley instead of the water going to the lower valleys and not to be used merely as a water usage tool. So that if there is somebody that doesn't have a water right which are using more water than they are entitled to than somebody with a water right who doesn't have any water that isn't fair. That needs to be looked at. As a result, these meters will help to control that somewhat.

Motion:

Board Member Steve Farrell made a motion that we approve Resolution No. 2019-04 with the understanding that we are going to review the rate study again this fall when there is some data to work with and then move forward. Board Member Kendall Crittenden seconded the motion and the motion carries with the following vote:

AYE: Board Chair Jeff Wade
AYE: Board Member Mark Nelson
AYE: Board Member Spencer Park
AYE: Board Member Marilyn Crittenden
AYE: Board Member Steve Farrell
AYE: Board Member Kendall Crittenden

NAY: None.

ADJOURNMENT

Board Member Kendall Crittenden made a motion to adjourn Twin Creeks Special Service District and reconvene the Jordanelle Special Service District. Board Member Spencer Park seconded the motion and the motion carries with the following vote:

AYE: Board Chair Jeff Wade

AYE: Board Member Spencer Park

AYE: Board Member Marilyn Crittenden

AYE: Board Member Mark Nelson

AYE: Board Member Steve Farrell

AYE: Board Member Kendall Crittenden

NAY: None.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

JEFF WADE/BOARD CHAIR