

CORBETT WATER DISTRICT



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL RATE HEARING
HYBRID MEETING: IN-PERSON ~ VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM
Tuesday, May 16, 2023 6:30 p.m. ~ Corbett Fire Hall 36930 E Hist. Col. Riv. Hwy**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: In-Person: Dan Graff, Sara Grigsby, and Jeff Hargens

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Kelly Piper and Fred Sanchez

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: District Manager Ana Linden, District Clerk Heather McGivney, DRC David Jacob

COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT: In-Person: Michael Arion, Jack Garrison, Roland Beebe. Via Zoom: Angie Kimpo.

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order** – Board President Jeff Hargens called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.
- 2. Roll Call** – Dan Graff, Sara Grigsby, and Jeff Hargens were present. Kelly Piper and Fred Sanchez were absent.
- 3. Approval of the Agenda** – Sara Grigsby moved to approve the agenda. Dan Graff seconded. *(motion passed 3 yes votes: D. Graff, S. Grigsby, J. Hargens; 0 no votes)*

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Consider Proposals for Fee increases – Corbett Water District would like to increase some existing fees, and to add a Returned ACH fee, and an On Call/Call Out fee. The returned ACH fee is similar to a fee when a customer has a check payment returned, but this is when they have given Corbett Water permission to automatically withdraw funds from their checking account to pay their bill. Sara Grigsby asked for clarification about the On Call/Call Out fee. This is when someone calls the emergency line with a problem like a main break, or a leak at their residence. Sometimes the situation is a true emergency, but other times, the customer just doesn't want to wait for regular business hours. Ana would like for our worker to have the option to tell the customer that there might be a fee if he were to come help them. Sara asked for clarification for a Shut Off Notice. This is a hand-delivered notice that water will be shut off within approximately five days for nonpayment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Jack Garrison expressed dissatisfaction with the proposed backflow fee. Our contractor charges around \$55.00, so he feels that \$125 is excessive. David Jacob responded that there is significant staff time invested in sending reminder letters to the customer before we have our vendor conduct the backflow test. Jeff Hargens pointed out that it is ultimately the responsibility of the homeowner to get the backflow tested, so the fee is charged only if they ignore the letters. Dan Graff agreed that the fee increase to \$125.00 seems appropriate considering the amount of staff time involved with our procedure. At the water utility where he works, they have a different procedure. A future idea might be to implement a “gold plan” where customers can “opt in” to have Corbett Water arrange their backflow tests, without the hassle of sending letters. Roland Beebe asked the failure rate for backflows in the district. Ana responded that only one backflow failed last year, because our contractor, Bruton Backflow, has an option to automatically fix any problems that they find. Roland also expressed the opinion that the proposed ACH fee might be low.

THIS WAS A PUBLIC MEETING

Resolution 2023.05.16 Updating Fees of the Corbett Water District – Jeff Hargens made a motion to approve Appendix B of Resolution 2023.05.16 Updating Fees of the Corbett Water District, Sara Grigsby seconded. *(motion passed 3 yes votes: D. Graff, S. Grigsby, J. Hargens; 0 no votes)*

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING – Jeff Hargens made a motion to adjourn the hearing at approximately 7:00pm, Dan Graff seconded. *(motion passed 3 yes votes: D. Graff, S. Grigsby, J. Hargens; 0 no votes)*

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