

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Southside Water and Sewer District
P.O. Box D, Sandpoint, Idaho 83864

July 29, 2025

Call to Order and roll call: Chairman Jack Howard opened the special meeting at 4:00 PM and a roll call confirmed that Kass Larson, Doug Bopp, Greg Keibler were also present, and Brett Babcock was present via remote access.

Others Present: Treasurer/Administrator Julia MacDonald and Maintenance Operator Jason Barnhart

Members of the Public: None

Special Business – All Items are Action Items

Water Reservoir and Water Main Improvement Bid review and acceptance:

Chairman Howard presented the bid tabulation comparison that was provided by the engineer, Dan Larson, and confirmed that the bids that were submitted were considered reasonable. The lowest bid was \$1,092,940 from S&L Underground. The Board discussed the ability of the District to self-fund a portion of the project outside of the ARPA Grant. Although part of the project was planned to be paid for with a USDA loan, Chairman Howard revealed that he received correspondence today that USDA can't loan money for a project in conjunction with a grant. The Board discussed consideration of rescoping the bids to phase the project between (1) the tank construction and (2) the distribution line. Ms. MacDonald presented a combined estimate of the water funds available from ARPA and from the District accounts which would be short of the funds needed to complete the project without the option of the USDA loan.

Chairman Howard stated that the District cannot accept the bids as specified because of lack of funds and the options to the District are to

1. Reject all bids and do nothing
2. Accept the bid contingent on a change order for phasing
3. Reject the bids and re-bid with just the tank. Wait to put the distribution line in until the USDA funds are available
4. Request additional funding from DEQ on the ARPA Grant

The Board considered the option of not doing the tank and just doing the pump house on the ARPA grant. The engineering estimate for the pump house is around \$450,000. The Board agreed that the tank needs to be replaced, and Mr. Barnhart stated that the old pump house is adequate for now but when the new well is brought online the new pump house will be needed.

The Board discussed rebidding options and staying within the procurement rules. Mr. Babcock added that the District should be forthcoming with all bidders and give them all

the same opportunity to re-bid. The Board reached out by phone to Dan Larson at 7B Engineering who was asked to get an answer from DEQ regarding the Districts' responsibilities.

The Board unanimously agreed to adjourn until the confirmation from DEQ.

Adjournment

A motion by Mr. Kass Larson and a second by Mr. Keibler was made to adjourn the special meeting at 4:41 pm and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted and Approved:

Julia MacDonald
Treasurer/Administrator

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Jack Howard
Chairman of the Board