

ROARING FORK WATER & SANITATION DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 1002 * GLENWOOD SPRINGS, COLORADO 81602
Tel (970) 945-2144

October 21, 2025

Call to Order

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm.

Roll Call

Board Members Present

Ian Exelbert, President
Paul Goldstein, Secretary
Tom Sherman, Board Member
Carter Barger, Board Member

Staff Present

Tonya Uren, District Administrator
Brandyn Bair, District Engineer
Scott Grosscup, District Attorney
Alan Leslie, Plant Operator

M/S/C Paul moved to excuse Brendan Matthias. Carter second, all in favor.

Administrator's Report

September Minutes

M/S/C Tom moved to approve the September 23, 2025 minutes. Carter second, all in favor.

Accounts Payable

Carter asked for details regarding the invoice by J. Martinez and Company for work on Sages Court. **M/S/C** Paul moved to approve the October accounts payable as presented. Tom second, all in favor.

COLOTRUST Fund

District reserve funds are invested with COLOTRUST in its \$1.00 (NAV) Net Asset Value "PLUS+" fund, with a current daily yield of 4.233%. COLOTRUST introduced a portfolio option "EDGE" with a next day liquidity option and a variable NAV of approximately \$10.00 per share. The EDGE fund is best suited for funds not needed on a frequent basis and designed for longer investments and higher risk. The current yield is 4.2973%. Investing in EDGE introduces the potential for reporting of unrealized and realized gains and losses. Tonya consulted the District's accountant who performs the annual audit, Paul Miller, CPA. Paul is familiar with other Districts that invest in EDGE. The Board discussed and asked that Tonya monitor the interest rates and bring forward for discussion again if EDGE begins to out-perform PLUS+.

2026 Draft Budget Review

Tonya emailed the 2026 Budget draft to the Board on October 15th. The draft included the following:

- Operating Expenses with an inflation guard of 4%, five-year averages, or based on trending activity for infrastructure repair and maintenance.
- Property Tax revenue increased slightly in 2026 due to development in the District.
- The new lift station in Ironbridge is complete and the District will replenish the Sewer Reserves and begin planning to upgrade the Aspen Glen Westside lift station in 2027.
- With the possible development of both the Reserve parcel and Sages in Aspen Glen, the budget includes sixty-four new taps. Revenue is retained for water and sewer projects. This allows the District to save for infrastructure related to anticipated increased nutrient standard compliance at the wastewater plant. The District may also need to develop additional water supply based on increased water demand from customers.

The following Capital expenditures are scheduled:

- Skid Steer purchase for the wastewater plant.
- Improved grounds maintenance and irrigation at the plant.
- Equipment purchases at the wastewater plant, wellhouses, lift stations, and hydrants and water valves as deemed necessary.
- Complete the well draw down study and explore water source development options.

During the September meeting, the Board discussed raising customer water use fees to increase savings for water projects and encourage water conservation in the 3rd and 4th rate tiers. Tonya prepared the 2026 Budget with the following water use rate structure.

- Water Usage Rate Tiers as follows.

Water Use:

0-13,500 gallons:	\$1.70/1,000 gallons – increase to \$2.00
13,501-135,000 gallons:	\$2.00/1,000 gallons – increase to \$3.00
135,001-206,300 gallons:	\$3.00/1,000 gallons – increase to \$6.00
206,301 gallons and up:	\$5.00/1,000 gallons – increase to \$8.00

Based on the 4th Quarter billing, customers were billed \$174,000 in water use.

(128) Customers watered in the range of 135,001-206,300 gallons

(78) Customers watered above 206,301 gallons.

Tonya projected that if each of those tiers were charged another \$1/1,000 gallons, an additional \$20,000 would be generated.

Tonya reported that about ten customers called to discuss their water bill, which included water use metered for July, August and September. Tonya took the opportunity to discuss water conservation during irrigation season with customers. The Board discussed wildfire safety and irrigating properties balanced with moderation. The Board asked Tonya to continue to encourage and educate customers about irrigation water conservation and the water use rates for increased consumption. The Board suggested information in a billing newsletter along with the website. The Board will not increase water use rates in 2026, and revisit the topic for the 2027 Budget.

Carter noted the WWTP BioSolids sludge line item in the budget. Prior to the board meeting, Carter emailed an article to staff and the board, "Understading the Climate Cost of Cleaning Our Water". The article analyzed the environmental impact of carbon dioxide emissions generated by wastewater treatment plants. Alan and Brandyn spoke about the topic and of data collection by larger plants in the region.

Ian asked for discussion regarding the Administrative portion of the budget.

Executive Session 3:45

M/S/C At 3:45 p.m. Paul moved that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters for which no open meeting was requested pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(f)(I). Tom second, all in favor.

M/S/C Carter moved to conclude the executive session at 3:50 pm. Tom second, all in favor. The participants in the executive session included directors, Alan, Brandyn and Scott, the above counsel. Tonya did not participate. No party who participated in the Executive Session raised any objection to the matters discussed therein or stated that any improper action occurred during the Executive Session in violation of the Open Meetings Law.

The Board directed Tonya to prepare the 2026 budget allowing for an increase in her rate billed to the District in response to market standards for per position and increasing health insurance rates for contract work individuals. Tonya will revise the 2026 Budget draft without the water use rate increase.

The 2026 Budget Hearing Hearing will each take place at the next meeting on Tuesday November 18, 2025. Tonya will provide proper public notice for this hearing.

Operator's Report

Water Leak Dectection

Alan worked with American Leak Detection to identify water lines in the District that may be leaking. The technicians use listening devises to hear sound of water escaping under pressure. Once a line is suspected, the location is correlated between two points. They detected a potential leak at the cul-de-sac by 404 River's Bend. A leak occurred in the water service line at 404 River's Bend in 2018 because of a coroded copper line. The water table along the river is high, which leaves this section of line exposed to groundwater. Alan and Mike will do further verification of this possibility prior to any excavation. They also identified the intersection of Brookie and Golden Stone in Aspen Glen as suspect. Areas in Ironbridge detected for possible leaks include the water lines by 1604 River Bend Way, near teacher housing off of River Bend Way, and between 547 and 549 River Bend Way. Alan and Mike will further test all suspected areas. Irrigation season is mostly over, but water use can impact the testing.

Engineer’s Report

- The new Ironbridge lift station is complete. The contractor hydro-seeded the site. SGM will close out the financials which will allow Phoenix to submit its final invoice for the November meeting. The invoice from Timber Line Electric, included in October’s accounts payable, is for work at the lift station originally included in R&A Electric sub-contractor bid. SGM will generate a change order to delete that from Phoenix’s final payout.
- The new effluent flow meter is now installed and was added to the SCADA controls.
- The new Internal Recycle Pump is installed at the plant. Three pumps from a different manufacturer were installed during plant expansion and failed. This new pump is to replace those and are offered on a 3-month trial basis to the District before purchase.
- Brandyn is working on master planning to evaluate the capacity of the wells and the overall planning for the District. Harvest Roaring Fork are questioning if there is current capacity in the system. Any work in the planning process to answer Havest Roaring Fork concerns are billed to them.

Attorney’s Report

- Scott is working on a diligence application for rights of exchange to be filed with the Water Court in December. The wells pump the District’s water through the system and returns water after it processes through the wastewater plant to the stream. This process leaves the stream “dewatered” for a portion. This conditional water right is filed every six years with incremental increase until it is developed for an absolute water right.

Next Meeting

3 pm, November 18, 2025

Adjournment at 4:20 p.m.

Read and approved this 18th day of November 2025.

Signed: _____

SEAL

Attest: _____