

CUCHARAS SANITATION AND WATER DISTRICT

16925 STATE HIGHWAY 12
CUCHARA, COLORADO 81055

December 6th, 2024

Rate Increase Hearing Meeting Minutes – C.R.S 32-1-1001

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Larry Dasenbrock opened the meeting at 9:00am

2. ROLL CALL:

Larry Dasenbrock: Present

Chris Smith: Present via Telecom

Jim Alt: Present

Steven Davis: Present

Ron Barbee: Present

Staff present: Terry Sykes, Julia Shrout & Kristan Lowe

Visitors present: Julia vonNuemann (Panadero Loop property owner).

3. Public Forum: Nothing to report

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Larry Dasenbrock asked if there were any additions or changes to today's Agenda. There were none.

Jim Alt made a motion to approve the December 6th, 2024 Rate Increase Hearing agenda as presented. Ron Barbee seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried 5/0.

5. Rate Increase Justification:

- Larry Dasenbrock and Jim Alt presented some reasons for the proposed rate increases. Jim briefly covered the district's history, rate history and water quality. He also explained the age and condition of the CSWD plants and equipment. He advised the audience that the condition of some of the old equipment around the district is obvious but some of the repairs aren't as obvious. The new Baker Creek water treatment plant project is under way. He also mentioned the possibility of a decrease in property tax revenues and that there has been little growth in the district, with only 7 new taps since 2022. It's been 3 years since the last change to Water and Sewer rates. Jim spoke of asset changes, depreciation schedules, capital improvements, and near term capital expenses, requirements to meet loan covenants, retain staff, reduce risk and gradually upgrade plants and equipment. CSWD is utilizing all grants available with the help of GMS consulting. Jim advised the visitors of the upcoming election in May of 2025 and encouraged more involvement from the community. The rate increase will take effect on 1-1-2025 and customers will see this change on their February 2025 invoice. Board members decided the following: Please see Appendix A of the CSWD Rules and Regulations for more fee details, available to www.cuchara.org. Highlights listed below.
- The board is proposing a monthly increase of \$20 on all residential water and sewer services from \$90 per month to \$110 per month.
- Multi-Family dwellings <650 sqft. will be \$42 for water and \$35 for sewer (ie: Aspen Leaf condos).
- Commercial base tap rates stay the same but consumption rates will go from \$4.00 per 1000 gallons to \$4.50 per 1000 gallons.
- Pond administration fees will increase from \$10 per month to \$15 per month.
- All water turn on and off requests will be \$35 per event.

Please visit www.cuchara.org or call the office with any questions.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

Ron Barbee made a motion for an adjournment of today's meeting. Steven Davis seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried, 5/0. The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 am. The next meeting will be a Regular meeting of the directors to be held on December 11th, 2024.

Larry Dasenbrock: President

Chris Smith : Vice President

Jim Alt - Treasurer

Steven Davis - Secretary

Ron Barbee: Director