

Saddle Mountain Service Corporation Board Meeting Minutes

February 16th, 2026

MT City Fire Station #2

Attendees:

Tom Hillesland, President

Mike Johnson, Vice President

Linda Kindrick, Treasurer

Josh Ault, Secretary

Joanna Haddon, Director

Kirk Fandry, Director

Mark Zitzka, Operator

Matt Weber, Backup Operator

Meeting called to order at 6:33 PM

Minutes from last month's meeting: The meeting minutes from January were reviewed by board members. Joanna moved the monthly meeting minutes be approved. Linda seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Operator's report: Mark presented the operator's report. With no further discussion, Linda motioned for the operator's report to be approved. Joanna seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's report: Linda Kindrick presented the treasurer's report. The various reports were reviewed by the board. Joanna motioned for the Treasurer's report to be approved. Mike seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Maintenance & Repair Committee Report: Mike presented the committee report and noted that bids are being collected for two options for resolving the water hammer: VFD and bladder tanks.

Old Business:

1. **Updated Water Operator Contracts and Interest Letter:** Tom has provided the Board drafts of the three water operator contracts and requested comments. Josh sent out a draft letter to the Board asking for homeowner interest in the open positions. Mike suggested clarifying the cost impact if an outside firm was used. Josh will update the letter and help coordinate sending it out this week.
2. **Annual PRV Maintenance:** This item is on hold until April.

3. **Water line break action items:** After the water line break last month, the Board discussed various action items to help prevent accidental breaks in the future.
 - a. Tom and Mike have the contact information for a representative from Saddle Mountain 3, and will work on trading Board contact information and system as-builts.
 - b. Tom noted when the weather is warmer, we should put physical markers on our water line.
 - c. Tom is planning on contacting Montana 811 to see if we can be included in future locate requests.
 - d. The details on the repair bill are still in discussions amongst the Board and the contractor. Progress will likely be made this month. Joanna mentioned it would be worth a call to our lawyer to discuss the situation. Tom agreed, and will give her a call this month.
4. **Winter meter readings:** Last month the Board agreed water operators would use their discretion and could skip meter readings for a month due to adverse weather conditions. Josh will work on adding this to the SOPs and send it out for review.

New Business:

1. **Prepare annual Board of directors position letter and nomination form:** Josh will start putting together this year's letter to homeowners asking for interest in the Board of directors positions opening up in June. Linda will provide the letter from last year as a starting point.
2. **Budget review and rate adjustment determination:** Tom provided the proposed budget to the Board. After discussion and suggested changes, Tom will send out an updated budget this week. The Board will review and provide comments in advance of next month's meeting. At this time, a rate adjustment looks unlikely but will be finalized along with the budget and water operator outcomes.
3. **Building request on Grassy Mtn:** The Board reviewed a request from a homeowner for building a shed. The Board determined there were still some details needed from the homeowner, and statements from neighbors. Tom will provide a response back to the homeowners this week.

With no further business noted, Joanna moved to adjourn. Kirk seconded. Meeting adjourned at 08:25pm.

Submitted by: Josh Ault, Secretary

Next meeting – March 16th, 2026 at the fire house on Mission Mountain Road at 6:30 p.m.