

The Town of  
***Star Valley Ranch, Wyoming***

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES**

**CULINARY WATER SYSTEM**

**Saturday, August 4, 2007**

Present: **Boyd Siddoway, Mayor**  
**Kent Harker, Councilman**  
**George "Al" Redlin, Councilman**  
**Carol Warren, Councilman**  
**Jim Wheeler, Councilman**

A **Special Town Meeting** for the purposes of discussion of topics regarding the **Culinary Water System** and consideration of an **Emergency Ordinance to modify the Water Conservation Plan** was held on Saturday, August 4, 2007 at Town Hall. **Mayor Siddoway** called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., and welcomed and thanked all those in attendance. **Over fifty people were present**, including all members of the **Town Council**. Town Attorney **Joshua Smith** of **Bowers Law Firm, PC** and Clerk **Andy Moffett** were also in attendance.

*A list of attendees (sign-in sheet) is on file and available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office.*

After declaring that a quorum of the Town Council was present, Mayor Siddoway led the recitation of ***The Pledge of Allegiance***.

Mayor Siddoway recognized Town residents who he called "water conservationists" and sincerely thanked everyone for their efforts. The Mayor also recognized **Warren Webb, Braydy Nelson** and **Terry Wilson**, and the **Water Advisory Committee**.

**Adoption of the Agenda:** *The agenda is presented in full in the body of these minutes:*

**Agenda**

- 1. Call to Order, Roll Call of Councilmen, Statement of Quorum**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Recognition**
- 4. Adopt Agenda**
- 5. New Business**
  - A. Emergency Ordinance Statutes**
  - B. Water Conservation Overview/Summary**
  - C. Reading of Ordinance 2007-04**
  - D. Proposed Changes**
  - E. Enforcement and Fines Review**
- 6. Adjournment**

**Councilman Harker** moved to adopt the agenda as written. **Councilman Redlin** seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Review: Mayor Siddoway** began the meeting with an explanation of the purpose of and procedure for passing an *emergency ordinance*. The Mayor explained the difference between reading an ordinance and reading an *emergency ordinance*. He noted that the Town's standard procedure is to publicly read an Ordinance three (3) times, on three (3) different days, with at least ten (10) days between the first and third readings. Mayor Siddoway further explained that state statute provides the Town the ability to pass an *emergency ordinance* if three quarters of the council vote in favor of waiving the three readings; it must also pass by a three quarter vote. Mayor Siddoway noted this was the only way the Town could act responsibly and quickly to address the residents' concerns.

Mayor Siddoway called for a motion *as follows*:

**Councilman Redlin moved the Town of Star Valley Ranch suspend the three public readings (as defined and authorized in W.S. 15-1-115) of today's proposed emergency Ordinance 2007-04. Councilman Warren seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

The Mayor displayed, as exhibits, several charts and graphs on an overhead projector for the audience to see. These charts and graphs assisted him in explaining trends in water flows from July 1 through July 31 from both Town water sources (Airport Well #1 and Prater Canyon Spring) as well as the Green Canyon Spring which the Town utilizes as part of a contract with the homeowners association.

Mayor Siddoway reviewed and described a Water Conservation Summary chart which showed water usage and tank levels for July 1-July 31, 2007. The Mayor described the chart detail which showed daily Prater Canyon and Green Canyon tank capacities, am/pm readings, usage and any special circumstances from July 1-July 31, 2007.

The Mayor entertained the question several residents had regarding new water hook-ups. Mayor Siddoway explained the Town had a four-tiered policy for prioritization for new water applicants. He stated that new water connections for lots without homes would only be made if the lot had been surveyed and the applicant had a building permit.

Town Clerk Moffett requested Mayor Siddoway clarify for the residents the Town's timeline with regard to building permits. The Mayor indicated that the Town is working to have building permits issued and enforced by the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year. Mayor Siddoway advised that at this time, building permits continued to be reviewed by the homeowners association.

Councilman Redlin read Emergency **Ordinance 2007-04** *as follows*:

### **(Emergency) ORDINANCE 2007-04**

#### **APPENDIX 4-1 – WATER CONSERVATION PLAN MODIFICATIONS**

This emergency Water Conservation Plan is to modify **Ordinance 2007-02, Appendix 4-1 Water Conservation Plan, Section 3, Water Shortage Classifications – subsection titled “Level I – Moderate”** for the following reasons:

1. Recognize the conservation efforts of the citizens and property owners of the Town of Star Valley Ranch for their demonstrated, responsible use of water during the initial declared LEVEL I water conservation period.
2. Address concerns voiced by the Town's citizens and property owners.

3. Correct ambiguities in the initial Ordinance.
4. Redefine the “watering period”.
5. Provide a more systematic assignment of watering days that lend themselves to a more efficient use of automatic sprinkler systems.

Replacement Text for **Ordinance 2007-02, Appendix 4-1 Water Conservation Plan, Section 3, Water Shortage Classifications – subsection titled “Level I – Moderate”** to Read:

**“Level I – Moderate” YELLOW**

(Storage tanks are not refilling in a 24 hour period, but have a high level mark of at least 50% of capacity during that period)

On going conservation measures plus:

Initiate alternate evening watering periods for the purpose of home yard and outside irrigating only based on street address:

House numbers ending in an EVEN number may water Sunday evening, Tuesday evening and Thursday evening, watering period limited from 7:00 PM thru 7:00 AM the following morning.

House numbers ending in an ODD number may water Monday evening, Wednesday evening and Friday evening, the watering period limited from 7:00 PM thru 7:00 AM the following morning.

No open end hose watering, must use a restrictive device on the end of the hose  
Up to a maximum of one hour per sprinkle setting (location or area)

No outside watering on weekends from Saturday 7:00 AM thru Sunday 7:00 PM

No outside watering the evening before a national holiday

No washing of vehicles, driveways or any outside cleaning with water

No recharging of yard fountains or artificial streams

Request:

Golf Course and irrigation of “non-golf common property” watering limited to 7:00 PM thru 7:00 AM, Sunday 7:00 PM thru Friday 7:00 AM

Limit indoor water use.

Mayor Siddoway called for discussion from the Council and audience. Discussion ensued regarding the designated time period for watering. Mayor Siddoway suggested it was best to “water after the sun goes down.” Further discussion ensued with regard to residents who arrive on Saturday and leave on Sunday and miss the watering period. Mayor Siddoway explained that the highest Town population and water usage is on the weekends during the summer months. If weekend watering was allowed, the Town would have to allow all residents to water on Saturday evenings. Mayor Siddoway suggested this was the time to “be a good neighbor” and ask a neighbor to do the watering for you.

Mayor Siddoway introduced **Town Compliance Officer Bob Byam**. The Mayor addressed comments regarding enforcement of the ordinance if someone is watering outside of their restricted times. He explained, “We have one person, and can’t patrol the entire Town.” Mayor Siddoway added, “If someone is abusing, the Town will observe, and take action accordingly.” He asked Town residents to report *blatant* abusers, and noted a Municipal Judge would be appointed at the August 14<sup>th</sup> Town Meeting. The Mayor again encouraged everyone to *be a good neighbor* and advise those not at the meeting of the new watering hours/days.

Mayor Siddoway entertained comments regarding the designated 24 hour watering time period which

focused once again on weekend time periods. It was noted that Sunday evenings and Monday mornings are the time periods of highest demand.

Mayor Siddoway clarified the 24 hour watering period, and suggested that the system was not meant to penalize anyone. This followed a comment made by an unidentified resident with regard to not being able to water on holidays that fall on Monday.

A short discussion ensued that dealt with wells, aquifers, storage tanks, distribution and supply.

Mayor Siddoway clarified for an unidentified resident that **no special circumstances exist** outside of the published Town ordinance for any Town resident to water landscaping or sod on private property.

The Mayor replied to a question regarding further notification of the ordinance changes to the residents. Mayor Siddoway advised the changes would be sent via e-mail to the Town's data base, posted in the Star Valley Independent, posted on the Town's website [www.starvalleyranchwy.org](http://www.starvalleyranchwy.org) and via word of mouth.

Mayor Siddoway declared, "The Town is obligated to make information available; it is the residents' obligation to seek it out."

**Councilman Harker moved the Town of Star Valley Ranch approve and implement immediately Emergency Ordinance 2007-04 Appendix 4-1 Water Conservation Plan Modifications, Section 3 Water Shortage Classifications – subsection titled "Level I – Moderate." Councilman Wheeler seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Adjournment: Councilman Harker moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Redlin seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**The Special Town Meeting was adjourned at 10:10 AM.**

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**Boyd Siddoway, Mayor** **Date**

**ATTEST:**

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**Andy Moffett, Clerk** **Date**