

TOWN OF RYE
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
July 9, 2025

Call to Order/Roll Call

Marty Rahl called the Regular Monthly Board Meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. at the Town Hall at 2067 Main Street in Rye, Colorado. Those in attendance were as follows: Marty Rahl, Mayor; Kathy MacCormack, Mayor Protem; Patrick Ryan, Trustee; Sandra Steele, Trustee; Aimee Kramer, Trustee; Heidi Miller, Trustee; Sheila Henderson, Resident; Ross Gallegos, Rye Fire Chief; Greg Colter, Colorado Rural Water; Scott Thomas, Colorado Rural Water; and Jocelyn Ensley, Town Clerk. Those absent were: Geoff Pagnotta, Trustee.

Audience Participation

Ross Gallegos introduced himself to the Board. Jocelyn Ensley thanked him for attending the meeting and stated that the fire hydrants on Main Street and Oak & Petersen had both been repaired and are operable, but the hydrant on Oak & Petersen does not have Pueblo threads for the hydrants. Ross Gallegos explained to the Board that all the fire hydrants within Pueblo County use a specific thread instead of National Standard Thread to access the hydrants. Ross continued saying that this includes outlying areas such as the County, Pueblo West, Colorado City, etc. and he will get an adapter for the hydrant in the case of emergency so that it can still be utilized. Marty Rahl stated that the Town has a well at the water treatment plant that was permitted by Colorado Department of Health and Environment as an Emergency Services Well. Marty Rahl continued saying that the well cannot be used until the discharge point can be located and tested. Marty Rahl stated that the Town, the Fire District, and School District 70 would all need to discuss putting water tanks on the Rye Elementary School property that the emergency services well can feed into. Ross Gallegos commended the Board on their efforts made to ensure an additional water source is available in a fire emergency, but the emergency services well may be a much more time-consuming process, and the community is needing immediate action. Ross Gallegos stated that while having an additional water source is priceless, the most effective and progressive way to protect the Greenhorn Valley is by encouraging everyone to mitigate their properties immediately. Ross Gallegos continued saying that he is seeing property owners in Rye and Colorado City losing their homeowners insurance or having extreme conditional requirements that cannot be met. Ross Gallegos continued saying that one of the biggest reasons insurance companies are dropping policies is due to property mitigation; and not just of the property being insured, but their neighbor's property or the entire neighborhood needs to be mitigated to meet the conditional requirements. Jocelyn Ensley stated that the Board hosted a Fire Wise Meeting in previous years and can set one up to help engage the community. The Board discussed the community's vulnerability to a fire emergency. Patrick Ryan asked how much it could cost to set up a fire line within the mountains

and keep it maintained. Ross Gallegos stated that setting and maintaining a fire line would be extremely difficult and costly due to the terrain and unpredictability of fire. Jocelyn Ensley stated that the previous fire chief had mentioned federal grant money that had been available to possibly purchase a used water tank for the emergency services well or help with mitigation costs for the community. Ross Gallegos stated that due to federal Medicaid cuts, those grants are moot. Ross Gallegos continued saying that the Medicaid cuts will have a heavy impact on the Rye Fire Department and the Greenhorn Valley community. Ross Gallegos stated that residents in the Greenhorn Valley who receive ambulance rides will no longer be reimbursed by the Rye Fire Department as this was part of the Medicaid reimbursements the fire department receives, and it's just the tip of the iceberg. Jocelyn Ensley stated that she will send a follow up email to Ross Gallegos recapping action items and coordinate a Fire Wise meeting for the community.

Consent Agenda Items

- Scott Thomas with Colorado Rural Water presented the Board with a revised RevPlan Rate Adjustment for the Sewer Main Capitol Improvement Project. The Board requested that Scott Thomas revise the plan to include: 1-phase construction project with the start date in 2031 with a 10% sewer rate increase annually starting in 2026 and ending in 2031.
- Kathy MacCormack made a motion to approve the June 1, 2025- Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes. Patrick Ryan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- The Board reviewed the Operator in Responsible Charge (ORC) Water Treatment Plant End of Month Report.
- The Board reviewed the meter locating and mapping project progress in Diamond Maps.
- Jocelyn Ensley stated that Little Diggers Construction is in the process of getting everything prepared to start the water valve locating and master meter replacement project and updates will be provided as they become available.
- Jocelyn Ensley stated that the fire hydrant repairs on Oak & Petersen and Main Street have been successfully repaired, tested, and are in optimal working condition. Jocelyn Ensley stated that she should have a quote for the remaining inoperable fire hydrants on North Boulder Ave. and Main St. & Boulder Intersection for the Board to review this fall.
- Jocelyn Ensley stated that Mike Hager with Element Engineering provided an update on 7/7/2025 stating that the surveying reports had been completed by B2H Surveying, and the relocation of the sewer line to Main Street can be accomplished without the need of a lift station and he will provide the updated Sewer Main CIP report as soon as possible.
- Jocelyn Ensley stated that the manhole replacement on Matnock has not be completed but Little Diggers Construction is working diligently to get it completed.
- The Water and Sewer Monthly Meter Usage (Billing Register) was reviewed.

- The Town of Rye Summary of Accounts, RVS Systems Totals Report and CCMD Sewer Flow Chart were reviewed by the Board. Jocelyn Ensley stated that the flow reports have not been provided by Colorado City Metro District since February 2025 because the meter has not been fixed and no notice has been provided to the Town. The Board discussed that this constitutes a breach of contract with Colorado City Metro District as they are to notify the Town of any issues with the meter and allow a Town representative to be present when the meter is being removed or replaced. The Board instructed Jocelyn Ensley to request guidance from the Town attorney on resolving the matter.
- The Summary of Aged Receivables was discussed by the Board. Past due accounts were called by Jocelyn Ensley and reminded of their past due balance as well as the current due balance. The Board instructed Jocelyn Ensley to issue disconnect letters for all delinquent accounts surpassing 61+ days in payment.
- Kathy MacCormack made a motion that the Accounts Payable/Transfer of Funds from appropriate accounts be paid and that appropriate funds be transferred per the Checks Written form. Patrick Ryan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- The Board reviewed the Profit & Loss and Balance Sheets.
- The Master Calendar was reviewed. Jocelyn Ensley has updated the calendar to reflect the date and name of persons completing monthly items. Jocelyn Ensley stated that the water tanks will be due for inspection and guidance from the ORC has been requested to ensure all state requirements are met.

Unfinished Business

- Marty Rahl stated that she and Jocelyn Ensley are still participating in the Safe Routes to School Group Program but have not moved forward with the Safe Routes to School Small Wins Grant opportunity because the Town no longer qualifies with the revised requirements. Marty Rahl stated that a representative with the Revitalizing Main Streets Grant is also connected to the SRTS Grant Program and may be able to give us more feedback on other grants the Town qualifies for with the federal grant requirements adjusting.
- The Board reviewed the second draft of the intergovernmental agreement created by Pueblo County. Jocelyn Ensley stated that the second draft has been revised by the Town attorney. Jocelyn Ensley recommended that the Board include the word "line striping" in the agreement. The Board instructed Jocelyn Ensley to email the attorney with the revision. The Board read, reviewed, and signed the Town of Rye Elected Officials Ethics, Best Practices, Liability, and Harassment Training 2025. Jocelyn Ensley stated that instructions for Ethics Training is outlined in the documents she provided, to include a list of videos and webinars to be reviewed at the Boards convenience. The Board watched the following video provided by CIRSA Insurance, "In the Scope of Your

Authority: Preventing Public Officials Liability” and received a copy of Resolution 2023-11 BOT Standards of Conduct and Rules of Procedure.

- Jocelyn Ensley stated that plans for the Town Fair Square are well underway with 8+ food trucks and 40+ vendors submitting their vendor applications early. Jocelyn Ensley continued saying that the donations and sponsorships for the event have severely decreased and prices for all services have risen.
- The Board discussed Resolution 2025-5- Water Tap Moratorium. Jocelyn Ensley stated that the TTH5 & HAA5 testing came back above the maximum legal limit, signally that the underground water tank may need to stay offline. Jocelyn Ensley stated that she will request additional advisement from the ORC to present to the Board to determine if a moratorium is necessary.
- The Board reviewed account holders in noncompliance with Ordinance 2021-3 Public Nuisance. The Board read and reviewed a letter submitted on 6/29/2025 by account #69 requesting an extension to bring the property into compliance. Kathy MacCormack made a motion to approve an extension request for account #69 with the following conditions: deadline of August 1, 2025, to submit pictures of compliance to the Town Clerk, no additional extension requests will be heard by #69, and if the property is not brought into compliance by August 1, 2025, the Town Clerk is instructed to have the property cleaned/landscaped and charges applied to the account holder, per Ordinance 2021-3 Public Nuisance. Sandra Steele seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Jocelyn Ensley stated that account #48 has removed junk vehicles, junk, trash, etc. from the property and has been in communication to ensure their compliance before the deadline. The Board agreed that account #48 complies with Ordinance 2021-3 Public Nuisance and can be removed from the agenda. Jocelyn Ensley stated that accounts #19, #65, #68, and #102 have not responded to the first violation notice. The Board discussed accounts #19, #65, #68, and #102. The Board reviewed Ordinance 2021-3 Public Nuisance- 6. Cutting by the Town, 7. Notice of Assessment of Lien, and 8. Recovery at Law. Kathy MacCormack made a motion to send a second letter of violation allowing a one-time extension to accounts #19, #65, #68, and #102 to bring their properties into compliance with Ordinance 2021-3 by August 1, 2025, and if the properties are not brought into compliance by August 1, 2025, the Town Clerk is instructed to have the properties cleaned/landscaped and charges applied to the account holders, per Ordinance 2021-3 Public Nuisance. Sandra Steele seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Board discussed accounts #7, #72, #87, and #97 being in noncompliance with Ordinance 2021-3. The Board instructed Jocelyn Ensley to send violation notification letters to the following properties: #7- 2124 Main St., #72- 6033 Oak St., #87- 2081 Main St., and #97- 6021 Boulder Ave. with a deadline of August 1, 2025, to have their properties brought into compliance with Ordinance 2021-3 Public Nuisance.

Reports

CPA Update: N/A

Attorney Update: N/A

Trustee Updates: N/A

Staff Updates:

- Jocelyn Ensley stated that Water Treatment Plant Operator, Matt Smith, alerted her that morning to the water treatment plant producing over 40,000 gallons of water in under 24 hours, alluding to an account holder having a massive water leak. Jocelyn Ensley stated that she and Matt Smith were able to perform a “dry run” to read all account holders meters and account #33 had used 30,000+ gallons of water since June 30, 2025. Jocelyn Ensley stated that she contacted account #33, and they had accidentally left the water on in their backyard before leaving Town and immediately sent someone to turn the water off. The Board discussed the Town of Rye Water Usage Adjustment Application. Aimee Kramer made a motion to approve crediting account holder #33 for 50% of the water usage in July 2025, per Town of Rye Policy Manual, under the condition that account #33 submits a completed Water Usage Adjustment Application to the Town Clerk before July 31, 2025. Patrick Ryan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

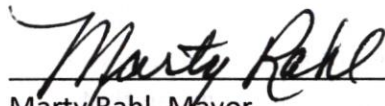
New Business


- The Board briefly discussed the Inlet Silt and Reeds Removal and will leave it on the agenda for future discussions with Greg Colter, Colorado Rural Water and Matt Dennison, Little Diggers Construction.
- The Board reviewed keyless entry locks for Town Hall. Patrick Ryan made a motion to approve the purchase of “Zowill Keyless Entry Door Lock”. Kathy MacCormack seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Jocelyn Ensley stated that account #67 called her on 7/1/2025, requesting to have the late fee of \$15.00 forgiven from her account for missing the 6/27/2025 billing due date. Jocelyn Ensley stated that the account holder stated a family member had been in the hospital and they have not missed any payments in the past. Jocelyn Ensley explained that there are no current policies allowing the Clerk to forgive any late fees or distribute any discounts. The Board discussed the number of accounts that are late on their payments monthly and the precedent it would set for all account holders. Aimee Kramer made a motion to deny the request from account #67 to reimburse the late fee of \$15.00 assessed for missing the June 2025 due date. Kathy MacCormack seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Jocelyn Ensley stated that she will call and send a letter to account #67 with the Boards decision.

- The Board discussed accepting resumes for the Water Treatment Plant Operator Assistant position. Jocelyn Ensley stated that public notice will be published in the Greenhorn Valley newspaper on 7/17/2025 and public notice has been posted at the Rye Post Office and Rye Town Hall. The Board discussed waiting up to two months to allow time for resumes to be submitted to the Town Clerk and agreed to require three professional references and three personal references for all applicants.

Adjournment-

At 8:45 p.m., Kathy MacCormack made a motion to close the regular monthly meeting. Aimee Kramer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.


Marty Rahl, Mayor


Jocelyn Ensley, Town Clerk

**The Next Regular Session meeting will be held on
August 13, 2025, at 6:00 pm at the Town Hall at 2067 Main Street, Rye, CO 81069
The public is encouraged to attend.**

Individuals with disabilities needing auxiliary aid(s) may request assistance by contacting the Rye Town Clerk at 719-489-2011. We would appreciate it if you would contact us at last 48 hours in advance of scheduled events so arrangements can be made to locate the requested auxiliary aid(s).