

Treadwell Water District Annual Meeting February 23, 2026
At the Treadwell Fire Hall

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

Commissioner Eric Huneke led the meeting. Also in attendance – commissioner Luke Potrzeba, TWD secretary Dorian Huneke, town of Franklin board members Don Smith and Dwight Bruno. A sign in sheet for community member attendance was circulated, a total of 24 were in attendance, including the above mentioned.

Patty Leitenberger moves to accept the August 20, 2025 minutes. Virgil Bunting seconds. All in favor, none opposed, motion passed.

Linda Norris moves that the secretary submit a ballot of commissioner for approval. This was done, ballot accepted, all in favor, none opposed, motion passed.

Budget: A budget sheet from the town of Franklin was presented, with copies circulated.

Brenton Muller, current water operator, will only continue for 1 more year. This position involves functions at the chlorinator building daily. Currently he is paid \$20 per day, and would like an increase to \$22 per day. Patty Leitenberger made the motion to accept this increase. Seconded by Cheryl Matthews. All in favor, none opposed, motion passed.

Rate Increases: The rate increase by 5% would be from \$8/1000 gallons used to \$8.40/1000 gallons used. Stella Sprague moved that we accept this 5% increase. Roberta Hudson seconded. All in favor, none opposed, motion passed.

Water Meters: Luke Potrzeba discussed the installation of water meters. This is underway, beginning with those with broken meters or no meter, or anyone with leaks. He will work with Eric to order an additional supply of meters and other parts as needed.

WIIA Grant situation: Georgia Hilmer led a discussion of her research into the WIIA Grant. We were turned down, and it was noted at this meeting that many other towns have applied 3 and 4 times before being awarded the grant. One reason for refusal is “readiness”. There are design preparedness steps that can be taken that

enable you to begin construction upon receipt of the grant, and those deciding awards are looking for such things to be in place. A committee to handle the WIIA grant issues is being formed and will keep the rest of the commissioners informed of their findings.

Lead Line removal: Don Smith reported that there is only \$10,000 of ARPA funds remaining to pay for the lead line removal at Stella Sprague's house. This project will cost all of that because the water line is under the road. Bids have been submitted.

Chlorinator Building issues: The serpentine project has been abandoned in favor of lead line removal. Looking forward to receiving the WIIA grant (or any other grants) in the not too distant future will completely change the chlorinator building itself, so spending a lot of money now when we are not failing tests with what we are doing doesn't make sense. And lead line removal is being made a priority by the state. However, there are two projects to be done in the chlorinator building this spring: Replacement of the main meter, and replacement of the main shut off valve. The meter can't be replaced without the water being off, but the valve is broken and won't shut off. So, it's possible that a day long project of draining the reservoir, flushing hydrants, and replacing the valve and meter while the water is drained, will be organized for Spring. This will probably require some additional help, so that the projects can happen simultaneously.

Tupper Hill Well: We lost the pump in the Tupper Hill well a day or two before Christmas. LaFever came to work on this, with help from Eric, and found that the wiring in the well had broken and dropped way down in the well. It was fished out, replaced, and we were back in service in a half day. There is another check valve in this well that needs to be replaced before it rots out completely. LaFever will do this in the spring. It will mean a few hours without this well pump functioning.

There is a letter to go out to those who still have a lead line to their house. It has standard language that is being researched, so that this letter can go out.

Call em All: Roberta Hudson discussed the Call-em-All program with Dave Tuthill. It was used in the past for the community as a whole, not just water, when it was necessary to reach as many people as possible. Dorian has records of this and will provide to Roberta and Georgia the account information she has so this can be used along with other methods of communication.

Motion to adjourn was made by Linda Norris and Stella Sprague. Roberta Hudson seconds. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Minutes submitted by Treadwell Water District secretary Dorian Huneke.

Attendance sheet: Roberta Hudson, James Carmody, Karen Miner, Patty Leitenberger, Virgil Bunting, Wynanda Deroo-Macek and partner (did not sign sheet), Virginia Bell, Linda Norris, Stella Sprague, Cheryl Matthews, Amber Mooney, Sean Mooney, Lindsay Packer, Pati Airy, Bill Quinn, Luke Potrzeba, Jen Potrzeba, Georgia Hilmer, Adam Brown, Eric Huneke, Dorian Huneke, Dwight Bruno, Don Smith