

RE: Response to Ms. Winandy - from a VOLUNTEER of RCW  
From: **Sam Schwalm** (waterforpinestrawberry@hotmail.com)  
Sent: Sun 2/03/08 9:56 AM  
To: \*\*\*\*\*@janewilcox.com  
Bcc: water4pine@hotmail.com  
Hello Ms. Wilcox,

Our concern is that RCW is asking the voters in the community to hand them the keys to our water future. RCW has said that they have a plan to do all of this at no cost to the rate payers. RCW has verbally communicated portions of that plan.

The voting public needs to see the details of that plan in order to determine that it is a serious and reasonable plan. If it is a serious, then it should be in written form by this time. Below you indicate that you operate your business to a business plan. If you went to the banker with your business plan, it had to be written out with all of the details. If you had gone to the banker with a bunch of napkins and sticky notes, he would not have taken you seriously. For the voters to take you seriously, you need to make that plan fully available.

You indicate that the cost of handouts is too much for your organization. It does not cost anything to post the plan to your existing website.

Another area of concern for information that is vital to the voting public is how much water the RCW plan will actually provide so that this can be compared to the potential of the K2 project. The RCW plan appears to be based on the idea of hooking up the Milk Ranch and Strawberry Hollow wells. While these are known in the community to be high capacity wells, that does not mean that the owners are going to sell all that capacity. It is important for voters to know how much capacity the well owners are committing to provide.

Sam Schwalm

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Date: Fri, 1 Feb 2008 04:08:42 -0800  
From: \*\*\*\*\*@janewilcox.com  
Subject: Response to Ms. Winandy - from a VOLUNTEER of RCW  
To: WaterForPineStrawberry@hotmail.com

Dear Ms. Winandy,

I happen to be a member of Rim Country Water. I am a Volunteer, there is nothing "evasive" about our members, we are all volunteers. I have spent many hours in meetings with the other members of RCW trying to formulate a solution to our water problems. I am not a Realtor, nor a developer, and my only 'special interest' is that I have the ability to keep my vegetable garden watered, plant some flowers around my house, and make sure the trees in my yard stay green.

I am appalled by the way our present water company regards the communities of Pine and Strawberry with such little respect, determining different "stages" of water, charging us astronomical rates for hauling, and these rates make no sense. Mr. Hardcastle could not even tell the ACC how these rates are calculated. Is it just some random system?

In fact, Mr. Hardcastle admitted on the witness stand that BUI has no business plan in place. I operate my own business and have for over 10 years. I work on a business plan, as do most companies. Personally, I feel that his plan is to rape us of our natural resources then leave us, literally, high and dry. After reading pages and pages of testimony, I do not trust this company. Whereby, I do not trust the four members of the PSWID that have hatched a scheme under the guise of a "historical working relationship" with BUI - using OUR tax dollars.

Do you not understand that Mr. Hardcastle admitted UNDER OATH that if it weren't for OUR tax dollars, BUI certainly would not take the RISK on their own? Do you not understand that this is an 'unprecedented' venture - as quoted by Commissioner Kristin Mayes? She is questioning whether or not this is a LEGAL agreement under the statutes of the Arizona Constitution. BUI is a PRIVATELY held utility, and as our utility company, they have the responsibility to provide us with the service. WHY are WE using OUR tax dollars to FUND a privately held company?

I am equally dismayed by the conduct of the present PSWID board members. Why are they so secretive? Why are they having a meeting tonight (Wed. Jan 30) to pose a motion for "Non Disclosure" of engineering studies that YOUR tax dollars paid for? Do you not feel that we have the right to see this information? The Board has lost my respect by their conduct. THIS is why they are being recalled.

The K2-Well proposal is SPECULATION. A test well using our 300,000 will be drilled, and when it comes up empty - then what? In Mr. Hardcastle's January 28th 'memo' to the BUI rate payers he quotes, "**Most importantly, it is likely that we may discover substantial quantities of water at the K2 site.**" He doesn't know any more than you or I do whether there is actually water there. Why SPECULATE when we have VIABLE SOLUTIONS for our water NOW with the private well owners in Pine? The PSWID just assumed that BUI would not negotiate with these private well owners, and took it upon themselves to spend OUR money to SPECULATE. The K2 Well is NOT going to be the final solution. It isn't even a beginning to the end of water hauling. We will NOT see a difference in our service, but I can guarantee you we WILL see a difference in our bills as they continue to escalate.

Of course Mr. Hardcastle would like to see an end to this situation. In my opinion, he would like to get on with the business of ripping us off. He is paying lawyers, will be imposing INCREASED hauling charges, and we're holding up his \$300,000 to do what? Speculate on a well? He will not negotiate in a REASONABLE way with the private well owners that are **THE SOLUTION**.

Ms. Windandy, understand this: We have water NOW. We also have a rapidly dilapidating infrastructure that is only repaired on an "as needed" basis. BUI does not address the infrastructure issues. How can they with no business plan in place?

RCW is TOTALLY 100% volunteer, a grass-roots community effort that is composed of citizens that have had enough of the 'service' that BUI provides. I, personally, have donated money for support of our efforts, as have most of us in our organization--NONE of which are developers. We do not rely on any one particular source of funding. However, if you know of a corporation that is willing to donate mass amounts of money toward our efforts, please share the information.

Sincerely,  
Jane Wilcox

PS: Sorry that there were no printed hand outs for you at the previous meeting. We're collecting donations to get hand-outs copied. Perhaps you would like to donate to ensure you receive a copy?

**From:** [Bernice Winandy](#)

**To:** [email@rimcountrywater.org](mailto:email@rimcountrywater.org)

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2008 7:29 AM

**Subject:** request for information

In the past, people have asked Rim Country Water where they are getting their backing. The response from Rim Country Water representative, Fred Krafczyk, has been, "We are all volunteers." I regard that answer as evasive. Please let the public know who has developed the Rim Country Water website, who is responsible for its content and who is paying the bills. A handout from the January 19, 2007 meeting states that legal fees for the two intervenors have already reached \$15,000. Who is paying these legal fees?

Also, I am very disappointed that no hard copies were given to the public concerning your estimate of the cost of the water companies purchase. I have been told that this information will be posted on your website. As of today, January 29, that information has not been posted. In order to make an informed decision in the recall election, people need to know how much the water companies purchase will cost and how it will be financed. Please provide me and the public with this information.

Thank you,

Bernice Winandy