

Raymond L. Baldwin · [REDACTED]

March 17, 2024

Clerk for BRDWID  
2297 Starlight Drive  
Happy Jack, AZ 86024

We are commenting on your proposed water base rate increase. Prior to the formation of the BRDWID, our monthly water base bill was about \$36.00. We knew there would be an increase once the District took over the water company, but that raised our monthly bill to approximately \$52.00. If you are granted the rate increase of \$20 per month, our water bill will have doubled in less than a year.

As retirees, we feel this is an excessive increase, especially in light of the increase in almost every other service we receive.

Sincerely,

*Ray Baldwin Donna Baldwin*

Ray & Donna Baldwin  
Owners, [REDACTED]

To the Board Members of BRDWID and the community of Happy Jack:

BRDWID will soon launch a deceptive campaign to blame increases on the residents who objected to the purchase and who warned that our water bills would increase and that we would have little control. We warned about the fact that BRDWID never hired an accountant, an independent lawyer, or an expert to evaluate the actual physical plant before agreeing to pay 2.7 million for this company.

We warned that BRDWID had no capital should a major component need repair or replacement. We warned that the members of BRDWID had no experience running a water company and were not wisely spending our money. BRDWID will soon launch a campaign to fool you that the "Intervenors" are to blame. Concerned neighbors, including me, filed an objection to the sale on various valid grounds before the Arizona Corporation Commission. We did not threaten anyone or cause harm to any neighbor or malign anyone. We simply used the legal administrative system to voice our concerns.

The sale issue was between Starlight Water Company and the ACC. We filed an objection and the legal term is "Intervenors." BRDWID decided to unwisely hire an attorney and file their own request to enter the hearing before the ACC. They too were "Intervenors." They foolishly spent our money with an overpriced attorney who relied on Starlight's attorney to tell him what to do. I know this because we obtained, through a Public Records Request, the email correspondence between BRDWID and the lawyers.

Therefore, any money spent on an attorney by BRDWID was their own misguided decision. Starlight Water Company had its own big law firm representing their interests. In fact, they had two lawyers showing up at the hearings, not just one. Starlight did not need BRDWID's amateurish help. Any waste of money on legal bills is only the fault of BRDWID.

BRDWID has falsely stated that they lost revenue in the amount of 1.2 million. BRDWID claims the residents who objected delayed the sale. This is false. We filed an objection. The ACC by law had to have a hearing and decide if the sale should be approved. The judge assigned to the case was lazy. He took 6 months or more to rule on the sale. In fact, BRDWID launched a hateful attack on the judge and sent letters to the Corporation Commissioners complaining of the judge's malfeasance. The ACC Commissioners then scheduled another hearing for a final vote. So, any delay is not attributable to the concerned residents who voiced opposition.

Tom Osterday, the current president, does a big disservice by trying to blame everyone but himself and the Board for their lack of leadership, lack of experience, lack of transparency, lack of honesty, and lack of accountability to us all here in Happy Jack. To Mr. Osterday I say put up the proof that BRDWID lost 1.2 million or shut up.

Starlight Water Company did not turn a profit for the last 5 years they were in business! Starlight Water Company made no improvements to the infrastructure for the last 5 years. How can Mr. Osterday now claim that BRDWID lost 1.2 million in revenue? Hogwash! Don't believe it. Demand the numbers. Demand the accounting. Demand transparency. Demand honesty. Demand board members willing to accept blame for their mistakes. They wanted this job. They wanted this water company. They should now stand up and take responsibility for their own inexperience and failures.

Resident of Starlight Pines Ranchettes

Robert J. Campos

