

ASHLEY VALLEY WATER
& SEWER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
1753 E 1500 S
VERNAL UTAH

Minutes of the Ashley Valley Water and Sewer Improvement District **Public Rate Hearing**, held on Wednesday April 29, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Uintah Conference Center, located at 313 E 200 S in Vernal Utah.

IN ATTENDANCE

Boyd Workman	Chairperson
Brownie Tomlinson	Vice-Chairperson
Max Haslem	Trustee
Dean Baker	Trustee
David Hatch	Trustee
Ryan Goodrich	District Manager
Nora Garcia	District Clerk
Isaac Hatch	Assistant District Manager

Chairperson Workman opened the public hearing at 6:07 p.m. He introduced the board members, district manager, assistant district manager, and the district clerk. He welcomed all that were present; Chairman Workman remarked on the large crowd and thanked them for attending.

This public rate hearing is being held, to inform the public of the extreme drought the State Of Utah is in, and what the public can do to help conserve water, and the proposed rate structure that is being proposed to try to get people to conserve water. The record winter hot temperatures and low snowfall have the Uintah Basin in extreme drought conditions.

District Manager Ryan Goodrich prepared a slide show presentation which included the history of the district, where the district gets its water, the water and sewer services that the district provides for, miles of water lines, sewer lines, hydrants, and water storage. Historical usage was given, watershed production (96.2%), vs the districts summer use (3.8%). Photos show the low levels in Steinaker and Red Fleet. The Utah Department of Natural Resources provided an updated report that Utah's snowpack is the lowest on record and peaked three weeks early. Utah is the 2nd driest state in the nation. Ryan explained basics of water rights, and that Utah is a prior appropriation doctrine state. The State of Utah Regional Water Engineer and the Ashley Creek River Commissioner sent a letter to all water providers, the county commission, and Vernal City. The letter stated that due to the ongoing water shortage, it is

recommended that the culinary water districts seek to reduce water diversions and conserve water usage in any way possible from both the Ashley Creek and Brush Creek drainages. The concern is that there may not be enough natural flow and storage water to meet high demands and past water usage diversions this year. If we are not conservative with our water use in the valley, the culinary water systems in the valley may run out of water.

The proposed water rate structure was formed by survey results the district conducted. These results showed that customer's that conserve should not be punished by higher rates, customer that are high users should pay the most, fines should be created for those who violate the rules, conservation rates should be temporary, billing information needs to be clear, public education and communication has been lacking, text messages and emails are the best way to contact customers, outdoor restrictions are overwhelmingly supported, and any restrictions should apply to everyone. These proposed rates will lower the base rate amount, and the bill for usage up to 13,000 gallons.

Public questions

After many questions, comments, and concerns, District Manager Ryan Goodrich informed all that were present that if he did not answer any questions, he would stay as long as he needed to. He also informed the public that we have a calculator on our website www.ashleywatersewerut.gov, and more information. Our office staff will be more than happy to answer any questions, at 435-789-9400.

ASHLEY VALLEY RESIDENTIAL

NORMAL WATER RATE	K Gal Base	\$30.50
Tier 1	0 - 6	\$0.00
Tier 2	6 - 8	\$1.95
Tier 3	8 -16	\$2.00
Tier 4	16+	\$2.25

CONSERVATION RATE 2 (2025)	K Gal Base	\$30.50
Tier 1	0 - 6	\$0.00
Tier 2	6 – 10	\$3.50
Tier 3	10 - 16	\$3.75
Tier 4	16 - 32	\$4.00

2026 CONSERVATION RATE	K Gal Base	\$20.50
Tier 1	0 – 6	\$0.00
Tier 2	6 – 10	\$2.50
Tier 3	10 – 16	\$7.50
Tier 4	16 – 32	\$14.50
Tier 5	32+	\$22.00

EMERGENCY RATE	3 K Gal Base	\$20.50
Tier 1	0 – 6	\$0.00
Tier 2	6 – 10	\$5.00
Tier 3	10 - 16	\$12.00
Tier 4	16 – 32	\$22.00

Tier 5	32-50	\$40.00
Tier 6	50+	\$70.00

Residential Sewer \$33.00

Commercial Sewer \$39.00

Commercial Sewer Overage Approved*

\$3.70 per 1,000 gallons over 8,000 gallons

**Sewer rates increase is directly tied to AVSMB's rate increase.*

ASHLEY VALLEY COMMERCIAL

NORMAL WATER RATE	K Gal Base	\$30.50
Tier 1	0 – 6	\$0.00
Tier 2	6 - 8	\$1.95
Tier 3	8 -16	\$2.00
Tier 4	16+	\$2.25

CONSERVATION RATE 2 (2025)	K Gal Base	\$30.50
Tier 1	0 – 6	\$0.00
Tier 2	6 – 10	\$3.50
Tier 3	10 - 16	\$3.75
Tier 4	16 – 32	\$4.00
Tier 5	32+	\$4.25

2026 CONSERVATION RATE	K Gal Base	\$20.50
Tier 1	0 – 6	\$0.00
Tier 2	6 – 10	\$2.75
Tier 3	10 - 16	\$4.25
Tier 4	16 – 32	\$5.75
Tier 5	32+	\$8.25

EMERGENCY RATE 3	K Gal Base	\$20.50
Tier 1	0 - 6	\$0.00
Tier 2	6 – 10	\$2.75
Tier 3	10 - 16	\$8.00
Tier 4	16 – 32	\$15.00
Tier 5	32-50	\$22.00
Tier 6	50+	\$35.00

Ryan informed the public that a hardship application would be available to those who felt they qualified for assistance.

Brownie made the motion to approve the above rates, seconded by Max, those voting yes to the above motion, Brownie, Max, Dave, Boyd, and Dean.

Max made the motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m., seconded by Brownie.