



SIERRA CEDARS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

P.O. Box 494, Shaver Lake, CA 93664

(559) 348-8297

Email: SierraCedarsCSD@gmail.com

Website: www.SierraCedars.com

Unadopted Minutes

July 11, 2022

Mike LaRue's residence, Shaver Lake, CA

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Item #1 President Mike LaRue called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Directors Present: Vicki Collier-McDonald, Phil Erdman, Dave Finley, Jeff Hixon (left at 10:00 am), Mike LaRue

Directors Absent: none

Others Present: Todd Bristol, Nick Zaninovich

Item #2 **ADOPT AGENDA**

M/S/C Dave F./Jeff H. to adopt the agenda as presented (5/0).

Item #3 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

M/S/C Dave F./Jeff H. to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of May 2, 2022, with the correction of Jeff H. seconding the motion to approve the Agenda and also the Minutes instead of Phil E. (5/0).

Item #4 **WATERMASTER'S REPORT** – Nick Zaninovich

Nick reviewed the water graphs he presented. They show each well's production and water level. The new meadow well water level has decreased as the groundwater in the meadow has dried up.

In June, the State Water Resources Control Board came up and did an onsite inspection of the district's water system. No noteworthy issues were identified. However, the district did find out that they now have to go through the state to just drill a well. In the past, the state was not involved with the well drilling process until water was found and testing took place.

During the inspection the district found out that they can dial back on some of the bacteriological testing required each month as long as the samples come back clean.

Lead/copper samples to be taken in the next few weeks.

Well drilling in the meadow area is scheduled for the end of July.

Two water leaks were discovered when the water meters were read a couple weeks ago. Homeowners were contacted and problems remedied.

M/S/C Vicki C./Jeff H. to approve the Watermaster's report as presented (5/0).

Item #5 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – A homeowner emailed the board with a concern. It is shown below.

"I have a suggestion to homeowners regarding fire safety this summer. Please don't use Christmas light when you aren't home. I see some cabins that have Christmas lights going 24/7 outdoors even when the people are not occupying their cabin. These lights are meant for short-term seasonal use, and as such their very light weight insulation is likely to suffer UV degradation in the summer sun. Is it worth it to those homeowners to risk a fire that will likely devastate this community and potentially a large portion of the Sierras? Thank You"

Item #6 GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT - Todd Bristol

Items reported as shown below:

a. Ownership Transfers: none

b. Big Pine Ct. Well – The well drilling crew successfully blocked off the bottom fissure and radiological tests were completed. Unfortunately, the radiological levels were found to be around 30 times the required level. Comparing these results with the tests done in 2020 with both fissures running showed that it highly unlikely that the bottom fissure would be below the required level. The decision was made to cut our losses and cease salvage efforts. The plan now is to remove/destroy the well. Cost to fill in the well and restore area will be around \$5,000.

c. Water Meters – The board discussed whether to continue with the present system or move slowly to a new smart water meter system. Long discussion took place. Board decided to keep the present system due to cost considerations and supply line delays which would probably defer installation until next spring/summer. The board plans to revisit the issue next spring.

d. Grants: Todd found out about some grant opportunities from the Environmental Protection Agency. Whether the district qualifies is yet to be determined.

Laurie Hixon is still in contact with our grant application submitted in February for the Small Community Drought Relief Program. The state has renewed the grant funding this year for \$100,000,000. Our application is still active, although there are still 120 applicants ahead of us. Who knows?

District is ready to submit information for other grants when they can be identified.

M/S/C Vicki C./Phil E. to approve the General Manager’s report as presented (5/0).

Item #7 FINANCIAL REPORT - Todd Bristol

Account Balances as of June 30, 2022

5 Star Bank Money Market	83,692.74
IntraFi Network Deposit	303,068.52
CVCB Money Market	130,572.33
CVCB Checking Account	13,884.66
Total Savings & Checking	\$531,218.25

Accounts Receivable	0.00
Total Current Assets	\$531,218.25
Fixed Assets	\$858,559.00
Total Assets	\$1,389,777.25

Accounts Payable	2,338.17
Cal OES Allocation	0.00
Total Liability	\$2,338.17

Todd B. reviewed the June financial statements with the board.

M/S/C Phil E./Dave F. to approve the June 2022 financial report as presented (4/0).

Todd then presented the yearly 10 year Income/Expense spreadsheet to the board. The 2021/2022 fiscal year results showed income was above budget but expenses were also above budget. The loss of \$5,285 was taken out of reserves. Going forward, a major increase in the homeowner assessments, which was approved at the last board meeting, should set the district on the right path. Why the increase? The board is faced with increased of expenses due to inflation and the Sierra

Cedars Well and Infrastructure Drought Relief Project. (See Item #8) The first part of that project entails well drilling. Estimating what the costs will be in light of the drought situation and the historically low amount of water available in Sierra Cedars is very difficult. We cannot delay on this.

Item #8 OLD BUSINESS

A. Community Leach Field – no report

B. Cal OES Project – Backup Power System Report – Concrete generator and tank pads have been poured. The 22kw generators and propane tanks have been installed. All installations were inspected by Fresno County and passed. Project completion is anticipated sometime in September. Major funding of \$192,523 came from a grant by the California Office of Emergency Services. The district will end up funding around \$150,000.

C. Sierra Cedars Well and Infrastructure Drought Relief Project - This is a multi-year project with completion date dependent upon when the funds become available. Since a large amount of money is needed to do this project, the district will continue to pursue grant money to help with funding.

Work goes as follows:

- 1.) Well drilling: See Item #4, Watermaster's report.
- 2.) Water Tank: Dave F. has made contact with a company that does water tank restoration. Todd to contact them at a future date.
- 3.) Water Main Pipe and Valve Replacement: Nothing new to report.
- 4.) SCADA System: See Item 6c.

D. Sierra Cedars Water Conservation – The board reviewed a draft of the new Water Conservation Plan (Ordinance 22-1). Board members studied the draft and long discussion took place. It was decided to bring up the draft of new Water Conservation Plan at the annual meeting for community input. In the meantime, the current Water Conservation Plan is still in effect.

Currently, the groundwater levels in the wells are decreasing. To help with this problem the board voted to immediately go to STAGE 3 of the current Water Conservation Plan. What this basically means is that everyone is to continue their water conservation habits and NO OUTSIDE LANDSCAPE AND OUTSIDE WATER IS ALLOWED. If you have any questions, please refer to the Water Conservation Plan that can be found on our website at www.SierraCedars.com.

M/S/C Phil E./Dave F. to go to Stage 3 of the Water Conservation Plan effective immediately (4/0).

Item #9 NEW BUSINESS - none

Item #10 BOARD MEMBER REPORTS - none

Item #11 NEXT AGENDA REQUEST - none

Item #12 ADJOURNMENT

M/S/C Dave F./Phil E. to adjourn the meeting at 1:22 p.m. (4/0).

Please Note – No meeting is scheduled in August.

Next Meeting: Annual Board Meeting - Monday, September 5 (Labor Day), 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at the Shaver Lake Community Center. Address is HWY 168, Shaver Lake, CA. All homeowners are invited to attend.