**PLVD Monthly Meeting September 16th, 2020**

**Present Board: Commissioner Robinson, Commissioner Goodwin, Commissioner Vasquez, Treasurer Brandon Doherty, Clerk David Vasquez**

**Guests: Mary Lou Diangelis, John Diangelis, Heather Desfosses, Donna Kenney, Claudette Levesque, Amy Delucia, Joe and Marica Pawlowski, Gary French,**

Commissioner Robinson called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. The Minutes were not read from the August 12th 2020 PLVD Meeting they were posted on PLVD website <http://pillsburylakedistrict.com>

**Public Comment**

A resident had an outstanding bill of $1239.12 they made a request to make monthly payments on it until its paid in full. The board discussed this and agreed to a payment plan. Commissioner Vasquez made a motion to accept $103.26 monthly until its paid in full without fees. Commissioner Robinson mentioned however if a payment is not received each month then the board will seek further action. Seconded by Commissioner Robinson and all were in favor. Commissioner Robinson mentioned first payment due October 1st 2020 for this resident. Another Resident asked about the Neuro facility why residents weren’t walking as much on the roads. Commissioner Vasquez mentioned she isn’t aware of their situation as to why but did mention she obtained a restraining order for her property from the whole facility due to numerous incidents that occurred but this wouldn’t stop them from walking. She also mentioned that the facility might be trying to provide more activities and resources for them.

**Treasurer Report**

Treasurer Doherty shared the following pending bills: Aquamen 2,507.55 WO-0606,

Aquamen 50.00 WO-0613, Aquamen 122.50 WO-0621, Aquamen 262.50 WO-0620,

Aquamen 2,550.00 INVOICE#1105 Monthly Operator Fee, Aquamen 262.50 WO-0631, Aquamen 750.00 WO-0632, Aquamen 6,500.00 WO-0638, Aquamen 460.00 WO-0659, Aquamen 100.00 WO-, Aquamen 50.00 WO-0667, Eversource 357.47 Utility, Eversource 334.48 Utility, Eversource 16.96 Utility, TDS 113.00 Utility, Blodgett 2,306.42 Inv #S025632243, Brandon Doherty 71.96 Roll of Stamps and Certified Mail Postage. The following customers are 60+ days past due: 10-1 Aubrey, 1-107 Town of Webster (Durgin), 5-22 R Cecchetelli, 5-179 Norris, 5-78 Delucia, 10-2-45 Dufor, Small. Treasurer Doherty mentioned there is a resident who has a very significant overdue balance of $1,781.40 and encouraged him to come to the meeting to speak with the board, he declined and mentioned he could make one payment of $400 to pay his current bill but that’s it. Commissioner Robinson mentioned he has normal high bills of over $400 and that he wouldn’t be catching up on the past due so we would still be looking at a shut off for this individual. Commissioner Vasquez mentioned the board received an email from the Pawlowski’s regarding their final bill. They wanted an adjustment of the rates one for the monthly fee and the other for the curb stop. Commissioner Vasquez mentioned that the monthly rate is determined by the month you come off in. For instance, if you come off Aug 1st you are still charged the $35 for August, same applies if you come off on August the 15th there is no proration and we have not been prorating any invoices. The curb stop fee was determined by the previous board and $160 was the flat amount determined for people who had issues with their curb stop and needing more assistance to come off. Commissioner Vasquez referenced the resident prior who lives on Concord drive that had to pay this amount in January due to similar issues. Commissioner Vasquez did mention that the rate change for curbs and other work done has changed since August 16th 2020 and that rate schedule is in place and can be viewed online at their website. Commissioner Robinson mentioned she read the email and that when people come off the water system to get their own well its not fair to the tax payers to have to consume the cost for people to get their own well and that $160 is not an unreasonable amount pay especially since the original bill was $800 and the district consumed the majority of that bill. Commissioner Vasquez did mention that the board is willing to work with people that are getting their own wells with payment plans so their bills are paid in full, however the board isn’t going to just reduce charges based off what people think they should pay. Commissioner Robinson mentioned that this bill will be as given and that further legal action will be taken for those that wish to not pay. Commissioner Vasquez made a motion to accept this bill as is and not going to be changing or prorating. Commissioner Robinson Seconded motion and all were in favor. Commissioner Vasquez made a motion to accept the treasurer report, seconded by commissioner Robinson and all were in favor.

**Software**

Commissioner Vasquez discussed the important of purchasing zoom for the time being and not having a time cap on the meetings would be more helpful. The cost would be $149.90 for a year compared to $14.99 adding up to $179.88 if we did monthly. Commissioner Vasquez made a motion to purchase a year of zoom for the district which has a better savings cost. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion and all were in favor.

**Engineering**

Commissioner Vasquez mentioned we got approved through DES for a loan up to $525,000 to be used for distribution main replacement and loan forgiveness between 15%-20% this will depend on the final application submitted. The board will be working on submitting the final application in the next couple of months to be able to obtain the funds in the spring/summer of 2021. She stated we also submitted an application to the trust fund for a 30% grant to go towards any loan we take out. We should hear back in the next couple months on if that is approved. Wright and Pierce are getting close to being done with the asset management report. They are requesting a few more pieces of information from the board and we are working on providing that information. Our board is still working on completing our 400 in-kind hours to submit and we are more then halfway through that. This will help reduce the portion that the district pays for this report. There is no timeline for having our hours in by but the sooner the better and we are hoping by the end of the month to be complete. Commissioner Vasquez we did not get approved for well sourcing although right now all five our ours wells are producing a much higher rates now from what they normally do. She also stated that we do not have major leaks at this time right now each pump house is only losing between 2-4gpm versus the 20+gpm that happened this past winter. Commissioner Vasquez did state that there is a community block grant that we are looking at as well. A resident had a question as to how we are paying for the $40,000 asset management report. Commissioner Vasquez mentioned that we applied back in May 2020 for a grant through DES for a 50/50 asset grant. This means that DES would pay half the cost and the district would pay the other half. We got approved and are able to also contribute 400 hours of in-kind hours to reduce our portion to only $10,000 instead of $20,000. She stated that the board has set aside the full $20,000 to be prepared. She stated we are still on track for the spring time for work to be started.

**Water System**

We recently tested for Arsenic in both the Franklin Pierce and Peninsula pump house and sent out notification for them. The board sent out a premature notice for the Peninsula system since we weren’t over the annual arsenic levels through DES and when we retested the Franklin Pierce system the levels for distribution were much lower and below the DES standard. The Board did approve to rebed arsenic tank A1 at a cost of $6500 and that will help further keep our levels of arsenic lower going into the next year. Our next tests for arsenic will be in October. Commissioner Robinson mentioned the booster pumps got replaced and that the old one she will be returning for a refund. She also stated that we are going though 1 filter a week for the iron/manganese which is much better than the 3 times a week we were doing since these filters are $97each. Commissioner Vasquez mentioned we will be getting a flushing schedule from Aquamen soon so we are clear on what mains are getting done and when. Commissioner Robinson mentioned they normally get done once a year.

**De-weeding**

Commissioner Goodwin stated he contacted watershed management bureau and talked about the cutting of weeds to create paths. They recommended he contact the wetlands bureau to get the specific information that would apply to Pillsbury Lake. Commissioner Goodwin was informed that the new Wetlands Rules allow for some cutting of vegetation to allow for ingress/egress to docks, around docks, and as a path to deeper water from swim beaches…. but not too sure about what Wetlands would deem how much is too much. Inspectors of the day are answering the phone with Wetlands, and Pillsbury folks can call them at 603-271-214. With respect to lake level management, there are obvious impacts to non-mobile organisms, such as mussels, as well as potential impacts to fish communities. In addition, impacts may also include erosion and nutrient inputs. Below I have included a link to a scientific paper that provides an overview of these impacts. That being said, with respect to Pillsbury Lake, who controls the lake level and owns the structure? Our agency manages many dams around the state and also oversee a lake level petition process. Commissioner Goodwin stated he was going to continue to look into this further and have more answers to come.

**Public Comment**

A resident Gary French mentioned that he wanted to keep the meter with the house as he states it was paid for by the water users and he doesn't believe that they belong to the district. He also does not want to pay the $160 to keep the meter. Mr. French stated that in paying the $160 he would be paying for the meter a second time. Commissioner Robinson stated that we have been very willing to work with Mr. French with the whole issue regarding breaking the water main going into his home when he was trenching and never notified the board about needing the curb shut off, causing his trench to fill up with water we could have avoided. Along with using water operator equipment to shut off his curb stop unauthorized by either the board or operator. Commissioner Robinson also noted that his last monthly bill only showed a usage of 6 gallons over a period of 20 days of usage which was a little suspicious. Treasure Doherty stated one reason for the rate schedule coming out asap was due to tampering of water equipment. Treasurer Doherty also stated we needed a fee schedule that was more in line with other districts. Commissioner Goodwin asked when water users came off the system before the meters were fully paid for, who paid the remaining balance on the loan? Commissioner Robinson noted that the cost was divided among the remaining water users. Commissioner Robinson stated that the bill stands as is unless more information is provided to the board and if not paid legal action will still be taken. Mr. French agreed to supply the board with documents showing that the meters were paid for by the water users and that they were their property. Mr. French also noted that the meeting that was held to discuss the fee schedule after the monthly meeting should have been during the monthly meeting or voted on at the following monthly meeting. Commissioner Vazquez stated that the meeting was in compliance.

Commissioner Robinson closed the meeting at 8:04pm. Next PLVD monthly meeting will be on October 14th, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Vasquez, Clerk