**PLVD Monthly Meeting July 8, 2020**

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

**Guests: Heather Desfosses, Alyssa Tandy, Dianne Lauffer, Ed Lawrence, Georgette Bachelder, Mary Lou Diangelis, John Diangelis, Jeanette Baker, Francis Baker, Diane Hill, Erin Poquette, Craig McGraw (Aquamen Water Solutions)**

Commissioner Vasquez called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm. The Minutes were not read from the June 10, 2020 PLVD working Meeting. They are on PLVD Webpage <https://pillsburylakedistrict.com>.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer Doherty shared the following pending bills: Aquamen: $965.00 Leak Repair: New London Drive; Aquamen: $260.00 bulk water; Aquamen: $1,225.00 Well#7 Dig; Aquamen: $375.00 WO-0432; Aquamen: $80.00 Bulk water; Aquamen: $1,104.35 NH Drive Leak Repair; Aquamen: $4,200.00 water system services; Eversource: $852.21 Utilities; Eversource: $531.77 Utilities; Eversource: $17.77 Utilities; TDS $110.97 Utilities; John Goodwin: $39.68 Home Depot (nuts and bolts); Sarah Chalsma $56.00 Sup. Of the Checklist; Nancy Webster: $56.00 Sup. Of the Checklist; GSM Paving: $5,488.00 Paving INV#5805; Blodgett Supply: $2,300.00 Water System Part; John Goodwin: $195.40 Water System Part; Blodgett Supply: $427.47 Water System Parts; Primex: $3,904.00 Yearly Insurance; David Vasquez: $224.20 Metal Rec Sings; Fortin: $435.00 Bulk water; Fortin: $870.00 Bulk water. The following customers are 60+ days past due: 10-1 Aubrey, 1-107 Town of Webster (Durgin), 5-22 R Cecchetelli, 5-179 Norris, 4-08 Ober, 5-78 Delucia, 10-2-45 Dufor, Jousett. Commissioner Vasquez made a motion to approve the treasures report. Seconded by Commissioner Robinson.

**Water System Update**

Commissioner Vasquez shares that she has been in contact with DES regarding the current drought. They have been asked to put out notices for water conservation and these notices are available on the PLVD website under public documents. The Commissioners stated that they are in constant communication with DES and will update residents when restrictions change. Commissioner Vasquez shares that there was a booster pump in the Franklin Pierce pump house that had a leak of 3 gpm and has been previously rebuilt twice. She shares that this booster pump was replaced and a large leak on NH drive was repaired this week. Last week there was another leak on New London Drive that was fixed as well. These fixes have substantially helped the tank recover and the water loss in the tanks will be re-evaluated this week. A resident asked if the work Aquamen does for these repairs is reviewed by any state agency. Commissioner Vasquez shares that it does not have to be reviewed however the water operator takes before and after pictures and provides them to the board and DES to maintain great documentation. Commissioner Vasquez states that there is a booster pump in the Peninsula pump house that is set to be replaced however we are waiting on availability from the water operator to perform the work. Currently, this pump house has one pump that runs 24/7 which can cause it to become air bound and shut down which results in water shutting down.

**DES Grant Updates**

Commissioner Vasquez shares that Wright-Pierce has been working on a system assessment and a draft report is expected by July 15, 2020. She also updates on the two DES grants the district has been working toward. The first grant is the asset management grant that has a $20,000 match. She shares that all of the hours worked by the board and the water operators and RCAP go toward the match amount for the grant. The assessment and report is hoped to be wrapped up by September. The second grant is the funding that will be used to work on those things in the asset management report. The district previously approved for a up to $500,000 to be taken out however Commissioner Vasquez shares that they will only take out as much as the water customers can afford. We will learn what we will get approved for in August 2020. The Commissioners share that they would like to schedule a meeting with the water customers to discuss financial impact and what they would like to see done with the grant money once it is approved. Commissioner Goodwin shares that Wright-Pierce will be doing a risk matrix that will let us know where the repairs would make the greatest impact. A resident asked were we were with the violations that were assessed by DES. Commissioner Vasquez shares that we have rectified the violations. A resident asked where the assessment of several million dollars for line replacement came from. Commissioner Robinson shared that this assessment came from the RCAP team that completed leak detection with her. Commissioner Vasquez shares that there are currently 78 homes on the water system and that 3 more homes have expressed that they plan to come off the system soon.

**Past Due Notices**

Treasure Doherty shares that the water shut offs are allowed to resume on July 15th for those who are past due. For those who are past due and no longer on the water system action will be taken in either small claims court or by placing a lien on the house. Clerk Wisniewski has shared that she sent a message on the emergency system with details regarding resources for those effected by COVID. If someone is to need this information again or anyone who did receive it, please contact the clerk and she will be happy to send it to you. Treasurer Doherty shared that he heard from several residents that accidentally sent their payments to PLM address rather than PLVD. He urges those who sent checks and noticed they have not been cashed to reach out. The board shares that they are willing to work with residents at this time regarding payment plans and they will not add late fees or finance charges to those who are working with them.

**PLVD Recreation Project**

Treasurer Doherty shared that through donations and help of local businesses the basketball court is officially finished and it is open for use. A resident asked what the purpose of the signs are. Commissioner Vasquez shares that the signs are necessary for insurance and monitoring purposes. If someone violates any of the rules that will be posted it gives the district the ability to get assistance from the local police and to remove anyone that may be necessary. The recreational area is being created with stipend money and it is a space that we would like to keep clean and safe for children to use. Commissioner Robinson also shares that the shed has been broken in to recently which is another reason monitoring of the area is necessary. A resident asked if we are going to get a security camera or flood lights. The Commissioners states that this is something that is currently in discussion however due to the stipend money and donations being the only source of money available, everything is being done in segments. Treasurer Doherty shared that they are hopeful to be able to look into expanding more of the recreational area in the fall. A survery will be used to collect information from the community regarding the recreational area and what they would like to see there. If you are not part of the email system please contact the board to be added.

**Meter Reading Times**

Commissioner Vasquez discussed her meetings with Sensus and work to be completed on a few water meters. Commissioner Vasquez shares that the meter readings are conducted the Saturday or Sunday before the monthly meeting. She states that if you do not believe your meter is reading accurately to contact the board and she will come to your home and perform an audit. She has completed many audits so far and reports that all meters have been reading accurately. The board encourage residents who have concern over their high water bill to hire a licensed plumber do a health and pressure check of their internal system. The Commissioners share that the meter starts reading when the water comes from the street to the house.

**De-weeding**

Goodwin shares that we are looking into Biochar for the inlet of the lake and has met with a rep to put together a plan for the pilot project. The pilot project would take about 40 bags and a couple of cycles to determine its effects. Commissioner Vasquez shares that we currently have $10,000 in the account to go toward de-weeding. She’s states that we can do a combination of things however if we do full chemical treatment, it will take up our entire budget. The Commissioners share that the de-weeding will not take place this year due to the growth already starting. All plans of de-weeding are for next spring. The idea of using a survey to see what people would like to see for de-weeding was discussed.

**Aquamen Questions**

A resident asked if the water operator will be providing a comprehensive list of maintenance and how often it must be done. Craig reported that they will be compiling this report as part of their system start up and the report should be completed in the next month. A resident asked about a well #8 update. Craig reports that it is currently only making 6.5 gpm and the exact cause of the low production is unknown. They could be due to a variety of reason such as the drought, poor connections, or problems with the veins of the well. A resident asked if the district had any warranty on the well. Craig shares that he is unsure of the warranty status however can look into this for us. A resident asked if the pump houses are equipped with generators. Commissioner Vasquez shares that the Peninsula pump house is equipped with a generator however Franklin Pierce pump house is not. Craig shares that there is no hard connection to allow a generator to be placed in the Franklin Pierce house either. Commissioner Vasquez shares that if we are to lose power she must shut down the Franklin Pierce distribution. A resident asked about the arsenic tanks that need to be replaced. Craig shares that there are four tanks in the pump house and when they took over for WSO they had two that were out of service; one due to an internal issue and the other due to a leak. Of the two in service the filtered water contained 25 ppm of arsenic however it was only 10 ppm straight out of the well. Due to this, the arsenic tanks have been turned off. The Commissioners share that each of the arsenic tanks are about $8,000 to replace and that the media disposal from the tanks costs several thousand as well. Craig shares that he will be addressing the issue however the main focus is getting the water system up and running first. A resident hot line has been set up with Aquamen so residents can reach out to Craig with any questions. The contact number is on the PLVD website under contact us: 603-397-7814.

**Neuro Center Update**

Commissioner Vasquez shared that she attended a meeting with the Webster select board. They are aware of the current issues surrounding the neuro facility and Chief Adams is going to set up a meeting with the facility. She shares that they will be meeting to go over ground rules, protocols, and what their overall guidelines are. Right now not much is known about the facility and having an open meeting with them allows us to be more engaged and learn the facts about them. The community will be updated with more information after this meeting.

**Public Comment**

A resident asked who was in charge of determining when the water is shut off and turned back on. Commissioner Vasquez shared that she determines this and it is done by visiting the pump houses multiple times a day and consulting with the water operator. When she is at the pump house she determines the water level and if the water level drops below 5 ft, then she knows that the tank cannot hold and we will not recover from water loss if water is not shut down. She shares that the 9 hour shut down from 9pm-6am is the necessary amount of time for the wells to rest and the tanks to refill. When the system shuts down we stop the water from leaking into the ground and wasting water from the tanks. If they were to leave the system on the community would be bulking in water daily. If we were to bulk in water daily we would be spending a large majority of our budget on water and water operator fees associated with the delivery and we would not have money for any repairs that need to be done. Last year the district spent $30,000 alone trucking in water. Also, the Commissioners have families as well as full time jobs and therefore they have to make the schedule work so one of them is available to complete the work. The Commissioners share that with the new leaks being fixed the Franklin Pierce well is doing much better. However, Peninsula is still not holding which suggest leaks in the system that have not been found.

The Commissioners share that the reason we were short on money when they took over in March was due to WSO being paid $44,000 between January and March of this year which is a substantial amount from our taxes that was received in December 2019. They informed the residents that they are still working to save as much money as possible by ordering their own parts (all come is a warranty as well), changing filters, and performing the system shut downs themselves. They hope by the next annual meeting they will be able to have reports on the savings, what they’ve been able to do to update the system, and have quality water that stays on. If you have questions please reach out to the Commissioners as they are happy to discuss them with you.

At 8:14 pm Commission Vasquez made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Robinson and unanimously approved. The next monthly meeting will be held August 12, 2020.

Jennifer Wisniewski, Clerk

Pillsbury Lake Village District