

Minutes
Redwood Valley County Water District
Public Hearing
Teleconference Via Zoom
Tuesday, June 8, 2021

1. Roll Call

Director Schoeneman called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm, with the following roll call:

Directors Present:

Director Basili
Director Todd
Director Schoeneman
Director Klotter

Absent:

None

Others Present:

GM, Jared Walker, Board Secretary, Kate Barrett, Office Manager, Liz Patton, Consultant, Mark Hildebrand

Members of the Public; RRFC GM, Beth Salomone, RRFC, Matt Froneberger and Chris Watt, Tribal CFO, Rachel Whetstone, Rachel Becker, Richard Campbell Jr., Mary Camp, Granville Pool

2. Public Hearing to Consider Proposed Increase to Water Rates

a. Introduction of Proposed Water Rates

- i. Director Schoeneman explained that the proposed rate increase is vital for the water district to continue to function and continue to get a secure water source for Redwood Valley residents.
- ii. Mark Hildebrand, Redwood Valley's consultant from Hildebrand Consulting, presented a water rate study and explained why the water rate increase is not only recommended, but a necessity.
- iii. GM, Jared Walker explained the history of Redwood Valley County Water District (the District) and the several challenges the District had to address over the last six (6) or seven (7) years.
- iv. The District has been purchasing water from Millview County Water District, a neighboring water district, since the last drought in 2014 and went through a series of intertie, booster station upgrades.
 1. There may be an end to purchasing Millview's water in the near future, and the District needs to be reliant upon its own water sources.
- v. Russian River Flood Control District has notified the District that they do not have surplus water available.
- vi. Consultant, Mark Hildebrand explained that they are recommending eliminating the tiered rates and have a uniform rate for domestic and irrigation water.

b. Conduct Public Hearing

- i. Director Todd noted that if the District is going to be solvent, the rate increase has to be done.
- ii. Director Basili explained that if the rate increase doesn't happen now, the District is going to be in trouble financially.

- iii. Director Klotter noted that she doesn't see a way to avoid raising rates.
- iv. Member of the public, Rachel Whetstone, thanked the board for having an understandable presentation and it really seems like the District needs to raise the rates.
- v. Member of the public, Granville Pool, noted that the increase is long overdue and is making up for lost time and seems to be a very modest increase.

c. Result of Public Hearing

- i. Director Schoeneman counted the protest letters, for a total of fourteen (14) letters, which does not meet the 50% needed to veto the rate increase.
- ii. The Public Hearing concluded at 6:42 pm.

d. Consider Adoption of Proposed Water Rate Schedule

- i. Director Klotter made a motion, seconded by Director Basili, to adopt the proposed water rate schedule. This motion was passed with the following vote:
 AYES: Basili, Todd, Schoeneman, Klotter
 NOES: -0-
 ABSENT: -0-
 ABSTAIN: -0-

3. Adjourn Meeting

Director Todd made a motion, seconded by Director Basili, to adjourn the meeting. This motion was passed with a unanimous aye vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm

Tom Schoeneman - Board President

Date _____

Kate Barrett - Board Secretary

Date _____