

MINUTES
REDWOOD VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2021

Call to Order: 5:00 p.m.

Directors Present:

Director, Tom Schoeneman

Director, Ken Todd

Director, Bree Klotter

Absent: Jeff Basili

Others Present:

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

Public Forum

Secretary Barrett noted that there was a written public comment from Beth Salomone, Russian River Flood Control District, regarding the Board's decision to end Zoom teleconferencing and to go back to in-person meetings.

- Ms. Salomone wishes the Board would reconsider having Zoom meetings for the public in order to support social distancing and reduce the risks of continuing the state of emergency due to the pandemic.

The board directed staff to create a Zoom link for the upcoming meetings in order for the public to attend.

Consider hearing of urgent items received since the agenda was posted

GM, Walker noted that there is an additional handout for agenda item *10a) UVBGSA Funding*. The handout was distributed to the board.

Director Shoeneman commented that he heard the fire department is billing Flow Kana for the fire and would like staff to try and bill Flow Kana \$9,000 for the water Redwood Valley had to use to fight the fire.

- The board directed staff to contact legal to back bill Flow Kana for the water and power that was used to fight the fire.

Agenda

Director Todd made a motion, seconded by Director Klotter, to accept the agenda. This motion was passed with a unanimous aye vote.

Minutes

Director Todd made a motion, seconded by Director Klotter, to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2021 regular board meeting. This motion was passed with a unanimous aye vote.

Director Klotter made a motion, seconded by Director Todd, to approve the minutes of the September 30, 2021 special board meeting. This motion was passed with a unanimous aye vote.

Financial Statements

Director Todd made a motion, seconded by Director Klotter, to approve the financials for September 2021. The motion was passed with a unanimous aye vote.

Staff Reports

a. General Manager

- i. GM, Walker reported that he got some initial quotes back for the Lake Pump station from Pumpman NorCal.
 1. The insurance inspection happened, and it sounds like insurance is going to cover it. Staff is unsure how much the deductible is at this time.
 2. For the entire repair of the pump and motor, it will cost about \$200,000.
 3. Staff's recommendation is to use, Ron Foster of Pumpman NorCal, used to own a different business and he had serviced the Lake Pump station before and he knows exactly what is there.
 - a. He looked back into his old records and has a very accurate description of what is there.
- ii. Over the last five years, there have been a number of upgrades to the Lake Pump station. Telstar has been working on band aids within the system, so staff is asking for a quote on fixing the entire system.
 1. Staff is going to research grants that could help cover getting a new SCADA system.

b. Office Manager

- i. Office Manager, Patton reported that the server in the office, which holds all billing and accounting information, is at the end of its life.
- ii. The server crashed about a week ago, and the office lost all of Quickbooks for about a week. Luckily staff was able to retrieve the information.
- iii. Staff has ordered a new server which should arrive in a couple of weeks.
 1. The server is being split among the districts; Redwood Valley's cost for the server is going to be about \$2,500 plus additional monthly costs for backups and virus protection.

Old Business

a. Drought and Water Supply Updates

- i. GM, Walker reported that he has had some ongoing conversations with the State.
 1. The district has a new point of contact: Amy Little.
 2. Conversations came up about Redwood Valley's water supply issues.
 3. Because of the State's curtailment orders for Willow and Millview, the SWRCB is considering a water service connection moratorium for Willow and Millview.
 - a. The State wants Willow to enter into a hydrology study, which is going to take months and about \$50,000 to do.
 - i. If the State is going to make Willow do a study, then staff is going to ask the State to pay for the study.

b. Redwood Valley CWD Infrastructure Retrofit Project

- i. GM, Walker reported that the project is almost done. The hydrants are being installed, and the district got permission to move two of the hydrants.
 1. Now is a good time to ask for hydrant locks because the District is installing about forty hydrants and they are mostly down dead-end roads.

c. Grant Funding Opportunities

- i. Director Schoeneman and Director Klotter discussed working with Board Secretary, Kate Barrett, on looking for and applying for grants.
- ii. They are going to find someone with experience in grant writing to assist Ms. Barrett.

d. Upper Russian River Water Agency

- i. Director Todd reported that the URRWA meeting was cancelled.

e. Redwood Valley CWD/Russian River Flood Control District Annexation

- i. Director Klotter reported that she contacted Mendocino County LAFCo last week because she heard there was \$100,000 set aside.
 1. The person she talked to said the bill went to Governor Newsom's desk and he never signed it, so the funds were never made available.
- ii. GM, Walker commented that he sent a list of questions that legal had come up with to the Flood Control District.
 1. GM, Walker noted that he received an agenda for a special meeting for the Flood Control District, and it is all closed session. He believes it has to do with the list of questions that was sent over.

f. Consolidation Efforts of URRWA Districts

- i. GM, Walker reported that URRWA did not meet this month, and there has been little to no talk about consolidation.

New Business

a. UVBGSA Funding

- i. GM, Walker reported that during URRWA's September meeting, they voted to contribute \$4,000 for additional funding for groundwater monitoring.
 1. During the UVBGSA meeting that day, GM, Walker learned that the annual costs for fee studies, etc. is going to be \$275,000 or \$68,750 for each of the member agencies.
 - a. Somewhere during the transition of James Green leaving and Ross LaRue getting on the GSA board, this information never got relayed to us because we did not have someone in attendance.
 2. Staff recommends splitting up the \$68,750 based upon numbers of service connections based upon the member agencies in the JPA, including the Sanitation District.
 - a. GM, Walker emailed the general manager of the Sanitation District and she said they are going to have a hard time contributing because they don't think they can use sewer revenue for water projects.

b. Response to United States Department of the Interior - Loan Repayment

- i. Director Klotter stated that she feels that the letter is blowing off the United States Department of the Interior.
 1. Director Schoeneman replied that the bad thing to do would be to ignore them. This way, they know we received the letter and we acknowledge that the District still has an outstanding balance.
- ii. Director Todd made a motion to approve the letter that legal counsel wrote in response to the United States Department of the Interior to acknowledge our debt to them. Director Klotter declared that she would vote no. There was no second to the vote.

- iii. By majority ruling, the board directed staff to send the letter in response to the United States Department of the Interior to acknowledge our debt to them.

c. Future Board Meetings - Brown Act & AB361

- i. The board directed staff to include a *Zoom* link for the public to attend for all meetings in the near future.

Director's Report

Director Todd reported that he will be unable to attend URRWA's next board meeting and will need someone to attend in his place.

- Director Schoeneman volunteered to step in.

Closed Session

The board did not adjourn into a closed session.

Adjournment

Director Todd made a motion, seconded by Director Klotter, to adjourn the meeting. This motion was passed with a unanimous aye vote. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Tom Schoeneman - Board President

Date _____

Kate Barrett - Board Secretary

Date _____