

GARDEN FARMS COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT
17005 Walnut Avenue, Atascadero, CA 93422
(805) 438-3751

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING

Board of Directors

Monday, April 10, 2017 at 7:00 PM
Garden Farms Bible Chapel Meeting Hall
17025 Walnut Avenue, Atascadero, CA 93422

Board Members Present: Chair Charron Sparks, Cory Pereira, Jay Jamison, John Billings and John Pinson

Employees Present: Marcia Joyce, General Manager and Mary Anne Stephens, District Secretary

Members of the Public Present: None

Regular Meeting Called to Order

- Chair Charron Sparks called the regular meeting of the Garden Farms Community Water District to order at approximately 7:01 PM.

Public Comment

- No public comment.

Consideration of March 15, 2017 Minutes

- *A motion was made to approve the minutes as written. John Billing/Jay Jamison/All in favor.*

Communications

- Marcia informed the board that SDRMA has set aside a fund to reimburse its members for safety related expenses. She will submit a request for reimbursement for the yearly recharging of the fire extinguishers.
- Paul Torba has informed Marcia that his tenant will be moving and that he has no plans to re-rent the property. He is requesting that he be removed from the double occupancy billing list.
- Clint Pullen has requested that he be removed from the double occupancy billing list. Marcia stated that based upon conversations with Clint and with his father, there seems to be a discrepancy regarding whether the property is single or double occupancy. The board requested that Marcia inspect the property and report her findings so that a decision can be made regarding his request.
- AT&T raised their monthly rates for the phone line dedicated to the telemetry at Well One. Marcia stated that Came Security offers standard monitoring but that the current system must be upgraded by adding cellular. The set up charge would be \$225 with a monthly rate of \$34. The second option would cost \$40 per month and requires the installation of a new panel at a cost of \$300 - \$325

and includes remote monitoring. The board requested that Marcia do further research and choose the best option.

- The district website has not been updated. Cory suggested creating a Facebook page instead of updating the website. Charron agreed that this would be a good option and requested that the district secretary look into creating a Facebook page.
- During the last meter reading a leak was discovered at Yarrow Nelson's property. He has made the necessary repairs and is requesting a leak policy credit in the amount of \$226.27.

A motion was made to allow Yarrow Nelson a leak policy credit in the amount of \$226.27. John Pinson/Cory Pereira/All in favor.

Financial Report and Consideration of Recent Expenses

- Charron informed the board that the district may submit a resolution to the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors requesting that they revise the requirement for an annual financial audit. If approved, the new requirement would include a bi-annual audit with a financial review during the years between audits. The resolution will be placed on the on the May 2017 meeting agenda as new business.
- There were no financial reports available for the meeting.

General Manager's Report/System Maintenance

- Marcia reported that the water tank is streaked and discolored. The board feels that since this occurred after AT&T installed equipment it may be related to work they did on the tank. Marcia will contact the AT&T field representative to get more information and discuss the matter.

Old Business

- **Well Log Report.** Marcia reported that water levels are slightly elevated.
- **Well Three Activation.** Well Three is operational and the new electrical panel has been installed. There were some minor electrical issues which have been addressed. The broken door has been repaired but needs painting.
- **Groundwater Sustainability Act of 2014.** Marcia attended the GSA meeting held on April 5, 2017. She reported that by joining forces with other agencies, GFCWD will become part of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency. A six member board would be formed consisting of one member from each of the following: (1) AMWC (2) City of Atascadero (3) City of Paso Robles (4) County of San Luis Obispo (5) Templeton Community Services District (6) One representative from the participating parties who constitute small water systems which includes GFCWD. The fee for group number six would be 1 percent of the total cost. Marcia will keep the board informed about any new information or future meetings.
- **Water Rate Study.** John Billings proposed lowering the base rate from 2500 to 1000 cubic feet. Charron calculated the amount of increased revenue and reported that the best option appears to be an increase in the cost of the base

rate. Another option would be to lower the amount of the base rate while increasing the cost of the base rate. John Pinson and Cory Pereira favor increasing the cost of the base rate to \$75 and increasing the over base rate. Charron stated that current revenue from water sales is not sufficient to cover operating expenses and that cell site income should only be used for capital improvements and not maintenance. Several board members will not be available for the May meeting therefore the decision was made to postpone a vote on this item until the June meeting. In the interim, Charron will check into what legal notifications are required regarding the proposed water rate increase.

New Business

- A.J. Maul has given notice that he will terminate his employment as assistant maintenance technician. Marcia placed an ad on Craigslist and was contacted by Dave Scholl who has expressed an interest in the position. He stated that he has experience as a plumber and has a water distribution operation certificate. If hired he would work 8 to 20 hours per month and would be on call as needed. The board informed him that they would discuss hiring him and that Marcia would contact him with their decision.

A motion was made to hire Dave Scholl at a starting rate of \$30 per hour. John Pinson/Jay Jamison/All in favor.

Action Item Review

- Marcia will offer the assistant maintenance position to Dave Scholl.
- Marcia will contact Came Security and make a decision about the phone.
- Marcia will contact the AT&T field representative about the water tank.
- Charron will send budgetary shortage information to board members.
- Charron will research legal notification regarding the proposed water rate increase.
- The district secretary will create a Facebook page.

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:38 PM. Jay Jamison/John Pinson/All in favor.

Submitted by,

Mary Anne Stephens
District Secretary

Approved: