

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

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING
Board of Directors

Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at 7:00 PM
Garden Farms Bible Chapel Meeting Hall
17025 Walnut Avenue, Atascadero, CA

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

Employees Present: Marcia Joyce, General Manager, and Dan Migliazzo, Maintenance Supervisor

Members of the Public Present: Tara Lancaster

Meeting Called to Order

- Chair Charron Sparks called the regular meeting of the Garden Farms Community Water District to order at approximately 7:04 PM.

Public Comment

- Tara asked if we were voting on the double occupancy billing. Charron told her the billing was already in place and no voting was required. Tara also expressed an interest in attending the meetings on a regular basis and asked how to find out what day the meetings are held. She was told that they are usually on the second Wednesday of the month and are posted two days in advance should any variation occur.

Consideration of February 8, 2017 Minutes

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

Maintenance Report

- Dan addressed the problem that Well One cannot pass a standard bacteria test prior to chlorination. He stated the failed tests are likely due to a crack in the casing. The well was re-cased down from 12" to 6" prior to him coming on board in 1996. In 1998, due to a fracture in the casing, concrete was poured around the casing to a depth of 10'. Along with this, the 6" casing was recently replaced making Charron question why we have a problem. Dan feels that the old 12" casing is cracked below the concrete. The crack allows surface water to penetrate into the gap between the old and new casing. This gap is most likely filled with pea gravel and will let the surface water infiltrate into the well, which is why Dan feels our raw water bacteria tests fail. The well was videoed by Fisher Pump a few years ago but we are unable to locate the disc. Marcia will call Fisher Pump to ask for another copy. Because of the failed tests, Leslie Terry with County Environmental Health requires that we test for chlorine residuals on a daily basis. Charron questioned the need for this since we have an automated chlorine injection pump that keeps a residual in the system. Dan replied that water containing coliform could be pumped into the system should the chlorine pump fail. Since we now test on a weekly basis, the failed chlorine pump would not be detected for up to a week. There was discussion of drilling a new well but Dan said we could install a CL17 chlorine analyzer along with a chart recorder on our existing well. Jay stated since our existing well is functioning fine we should look into installing the analyzer, which would be

a huge savings over drilling a new well. Dan thinks the daily records could be fed into the alarm system and would notify us if the chlorine drops below acceptable levels. Charron feels this is a better idea than having an employee check it on a daily basis. Dan will research the cost of the analyzer and chart recorder.

- Dan stated that Well Three is ready to go online once the control panel is installed and a pressure gauge is added to the main feed coming out of the well. He has the pressure gauge but he needs to locate the fittings for it. The gauge will monitor the head pressure put on the pump since it will be throttled back to 40 GPM. Marcia relayed that installation of the control panel was postponed until Thursday, March 16, because the panel was shipped to Electricraft with missing parts. Dan will also install a sample tap at the well this week for water tests.
- Dan talked with assistant maintenance technician A.J. Maul about system flushing by the end of April. Marcia will prepare a notice to be sent out with the February/March billing that we will be flushing sometime in the week ending April 29. The tank will need to be full when they flush.
- Marcia asked Dan if we needed to raise the tank water level for the upcoming warmer weather. He said that it could be raised to 15' to 18' depth in the next couple of weeks.
- Marcia relayed that A.J. is considering terminating his position as assistant maintenance technician for GFCWD. He is having a hard time juggling his two jobs. He also stated that he cannot continue to work for \$25 an hour and wants a pay increase to \$35 per hour. Marcia expressed that he is not fully trained and he overlooked that Well Two had not been running as an example. Dan feels that he does good work. Nick came out to teach A.J. how to install meters but instead worked at Well Two to repair the Chlorinator. He still needs to be trained on meter replacement. Dan also went over the flushing rate for the filtration at Well One with A.J. He found out that the rate was too low because the gate valve slowly closes down over time. There are two gauges, a system pressure gauge and a differential gauge that monitors the rates that Dan explained to A.J. Cory commented that A.J. cannot expect a raise until he is fully trained and Charron agreed.

Communications

- Marcia communicated that we were on an automatic update with Go Daddy so we have it for another two years. There are two accounts, one for the web hosting and one for our Gmail address. Through the Gmail account our manager@gfcwd.org is routed to us and stored on the Go Daddy server. Marcia found out that she needed to go on their website occasionally to delete out the manager@gfcwd.org emails since we are not an unlimited storage contract. Charron expressed the need to update our website and John Billings stated that we should seek out a student for the job. Marcia will first look into updating it herself, then look to a student if needed. Cory also said that we most likely have someone in the neighborhood that could update it.

Financial Report and Consideration of Recent Expenses

- Charron reported that payroll taxes were paid and that there were no unusual expenses.

General Manager's Report

- The weeds are growing due to recent heavy rain and warmer weather. Since A.J. is unable to keep up with work, other than the weekly rounds, Marcia will weed whack what she can.
- The tank will need to be raised in the next month.
- Marcia has reset the well time clocks to daylight saving time. Well Two run times were reset.

Old Business

1. **Well Log Report** – January’s well log has been corrected bringing the water balance down to 13%. Marcia feels the water usage for the last two months is high for this time of year, along with the high amount of rain we have had. Dan thought it was acceptable.
2. **Well Three Activation** – Once the follow items are complete the well will be operational:
 - a. A valve has been installed prior to the filtration that will throttle back the GPM rate on the pump and put the pressure on the pump rather than the system.
 - b. Installation of a new electrical panel and hour clock by Electricraft.
3. **Groundwater Sustainability Act of 2014** – John Neil emailed us to say that they are near the final draft of the GSA MOA. 98% of the costs will be borne by AMWC, Templeton, Paso Robles, and the County. The remaining 2% will be borne by the City of Atascadero and other participating parties. There’s still a chance that the DWR may assign a low priority to the Atascadero Basin, which will exempt us from SGMA compliance.

Action Items

- Charron will gather more budgetary information to present to the board regarding the proposed rate increase.
- Marcia will look into updating the district website.

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:31 PM. Jay Jamison/John Pinson/All in favor.

Submitted by,

Marcia Joyce/Mary Anne Stephens
District Manager/District Secretary

Approved: