

CLEAR CREEK COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 03, 2019 6:00 P.M.
(530)256-3096

Cathy Hunter called the regular meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Cathy Hunter

Roll call: Cathy Hunter, Judy Cooper, Rod Twain, Burt Cooper & Jessica Greene all present.

Others present: Nicolette Moroney Secretary/Treasurer, John Hunter Fire Chief, JD Hackett Water Manager, Susan Miller resident, Cindy Jensen resident, Rob Slater resident & Susan Cort-Johnson newspaper reporter.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion to approve the agenda made by Burt Cooper, seconded by Rod Twain, all in favor, motion carried.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: Cindy Jensen curious about what was going on with the trees, if and when it might get done. Per Nicolette another grant opened up and we will be applying for it. If we are successful in receiving it, the work should get done next year.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Motion to approve the regular minutes of September 05, 2019 made by Jessica Greene, seconded by Rod Twain, all in favor, motion carried.

MOTION TO PAY INVOICES AND PAYROLL:

Motion to approve September 2019 invoices & October 2019 payroll made by Burt Cooper, seconded by Judy Cooper, all in favor, motion carried.

DELINQUENTS: 0

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Fire Department August 31, 2019 balance \$45,861.61 (September 2019 deposits \$0) (September 2019 expenditures \$2,037.22) September 30, 2019 balance \$43,824.39

Water Department August 31, 2019 balance \$80,408.61 (September 2019 deposits \$10,108.95) (September 2019 expenditures \$4,395.26) September 30, 2019 balance \$86,122.30

Reviewed & a motion to approve financials was made by Jessica Greene, seconded by Burt Cooper, all in favor motion carried.

WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Per JD reported the water samples were good for the month, flushed unused lateral line near the sample point at Spring Creek. Installed lids for the secondary valves on Clear Creek Dr., shut off one customer connection then warned others to please pay, worked out good. Assisted customer with water pressure issue, resolved by identifying kinked hose. Gave our new State Engineer a tour of the pump room and spring house, our old engineer got stung by wasps. Went out again to the spring house to kill stubborn headed wasps, they would not die after a good soaking of their nest. John Hunter & Burt Cooper recommending using an exterminator. Flushed and ran all fire hydrants in the district. Out on Rainbow Dr. digging dirt out of our company water boxes and making sure our valves are operational. Successfully got the transponder into the intake and detected the first 200 feet of our line. It crossed over the section than I located with the line detector previously, proving it is working correctly. Attended a confined space training class in Indian Valley, procedure to enter confined space was fascinating using gas detector etc. Warned an excavating contractor about not calling 811 USA north and digging anyways. Doing research to see what we can do to encourage all contractors to use the call 811 USA north and to also see what our recourse is if they hit our water mains. The City of San Francisco reports

them to the City District Attorney when there is damage to underground water mains, looking into duplicating those efforts. Spring intake was 16 inches deep and water temperature was 36 degrees. It appears on 9/2/19 the usage was 222,000 gallons in a 24 hour period and the usage for the month was 3,019,000 gallons.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

John Hunter reported no medical calls for the month, one smoke check. Burn permits are now required and residents need to call Air Quality Control before burning (the number is on the burn permit). Attended the Chiefs meeting, lots of training, John will probably take the EMT & Hazmat class coming this spring. The new garage doors are in, a huge thank you to Burt & Gary for helping with this. Tried to sound off the siren but there is no power to the controller. Burt suggested purchasing a new siren and putting it on the firehouse. John suggested removing the existing tower because it is not safe, needs to be torn down and work on getting the siren functional. Jessica recommended getting bids to demo the tower and getting the siren down.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Representative Daniel Eisenberg with Suez Water Technologies & Solutions regarding what is involved in reconditioning and maintaining a pressure tank system – Daniel handed out some handouts and thanked JD for inviting him to come and speak. He spoke a little about himself, let everyone know he works in the area, maintains Hamilton Branch's tanks. He came by about a month ago and took a look at the pressure tank and what it would take to rehab it and how it would be done. Per Daniel there are obvious difficulties just by where it is situated. It is in a confined space, for those of you who don't know what a confined space is; it is less than 6 feet of access. Before anything you need to add a man way/hatch (to access the inside of the tank) at least 24 inches. We would do a complete sandblast, clean it out, gets a primer on the inside & two coats of epoxy paint. It would have to be taken offline and cure for about 4/5 weeks. There would have to be some kind of bypass system in place. Once this process is completed you should get a considerable life span of about 10 to 15 years. The State is focusing on these types of pressure tanks because of an accident in Redding about two years ago where the tank exploded and operator was killed. A drone is possible to look at the inside but it is not the same as a human touch, better to get inside. With the current configuration it is very difficult to do either one. At the very least he recommends adding a manway/hatch (the cost is approximately \$3,000) then they could do a thorough inspection. Per JD if the Board would like to see an example of a steel welded tank with a manway/hatch he can take them to Hamilton Branch to check it out. Mr. Twain wanted to know if there are any grant opportunities for this sort of thing. Per Daniel there are grant writers, PACE or California Rural Water and his company does have financing available. Per JD when the State Engineers were out he did put a bug in their ear and they said they might be able to pay for this.
2. Committee Update on Water Rate Increase – Mr. Twain reported he talked to people all over from Chester, Westwood and Hamilton Branch and thanked Susan for sending over the information on Westwood's increase. He read his preliminary report, see attached 2 pages.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Approve Authorization Agreement for Eco Green Solutions to Audit Our Facility to Possibly Upgrade Pumps and/or Electric Heaters and Whatever Else They Deem Necessary - Cathy Hunter asked for a vote and all were in favor, motion carried.

MATTERS INITIATED BY THE BOARD:

THE REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 03, 2019 WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:05 P.M. THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULED WILL BE ON NOVEMBER 07, 2019 @ 6:00 P.M. AT THE FIRE HOUSE DOWNSTAIRS.


CATHY HUNTER/CHAIR


NICOLETTE MORONEY/SECRETARY

10/3/2019

Clear Creek Community Service District
Proposal for Water Rate Increase
October 2019

GOAL for the water rate increase: To maintain our current water delivery system at a dependable level and to conform with state and Federal water delivery system requirements. To prepare our community for the eventual installation of a new water delivery system to replace our current outdated and potentially non-complying system.

OBJECTIVES: 1)To provide the funds necessary to maintain our current water system and prepare for the introduction of a new system. 2)To create and maintain a water delivery system that is compatible with the unique nature of the Clear Creek community. 3) To keep Clear Creek in compliance with state and federal regulations and mandates and 4)To establish fair and equitable rates to achieve this goal.

SPECIFIC REASONS for water rate increase: 1) To maintain and repair our existing system until the potential new system is in place. The new system is expected to take 2-3 years to set up and we may not get state approval and funding to go ahead with the project for another 3 or more years. 2)To build the capital reserves necessary to support the new system when in place. For example we would be required to save \$26,210 to replace system items which have a life expectancy of less than the life expectancy of the entire project. The amount mentioned here is to replace two specific items that have a 15 year life expectancy. 3)To provide the funds to purchase the land for the additional water tank we need to install as part of the new system. This tank will give us extra back up water in case of any emergencies such as wild fires. This is one of the state mandated items. We are also expected to set up security fencing for said tank at our expense. We have an agreement with the current owner to purchase the needed land for the tank for \$3,000. I suggest we get it in writing. 4) To pay for the cost of a temporary water system to deliver water to the community when the pipe from the spring house to the pump house is replaced. The technique that is expected to be used to accomplish this task necessitates splitting the old pipe and laying the new pipe on top. When other lines are replaced individual households on a street by street basis should have water shut off for 1 or 2 days at the most. 5) Insurance costs and rate increases brought about by current conditions and the need to insure the new system, when in place.

RECOMENDATIONS: That we increase water rates by \$3 per month knowing that additional rate increases may be necessary when the new system is up and functioning. We must consider in any future planning the following items. 1)The current rate of inflation used in the project estimates is 3% yearly however due to unstable conditions caused by our current tariff wars, the inflation rate for key materials such as steel was 14% last year. Future costs for the project may increase significantly.

FURTHER THOUGHTS: Westwood in their determinations to raise their water rates had to consider that their population was not stable and they had lost enough paying customers to create a yearly deficit of more than \$25,000. I have determined that our population is stable at 166 paying customers but we should keep possible population fluctuations in mind when determining future rates. Westwood raised their rates for water from \$37.76 to \$40.40 a month, with added fees of 35 cents for every 1,000 gallons over 30,000. Our new rate would be \$39 dollars a month, still less than the new Westwood rate. My discussions have determined that very few people go over the 30,000 gallon limit amount in Westwood. Hamilton Branch, on the other hand, has a lower basic rate but makes up for the lower basic fee schedule because many customers pay large overage fees. Chester just raised their rates upwards by 3% and there seemed to be no objections to the increase. For customers who can't pay the new rates it's been suggested that the Salvation Army can help out. Some people may feel that summer

residents shouldn't have to pay as much as year around residents however this means that year long residents would have to pay more to make up the difference. It has been pointed out to me that summer residents have two or more homes and that \$3 a month increase shouldn't be a burden. We still have unmetered water here in Clear Creek but the new water grant will mandate that we install meters, however we may not be initially required to use them. This meter installation and it's cost to customers should be a subject for future discussion. There may be other supplemental costs associated with the new system that the community must cover financially that have not been considered thus far.

This document has been prepared by Rod Twain on behalf of the "Committee for the consideration of potential water rate increases for the Clear Creek Community".