

CANEBRAKE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
Saturday, September 17, 2022

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Canebrake County Water District was called to order by President Jerry Bucheit at 9:00 am via Zoom Video Conferencing.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Bob Mooney recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Jerry Bucheit called the roll with Mark Robinson, Bob Mooney and Daryl Holmes, Jr. in attendance. Also in attendance was Dean Kuns, Water Manager.

WELCOMING OF GUESTS: Guests in attendance via Zoom conference meeting were: Betty and Daryl Holmes, Sr., Diane Robinson, Natalie Spandau, Ellyn Hae, Gunnar Ramstrum, Joy Stucke, Merle Vogel, Kathy McNair.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the June 11, 2022, board meeting were approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT: The financial reports presented at the June 11, 2022 meeting were approved unanimously.

PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT: Mark Robinson presented and reviewed the financials through August 31, 2022. Balance Sheet, Total Assets: \$426,963, Total Liabilities & Equity: \$426,963. Income and Expense July and August 2022: Total Income \$5,984. Total Expense \$5,982. Net Ordinary Income \$2. Robinson explained that the property tax money is still forthcoming, and water sales have been down during summer months. Other Income/Expense: \$775. Net Income for the period: (\$772).

- **Audit Update**

Five-year audit was received by Sonnenberg & Company, CPAS, and submitted to San Diego County prior to the June 30, 2022 deadline. Robinson recommends that the board revert back to an annual audit beginning next year and also recommends continuing the services of Sonnenberg for continuity. Mooney commended Robinson for his work as the Budget Chairperson for the water board. Holmes also expressed his gratitude.

GOVERNMENT FORMS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

7-7-22 SD Board of Supervisors: Conflict of Interest Form 700 Biennial Notice Completed July 7, 2022, cleared and accepted July 21, 2022.

7-26-22 State Fund renewal quote estimated premium \$1,284.94. Billing pending.

7-28-22 State Water Resource Control Board. Notice of proposed regulation modifying water right ownership notice requirements and reporting dates. (Staff Workshop)
Results not yet posted.

8-4-22 State Social Security administrators annual information request form
Completed and accepted.

Bucheit reviewed the check register for the previous three months. Report is attached to the minutes.

Bucheit reported that projected SDGE bill for the Mooney Well is \$16-18 and the projected bill for the Peterson Well is \$34-38. He once again expressed his appreciation for the people responsible for the installation of the solar panels.

EQUIPMENT REPORT:

Holmes read the equipment report prepared by Ron Akey, equipment operator, covering the period June 11 - September 10, 2022

Backhoe and dump truck not used for water district or private property.

No maintenance on the backhoe. Dump truck had a new carburetor installed. Ford Ranger front suspension needs ball joint bushings. Generator has been started and run. Backhoe has been started and run. EZ Go Workhorse needs a starter/alternator.

Question from Ramstrum about rate for the backhoe: \$75 flat fee for the backhoe, charged on water bill. Ron Akey operates the backhoe and would like to offer training to anyone who wants to help out with the job.

SYSTEM MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS: Dean Kuns presented his report covering the period June 11 through September 16, 2022. Copy is attached to the minutes. Mooney congratulated Kuns for receiving his certificate for Coliform Sampling Procedures.

WATER DELIVERY INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE:

Discussion about forming a committee to evaluate future repairs and feasibility of rebuilding the entire system. Bucheit reported that the Price Line has been completed to the block tank. The valves from the round tank and off the block tank need to be replaced, There is a leak in the block tank in the front corner by the steps. It was sealed some time ago, but will be resealed when the weather cools. Volunteers will be needed to build a cement form for the vault as the 2" valves will be replaced with 3" valves. Bucheit referenced research by Bob Fritz regarding future and long-range repairs. At the November board meeting in Canebrake, Bucheit will ask for volunteers to form a committee to review the research done by Fritz and come back to the water board with recommendations at the January 2023 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion regarding the disposal of Price Line 2" pipe, Mooney Well pipe and other unneeded items. Bucheit contacted Phil Carroll who provided a source in East County for taking scrap material. Mooney suggested putting the pipe out to bid to members of the community. Bucheit suggested that the minimum bid would be what the current price is on copper wire. It was decided that an estimate would be obtained as to the value of "dirty" copper wire and then a decision will be made as to disposal or recycling.

Discussion about excess old 2" metal pipe and 2" blue PVC pipe. Mooney outlined his recommendation for the bidding process for the pipe. Bucheit suggested selling to individuals at a price per foot without a bidding process. Bucheit will send out a notice to the community that the pipe will be available for purchase, pennies on the dollar.

Robinson suggested that the pipe be made available to the community free of charge and the excess disposed of. Holmes agreed with Robinson. Mooney wants to sell to the highest bidder first and then give away.

Mooney made a motion that pipe be disposed of by bid process on two separate piles of pipe with a time limit of three weeks from posting for removal. Second by Holmes.

Motion carried.

Question from Hae as to obtaining a grant to assist with repair to the block tank. Bucheit indicated that the board has previously avoided grants because of the scrutiny that they would bring to the community; i.e. inspections, bidding processes, permits, etc.

From the audience, Ramstrum requested pictures of the pipe that is to be disposed of.

NEW BUSINESS:

- New Board Members, seats 2 and 4. Ellyn Hae will assume seat #2, Gunnar Ramstrum will assume seat #4. They will be assigned officially after the election on November 8, 2022.
- Bill Alexander past due payments. The past five billing cycles are delinquent. Bucheit has reached out with the known phone number and has not received a response. There has not been any water usage in that time. Apparently property taxes have not been paid and the County may put the property up for auction after five years. Bucheit suggested that the water district put a lien on the property and be first in line if there is a bankruptcy. Holmes agreed that a lien be filed. Bucheit asks for input from Ms. Steuermann. Robinson suggested that the board get in touch with County Counsel and County Assessor. Bill Alexander's welfare is not known. Mooney wants to have the water shut off to the property and to proceed cautiously when getting into property management. Decision deferred to January 2023 meeting. Ramstrum provided a link to an obituary for William (Bill) Alexander who passed on January 9, 2022.

- Recording Secretary Should the board put out a notice for employment for secretarial work? Bucheit has a recommendation for a person who is employed at Small Business Services. Mooney asked what the job qualifications were. Article VII of the ByLaws Section I indicates that the secretary takes the meeting minutes, handles correspondence and maintains necessary records. Robinson suggested that the board continue recording the meetings on Zoom so the person would not have to attend the meeting in person in Canebrake. Mooney would like to table this until the next meeting and have more information on the dollar amount involved. During the discussion, Ellyn Hae expressed (via Chat) an interest in helping out.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Kathy Steuermann sent correspondence dated August 1, 2022. She asked for a credit adjustment for the water not provided for 22 days for two meters. Robinson indicated that it should be a matter of policy, and if credit is given to one it would have to be given for all. Examples were cited regarding public utilities shutting off services and not giving credit to their customers. Holmes discussed the problem at Butterfield Ranch and doubted that the customers were receiving credit for their non potable water. Mooney discussed fairness and revenue. He does not want to set a precedent issuing credits or refunds. Ms. Steuermann's request was denied by the board. Research will be done as to the public utility's responsibility to reimburse customers.

Kathy McNair suggested that the portable water tank be tested so that water could be safely used during times of crisis. Robinson suggested that would be a very difficult thing to do; boil water is the answer. Mooney said SOP (standard operating procedure) is to boil the water.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Robinson, seconded by Mooney to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11 am.

NEXT MEETING:

Saturday, November 12, 2022 at 9 AM
McKenney Hall

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