

CANEBRAKE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
Saturday, March 11, 2023

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 in McKenney Hall. Please see Attachment 1 for the meeting Agenda.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Bucheit led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Bucheit called the roll with Daryl Holmes, Jr., Gunnar Ramstrum and Ellyn Hae in attendance. Also in attendance was Dean Kuns, Water Manager.

WELCOMING OF GUESTS: Guests in attendance at the meeting were: Baron T. "Barry" Willis, Mike Hammond, Bill Dimmock, Tom Stucke, Kathy Steuermann, Mark Robinson, Natalie Spandau, Hank Arenz, Myrna Wosk, Stephen Fillmore

APPOINT NEW BOARD MEMBER

As clarified by the County of San Diego, an existing Board Member may be appointed to continue in their position. Robert Mooney agreed to continue in Seat 5. Holmes moved to appoint, Hae seconded, All Board Members voted aye. Mooney is appointed to Seat 5.

PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT: Balance Sheet and Income and Expenses were included as part of a brief (Attachment 2). The report includes layman's terms to assist the reader. Ramstrum presented and reviewed the financials. Actuals are meeting budgeted amounts. Only caution is that we are not moving any money into reserves.

In the last meeting there was a question, what are the fixed assets? Ramstrum reviewed the minutes from three years ago and the fixed assets have not changed in three years. What changes is that the accumulated depreciation. Therefore, increasing the potential need for replacement.

Ramstrum included a discussion page of Financial Reserves. It is included in Attachment 2a. Ramstrum will conduct further work in the area of financial reserves and

report at a future meeting. Data in the brief indicates that the water loss increased in the last period whereas the water sales decreased. This is primarily due to the brittle poly pipe issue. Attachment 2 b, 2c, and 2d contained the detailed financial documents.

Large expenses for the period were the purchase of the tank and the vehicle repair. Check register is included as Attachment 3.

Motion to approve the Financial Report by Hae; second Holmes, approved unanimously.

GOVERNMENT FORMS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

Buchheit announced and showed the audience the annual water permit.

EQUIPMENT REPORT:

Holmes summarized the equipment report included as Attachment 4. Three hundred dollars were collected for private use of the backhoe during the period.

Backhoe and Dump truck brakes need to be adjusted. Holmes recommends that a mobile mechanic should be contacted to repair.

Ford Ranger was repaired during the period. Thanks to Jerry for getting it towed. Dean indicated there are a few more items to fix. Holmes said he would take a look. Cost \$2,300.27 (Attachment 5).

Kuns submitted a mileage report for reimbursement of use of personal truck for last three months. Kuns will be compensated for use of his personal vehicle in exchange for gasoline (Attachment 6).

SYSTEM MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS:

Dean Kuns presented his report covering the period January 14, 2023 – March 10, 2023 (Attachment 7).

Kuns thanked volunteers participating in the Peterson well cleanup and thanked Chris McDonald and Gunnar Ramstrum for cleaning around the Mooney well.

Kuns reported leaks on the customer side and district side in this period due to the brittle black poly pipe. Several different failures with the black poly pipe of any diameter occurred. In the summertime it expands. In the winter it contracts and becomes brittle. Some have spilt across the top; some have had a rock sitting on top which caused the failure, and some are just old. Kuns asked that customers close your meter and lock it.

Hae reported that the CCWD informed the community with an alert using the communication system on our website. Bucheit recommended the use of schedule 40 PVC as a replacement.

Kathy Steuermann (KS) asked is the black poly on the district side too? Bucheit said yes and indicated that lines on the district side are deeper and shouldn't be a problem. KS reported that in the past it was discussed to place a valve where the black poly comes off the main as a extra precaution. Ramstrum reported that one of the major leaks occurred because the owner didn't turn off their valve when away from their property.

Everyday Kuns checks the tank and if it is low, he checks meters to see if they are spinning to find leaks. Hae asked that he include that fact in his monthly report to ensure we all understand the level of daily effort that he expends.

Tom Stucke asked if the CCWD was suggesting homeowners excavate what they have before it breaks? Bucheit answered no; only at the meter to check if it is poly pipe. If it breaks on the customer's side of the meter it is the customer's responsibility however, CCWD may assist. The customer may ask for volunteers to meet and fix the leak. We have found that the shallower it is the more potential there is for breakage due to the expansion and contraction.

WATER DELIVERY INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE:

Bucheit reported on the status of the installation of the polyethylene tank. The tank was purchased and delivered. However, implementation ceased when someone from the community called Department of Environmental Health (DEH) and complained that we were not doing our job correctly and feared tainted water. DEH stopped work until certain aspects of construction were identified in a schematic approved by a D1 Certified Water Technician. Those items are as follows:

- Install separate water inlet and outlet
- Overflow must be double the size of the inlet
- Install water-level gauge

- Sanitization Plan
- Revise system map

These are all areas CCWD had discussed, however, now because the overflow has to be double the size of the inlet, to install we will have to lay the tank on its side to install the overflow and gauge. Sanitization will have to be overseen by a D1 certified water technician. Then the tank will be righted. We do not have a D1 operator in Canebrake. We are trying to locate a D1 to oversee. Looking for someone from Majestic Pines, Jacumba, even Sexton from Shelter Valley. This has slowed the installation process.

In addition, county paperwork included the schematic and more as well as fee of \$790 has been paid to date to DEH for their paperwork and review.

After installation, sanitization, and approval of the system map, DEH will issue a revised water system permit. The D1 is also required to take the water sample.

Bucheit and Kuns will be taking the D1 examination. More discussion about D1 certification and the code.

The upshot is the DEH representative is supportive and getting us through the process. In the past, we have been grandfathered. The issue is that anytime we have anything new, we need to go through DEH.

Once we are approved, we will need volunteers to bring the tank down and back up again.

Began research on water sounding devices, will continue and bring to the next meeting.

Solar system faulted about a month and a half ago. Aaron Ross, a solar system professional, has been out to check the system. He found a burned-out component and is trying to get it covered under warranty and will charge us time and materials. Hopefully will be up and running by the next meeting.

Five-year Plan Presentation – Ramstrum presented a spreadsheet which incorporates the plan's elements with many additional specific items that have been identified for implementation (Attachment 8a). He noted: that our five-year plan is a strategic plan not a tactical plan, meaning that it includes the big picture. It is included in Attachment 8b as well as on the website under Our Vision. Attachment 8c contains the elements the CCWD could complete in 2023.

Many of the items have already been completed such as writeups of “how to” do specific tasks and they are included in the CCWD Binder in the office. The idea of the Ramstrum spreadsheet (or activity dashboard) is to document each task and then have a corresponding write up. It will also allow us to track our progress. Ramstrum asked everyone to review. Applause.

Hank Arenz asked what kind of paint will be used on the line? Bucheit indicated we will use a sprayer with water-based white semi-gloss enamel exterior, primer and topcoat.

OLD BUSINESS:

Board Member Seats. Hae acquired a roster from County staff that was out of date. Worked with County staff who allocated board members as follows Holmes Seat 1, Bucheit Seat 2, Ramstrum Seat 3, Hae Seat 4, Mooney Seat 5. It is now staggered so Seats 1,3 and 4, terms will expire on 12/4/26. Seats 2 and 5 will expire on 12/4/24. Clarified that if a Board Member wants to continue to serve, we can reappoint and not go through the election process. This roster is listed on the website under Board Members. Hae will program the website to ensure the community will be made aware through an alert in June before an upcoming expiration of a term via the calendar on the website of the upcoming ability to run for each seat.

Budget: One versus Five Year Audit. Ramstrum indicated that when we do the budget, he would like to budget for a yearly audit. He spoke with the County and asked for a 2-year audit. They said: One or Five. KS noted that will require a bylaw change. Therefore, the Board is directed to review the Bylaws and look for any other changes that need to be made for the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

No New Business

CORRESPONDENCE:

No Correspondence

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Hae wanted to let the customer base know that we are expanding the website. She asked that customers if they have a question, to look on the website for the answer as

we are posting more information(<https://canebrakewater.specialdistrict.org/>). We are also using a function of the website to communicate with the customer base. We have developed a database of email addresses and when there is an alert, newsflash, event, or communication necessary, we will issue via the website function. This is a no reply function. If a customer has a question, they can submit through the Contact Us tab. If a customer has a suggestion they can use the Contact Us button as well, and the issue will be addressed at the next board meeting.

Holmes will research a mobile mechanic to work on the brakes of the backhoe and the dump truck.

Hae would like to research the cost to conduct a full spectrum analysis of the water. Mark Robison offered that an analysis of the Peterson Well was conducted in 2014. KS offered that the fluoride report changed significantly this year therefore, it is relevant to analyze the water. Bucheit mentioned that it is not required, and no one is falling over so unless there is fear, there is no need. Gunnar said thought it was a good idea to do the research.

Ramstrum would like to research automatic tank reading systems. Bucheit will put it under System Maintenance and Repairs.

Natalie Spandau commented that we do not have the Wi-Fi to support an automated system.

Presentation from Barry Willis

Barry Willis is with San Diego Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) and is up for re-election. He attended the meeting to present himself as a candidate. Willis provided a handout of endorsements to board members. He asked for our vote. Canebrake has the same vote as all the other 56 districts. He found it fascinating to hear about our local issues and wants to help. He will be going to Majestic Pines on Wednesday and will ask their D1 operator if they can help us. Mr. Willis wanted to know the cost of the sounding device; Bucheit specified about \$1,200. If he believes it is the right thing to do, he will vote with the minority. He believes in local control and tries to listen to both sides. He has not missed one vote.

Bucheit asked the Board Members to send an email indicating whether or not they support Barry Willis. Bucheit can sign the ballot. Bucheit thanked Barry Willis for coming.

Bill Dimmock asked about the bulletin board. How long does our material need to be up? Bucheit said we post at the mailbox, and on the door. Fluoride report must be posted year-round. Hae said we need to have the board members names, phone numbers and addresses posted year round as well. Bucheit said to check with the CIA to see if they want to relocate the CCWD board and they can use it. KS said if we sent with the bill wouldn't have to post. Bucheit said it would cost more. Spandau said that people need to see what is on the CCWD board as they don't have internet.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Hae, seconded by Holmes to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

NEXT MEETING:

Saturday, May 13, 2023, at 9 AM
McKenney Hall

Attachments
eh