



Yosemite West Property & Homeowners, Inc.

YWPHI Board of Directors' Meeting April 12, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Ted Williams at 7:02pm.

Directors Present: Hilary Bagshaw, Gary Mazzone, Neil Pack, Scott Renfro, Pamela Schulz, Ted Williams

Directors Absent: Katrin Kuttner

Officers and Guests Present: Katie Weber, Adar Emken

1. MCRCD grant - Melinda Barrett from Mariposa County Resource Conservation District (MCRCD) came and presented

- See overview map: http://yosemitewest.org/SSARR2_20-FH-MMU-002_Overview.pdf and detailed Yosemite West enlarged version at: http://yosemitewest.org/grants/SSARR2_20-FH-MMU-002_YoseWestDetail.pdf
- Grant including previous \$11M in WCBphase2 (WCB = wildland conservation board) is focused on biomass removal; take debris off of forest floor and transport to a biomass energy production facility
- Filed CEQA document on March 22, 2022 for portion of the Forest Health grant covering Yosemite West and surrounding roads; barring any protests or issues, we should have the doc around April 23, then to CalFire, then the work can begin unless there's a delay due to pacific fisher denning, which could push start of work out to June.
- Do fuel reduction around homes and roads, remove dead and down trees, and after that large brush, which will then free up the area for prescribed burns
- Received fewer applications than rights of entries, but that's ok for now, since rights of entries are the most important part. See appendix for snapshot of included parcels.
- Mariposa BoD should have approved 4/12/2022 our Yosemite West Maintenance District match (\$62500) for the CalOES grant to clear trees on the water treatment road. The reason the 25% match requirement went down from \$157000 to \$62500 is because the total size of the CalOES grant went down from \$628000 to \$250000. Part of the reason is because there were some other county sections that were part of the original grant application that are now not included, but the more significant explanation is just that the actual bids came in lower than the original estimates. We had long thought the original per-tree cost implied by the \$628000 estimate was

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7585 Henness Ridge Road, Yosemite National Park, CA 95389

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too high, and so it isn't that surprising that the actual cost turned out to be more in-line with what the per-tree cost should have been all along.

- CalOES grant is for cutting trees down, and the MCRCD is for picking them up, so it is important the CalOES grant work get started in time to be finished before the MCRCD grant contractors are onsite.
- Melinda is also discussing with Larry Harris applying other water-quality grant funds. Getting money for the sewer leech fields is more likely than work related to the freshwater storage tank maintenance.

2. CA Dept of Insurance Proposal and Letter

- Ted sent a letter from YWPHI to California Department of Insurance today encouraging the department to require insurers consider community investment before setting fire insurance rates. It's posted at: http://yosemitewest.org/CDI_support_letter_YWPHI_20220329.pdf

3. Chipping day planned for 6/1/2022

- Flyer posted at: http://yosemitewest.org/Chipping_Day_2022.pdf
- First email to all community sent 4/1/2022, reminders will come in last week of April and again on 5/7/2022 (Community Wildfire Preparedness day).
- New YNP residential pile burning guide posted at: http://yosemitewest.org/ynp_burning_guide_2022.pdf
- Ted: Posting of flyers and pink tape now available in shed
- Katie will do main inspection on 5/21/2022 to create instructions for contractor
- Katrin: final pre-chipping inspection of piles 5/30/2022 and post-chipping inspection following completion after 6/1/2022 to approve contractor payment.
- Ted moved to approve \$1,650 or reasonably close to that for chipping day, the amount of Katie's quote. Pamela seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Mailbox locker expansion

- Thank you to Bert for cabinet construction and installation
- Ted contacted USPS for ordering of master locks a month ago, still on order by USPS,
- John Reynolds re-ordered the USPS locks 4/13/2022, but there's still some confusion at USPS about how to actually install them
- Pamela will follow up next time she's in the valley
- Bert has keys for customer-facing locks

5. Bear Flyer

- Thanks to Katrin for creating flyer drawing
- Gary is printing and laminating and will UPS them to Pamela to put in shed with one up on the bulletin board so people can pick them up
- Plan to stock flyers in mailbox shed, and send email encouraging rental operators to pick up from shed

6. YWDAC 3/10/2022 meeting news

- New Public Works Director Shannon Hansen
- Larry Harris plans to restart rate study with BWA (approved by Mariposa BoS on 1/4/2022), but no progress yet; this will likely be a big deal later this year
- Clarification that plowing and pothole repair is Mariposa County responsibility for the Henness Ridge road between NESC and YW mailboxes. YNP will no longer issue a “special use permit” nor assert YNP authority for this section of road.
- There was a lightning strike in March and a subsequent boil notice then rescinding of the notice since there was no breach of the water system
- Tank inspections and cleaning are long out of date; county looking for funds
- Unclear if MCRCD funds for water tanks or sewer (Melinda Barrett tonight said grants generally don’t fund maintenance operations; only new tanks)
- Tree work on sewer road will start soon, before CalOES funds offer expires.
- County reached agreement with owner of leach field expansion land, though several steps are left to close the deal; funding of equipment will be separate
- Bond refinancing: Attorney (Spicer) felt like there was insufficient ROI to refinance, but county may still revisit with another firm.
- All three new conservancy well drilling attempts failed to find water, perhaps putting development on hold until water is found
- No new news from NESC, GPZA, YC

7. Email Gsuite expiration

- All "@yosemitewest.org" email serviced through Google Gsuite is going away in May 2022, because the service is transitioning to paid-only, and we can’t afford \$720/year for our limited use.
- Secretary/webmaster Scott Renfro planning transition
- Replace by reverting email to our domain hosting service APLUS, though this will be cruffy because the interface is so old.
- Ideally, we’ll be able to transfer past email storage to APLUS also.
- We’ll need to download the existing documents and spreadsheets stored in the yosemitewest.org gdrive account, which will be going away.

8. Treasurer's report

- Fiscal year end financial reports complete and sent to Ted
- At end of Feb (end of fiscal year): balance \$17,367
- Tax returns due 4 months after fiscal year end
- Paid bill for Directors&Officers Liability Insurance

9. September meeting ideas

- Cancelled in 2020 due to COVID; masked without food in 2021
- Hope to have an in-person BBQ in September, but need someone to staff, select location, and run BBQ or coordinate sandwiches if that’s what we’d like.
- Service/trade fair: unsure of the logistics; worth exploring since it’s hard to get leads, but might be better to focus on the community connection

- We had Dan Buckley from Yosemite National Park Fire last year. This year, we could invite Rosemarie Smallcombe and potentially Greg Royse, also running for District 1 Supervisor. However, the election is likely going to be already decided in the June 2022 primary, since with only 2 candidates, one of them will already have likely received a majority of votes cast.
- Ted approached the CA state insurance commissioner's office last year to request a presentation about insurance rate-setting rules, but they declined to present. Perhaps we can try again this year for an insurance-focused discussion with Daniel Wade at the CA department of insurance office.

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Scott Renfro Renfro (with edits by Ted Williams)

Schedule of next meetings:

YWPFI BoD meetings are on 2nd Tuesday of each January, April, July, and Sunday pre-Labor day:

- July 12, 2022 virtual at 7pm
- September 4, 2022 following YWPFI annual membership meeting
- January 10, 2023 virtual at 7pm
- April 11, 2023 virtual at 7pm

YWDAC meetings are on 2nd Thursday of each March, June, September, and December:

- June 9, 2022 at 2pm
- September 8, 2022 at 2pm
- December 8, 2022 at 2pm
- March 9, 2023 at 2pm

YWDAC meetings were virtual during the pandemic, but new County policy has reverted to requiring them to be in-person at ADA compliant facility. Ongoing hybrid-meeting virtual accessibility challenges.

Appendix:

Snapshot of parcels, purple indicates submitted rights_of_entry form for participation in the MCRCD biomass-removal grant work:

