



# Yosemite West Property & Homeowners, Inc.

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## YWPHI Members' Meeting

September 1, 2013

President Kelly Rich called the meeting to order at 11:33 am.

The meeting agenda, last year's meeting minutes, and the treasurer's report were made available to members for review.

### I. Minutes

The minutes from the 2012 meeting were unanimously approved.

### II. Board Structure & Nominations

The existing board consisting of Richard Heim, Rea Jackman, Robert Kroon, Scott Renfro, Kelly Rich, Betsy Ringrose, and Mike Stepien were nominated and unanimously elected by the members in attendance.

### II. Treasurer's Report

Kelly Rich presented the treasurer's report on behalf of Betsy Ringrose. YWPHI current has \$3,167 in checking and \$5,842.12 in savings. There are 173 owners eligible to be members.

### III. Committee Reports

#### A. Hospitality Committee

Today is Rea Jackman's last event as the chair of the hospitality committee, and we need a volunteer to take over hospitality. Please see Rea after the meeting if you're interested in helping out.

#### B. Fire Safety Committee

Kim O'Neil presented on current planning and opportunities for funding local fire safety projects.

Don Florence, Mariposa County Emergency Services Planner, continues to write Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and fire safety plans for communities in Mariposa County. Midpines and Jerseydale are done. These plans play a significant role in strengthening grant applications. We expect a final funding decision on our last grant application on September 3rd. There's another grant application period open until September 17th, although it's unclear if we'll actually qualify for this grant.

We've seen significant improvement in community fire safety from the work done in recent years. Two

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7585 Henness Ridge Road, Yosemite National Park, CA 95389

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important things to continue: remove pine needles and limb up trees to avoid fuel ladders.

#### **IV. Miscellaneous Topics**

##### **A. Garbage and Recycling.**

Rea Jackman headed up an experiment to have free recycling dumpsters available in the community, and they've been a resounding success. The dumpsters have turned a small profit, so we expect to keep them until the first snow and to have them back again next year. As a reminder, it's critically important to help get residents and visitors to handle trash responsibly.

##### **B. Burn Pile**

Mariposa County Fire Safe Council has a program to remove needles for eligible residents (basically low income and/or senior citizens). Barry Turner offered to coordinate help for people who qualify.

##### **C. Infrastructure Issues**

Yosemite West continues to suffer with significant infrastructure issues. The Waste Water Treatment Plan has been the subject of notices of violation from the Regional Water Quality Control Board. The water system is aging and has suffered systemic failures in recent years, including repeated boil notices and water outages. Roads are deteriorating and will need replacement, which doesn't make sense to do before the water system is replaced. Much of the snow removal and other county maintenance equipment is nearing end-of-life. The county Grand Jury continues to look into systemic issues in the county's handling of the financing and maintenance of the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Members repeated their desire to work with the county on these issues and sustainable funding for maintenance. Many residents are particularly frustrated with the Waste Water Treatment Plant issues since we spent millions of dollars to build a new, 40-year lifespan system that is failing after 6 years. People expressed concern that solving these issues piecemeal through one-off fee, tax, and bond issues won't be fair to residents if it doesn't also set up the right incentive structures to properly maintain the infrastructure to avoid repeatedly paying to replace things that could have been maintained.

Kelly Rich made a motion to form a committee to raise funds and spend up to a total of \$10,000 for legal advice while working with the county to resolve these issues. The goal is to help ensure that these issues are resolved quickly, fairly, and equitably for all property owners of Yosemite West. This represents \$7,000 in addition to the \$3,000 already pledged by YWPHI for this purpose. These additional funds would come from contributions not from membership fees. Tom Lambert seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting ended at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Scott Renfro  
YWPHI Secretary