



Mariposa County Department of Public Works

Roads – Parks & Recreation – Facilities - Airport
Engineering – Surveying – Transportation – Utility Operations
Fleet Maintenance – Solid Waste - Cemeteries

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Team, Service, Stewardship

YOSEMITE WEST DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes June 11, 2020

Members Present: Tom Lambert, John Mock, Malcolm Neal, Debra Kroon

BOS Ex-Officio Present: Rosemarie Smallcombe

County Staff Present: Mike Healy, Darryl Nielsen, Jean Dordan

Guests/Public: Ted Williams (YWPHI), Christina Rylands
(NatureBridge), Jerry Edelbrock (Yosemite Conservancy),
Amy Shawver, Joe Meyer (NPS), Bill Duff, Frank Dean
(Yosemite Conservancy)

1. **Call to Order and Introductions** 2:03 pm
2. **Public Comment** None
3. **Approval of Minutes** December 12, 2019 (M) John Mock (S) Malcolm Neal
4. **Discussion & Action Items**
 - a. Discussion of appraisals and progress on land acquisition for possible expansion of the leach field. Rosemarie will continue to talk with representative for the Shawvers, the CAO received direction from the Board to continue to talk with representative and the landowners. Chair Tom Lambert would like to get the two appraisal amounts from the landowner and the County.
 - b. Discussion of amendment to Provost and Pritchard agreement concerning wastewater. Member John Mock referred to the report for waste discharge requirements. Funding will be provided by fund 322 maintenance fund. This is a two phase to study which is driven by

Nitrogen levels. John would the money to come out of fund 755 by way of transfer to fund 322. (M) John Mock motions to move the contract forward, (S) Malcom Neal, all ayes. Motion to transfer fund from fund 755 to 322 (M) John Mock (S) Malcolm Neal, all ayes.

5. Updates & Reports

- a. Report on flow rates and challenges arising from low usage. Senior Plant Operator Darryl Nielsen reported that flow rates are down dramatically presumably due to the COVID19 outbreak. The pond is revitalizing itself and anticipate that flows will change (increase) when the park opens back up and Essential Travel Restrictions are lifted by the State which will again cause pond adjustment(s).
- b. Account Status Update for Funds 322 & 535. Guest Ted Williams asked about a transfer of \$7,500.00 from fund 322 to the General fund. Darryl explained that it was to buy a sewer camera. The cost would be split between all districts by the number of connections in each district.
- c. Update on judgment in lawsuit challenging the formation of the Yosemite West Zone of Benefit and relevant Board of Supervisors actions and possible fiscal implications and Fund 322 analysis. Ted Williams spoke of the cumulative amount of the account and the increase of funds from the rate increase. The Zone of Benefit will be rescinded due to the loss of the lawsuit brought on by Mr. Kroon. The old rates will revert next month.
- d. Update on Provost and Pritchard Study and projected availability date and any other actions related to adding new customers to the water district. Mike Healy suggests a special meeting be held in two weeks and have Provost and Pritchard go over the study with the committee.
- e. Updates on what the County has requested from external counsel Colantuono related to water, and report on attorney meetings with David Rice of the CA State Water board. David Rice is an attorney at the State Water Resource Board. Guest Ted Williams asked if stand by customers already had the right to connect. The Water Board is not comfortable with weighing in on the status of standby customers. Tom will add it to the next Agenda to revisit this issue.
- f. Update on possible revisions to 88-1 regarding rationing in event of a water shortage. Rosemarie read through and spoke with County Counsel who asked what the objective was in revising the Resolution. Chair Tom Lambert wants to address chronic shortages of water and water rationing and conservation defined by EDU's for each property. Tom Lambert would like the Resolution to be rewritten. This item will be added to the next Agenda.
- g. Update on roads rate study and method for assessing non-subdivision properties. Public Works Director Mike Healy plans to use Prop 218 under CSA1. Director Healy plans on using Consultant Bartle Wells

Associates to do a rate study because of their familiarity with the Roads Engineering Study data.

- h. Update on forestry work along the easement to the wastewater treatment plant and the wellhead (grant application, contractors). Mike Healy has 75% CAL-OES emergency authorization for tree removal of roughly 2,000 hazard trees. This Emergency Authorization has received one extension already which will expire on December 1, 2020. A revised Arborist study indicated that there may be as many as approximately 4,000 trees that could be identified as a risk. Supervisor Smallcombe raised the topic of a Forest Health Grant to fund the 25% Local Share requirement of the CalOES Emergency DSR.
- i. Update on the plan to notify community of upcoming BOS hearings or actions on Yosemite West water (i.e. via YWDAC, letter, etc.). This item was already discussed earlier. Rosemarie will send a letter to the community regarding the outcome of the lawsuit.
- j. Update on local well drilling (Yosemite Conservancy & other adjacent property owners) if available and what criteria will be used to determine acceptable impacts on current Yosemite West well. No new discussion.
- k. Update on fire hydrant maintenance. Director Healy reported that a work order has been submitted.
- l. Report on sale of fire suppression water from Yosemite West hydrants to fill tanks at NESC. Mike Healy spoke of the sale of fire suppression water to the Park Service of about 100,000 gallons at pricing that is embraced in the County Fee Ordinance. Director Healy will inform DAC the actual amount received. Joe Meyers stated that insurance requires 100,000 gallons on site and that it would be a one-time only sale. Kristina Rylands stated the water was used to commission the Wastewater treatment facility at the NESC.

5. Next Meeting

- a. Agenda Items
 - Ask counsel about status of standby users and whether are they protected. Rationing rules on procedures for water shortages.
- b. September 10, 2020

6. Meeting Adjournment

4:14 pm