

Ponderosa Community Services District

RESPONSIBLY PROVIDING PURE MOUNTAIN WATER AND EFFECTIVE SNOW REMOVAL

Minutes of meeting

Thursday August 22, 2024

Present:

Directors: G. O'Neill, F. Ohnesorgen, J. Gordon

Staff: J. Robertson, T. Griesbach, K. Klemcke, T. Harness

Staff via zoom: J. Landers

Guests: Robert Cope, Del White, C. Marchaunt, B. Arnold

Having a quorum of board members, the meeting was called to order at 12:30 by O'Neill, followed by the flag salute.

Comments from the Public

None

Acceptance of Minutes Gordon moved, O'Neill seconded to accept the regular Saturday July 13, 2024, and the concurrent July 13, 2024, special meetings as presented. The motion carried with none opposed.

Communications:

7/15 Erasmo Viveros – CSDA following up trying to arrange a meeting with anyone from PCSD

7/16 CSDA and the National Special Districts Coalition asking for Support for the Special District Grant Accessibility Act - S. 4673 – support letter signed

7/18 CSDA sent flyer for workshop about audits – forwarded to treasurer, O'Neill, and Gordon

7/19 E. Viveros – CSDA sent Your Mid-Year Legislative Report and Network News; forwarded green vehicle information to Griesbach

7/19 Registrar of Voters – reminder of candidate nomination period: sent announcement to Kelsey requesting it to be posted on FB Ponderosa private page

7/19-8/13 Jo Ann Burkman of RCAC– multiple communications related to lead service line inventory

7/22 O'Neill and Registrar of Voters – paperwork related to candidate filing

7/23 Fruit Growers Lab and Klemcke – related to delayed water sample. Klemcke took care of this issue

7/26 State Water Resources Board notification of new Hexavalent Chromium MCL going into effect Oct 1, 2024.

7/26 email from C. Marchaunt regarding protocol for her resignation

7/29 from CSDA asking to update records, annual operating revenue – information sent

7/29 email from Kelsey Lane offering to sell the PCSD a dirt compactor. Information forwarded to Griesbach, to be shared with Dolmovic

7/30 from CSDA new update includes an article that “remote participation may be a reasonable accommodation under ADA”. Still requires (1) use two-way video and audio streaming in real time and (2) disclose the identity of any adults who are present with the member at the remote location.

8/4-8/11 multiple email from Phillip Muller from CA.Elected.Guide for each director. This guide lists every elected official in California. Directors may access their profile to add pictures and other information if they choose.

8/7 from USDA rural development, offering a webinar on Disaster Grants. Information forwarded to Griesbach, O'Neill, and Ohnesorgen.

8/13 CSDA news included information about cyber security grant opportunity. Information forwarded to directors, treasurer, and general manager.

Staff Reports

Contracted water operator – Klemcke

Monthly bacterial test was fine. The other testing results were great (9-year radiological testing along

with regular yearly samples, and triennial samples). Next month the annual lead/copper tests are due. Met with Tim. Well sites are being left unlocked; this is not recommended. The general manager will contact the operations manager about this issue.

One meter at Holby was replaced, not the second. After a discussion, it was determined that the second meter should also be replaced – estimated cost \$1000.00. GM will discuss with OM.

- Inspection of Summit tank – Klemcke’s opinion: it is not needed immediately. Divers no longer go into the tanks, now use drones. An inspection can be scheduled when the other mountain systems have their inspections, probably next year.
- Status update – Lead Service Line inventory – this needs to be done sooner than later. The final due date is in October. Klemcke can send the guys who are doing the inventory in Camp Nelson to help in Ponderosa. There is no need to be concerned about diodes (sacrificial zinc). PCSD does not have routine chlorine use or need to treat for nitrates.

General Manager – Griesbach

Did federal labor report

Collaborated with Julie, Tim, and Bill about the mailbox key. Bill has the key; he will collect mail and scan to Julie. She does not need hard copies, J. Gordon agreed that electronic copies are sufficient for audit purposes. D. Ayers provided a couple maps, she is concerned the PCSD would put equipment on the property without a formal agreement. Dolmovic will write a work plan and draw plot plan for what needs to be done to inspect the well, connect to the water system, and look at easements. Conferred with other PCSD staff about multiple subjects.

Public comment from B. Arnold – Mr. Gillis-Smith has had a couple water hoses go missing. Ms. Arnold wondering if perhaps PCSD staff thought the hoses belonged to the district.

- Discussion and possible additions/deletions to policy W-303 property owner negligence

W-303 Water Loss Due to Negligence

Suggested additions are in italics and parentheses. Deletions are strikethrough.

This policy applies whenever water loss is due to property owner negligence.

1. (*The source of*) Systemic water loss is found at a specific property.
2. The PCSD water foreman/water technician or other designee determines the loss is due to owner negligence in properly ~~winterizing~~ (*operating or maintaining the water lines on their*) the property during ~~the winter~~ (*any*) season.
3. The property owner may be charged for PCSD expenses incurred while searching for the source of water loss at a rate of [*\$25.00/hour for a minimum charge of 3 (man-) hours (\$75.00).*]
4. The treasurer shall generate a statement of fees owed and send to the property owner of record.
5. If fees are not paid, they shall be added to the property owners Tulare County property tax bill along with their annual water service fees.

Gordon moved to accept the suggested changes to Policy W-303, O’Neill seconded. During the following discussion it was suggested to post winterization procedures on Facebook. Secretary can ask Kelsey Lane to post on her Ponderosa private page, it is posted on the PCSD website and has been previously mailed out in a winter letter. A vote was called, the motion carried unanimously.

Re: public complaint about water repair debris left along the side of Tamarack creating a hazard and being an eyesore. Griesbach discussed this with Dolmovic. Dolmovic feels the debris does not present a hazard to the community. Furthermore, Dolmovic is in the process of getting bids for repaving the damage done during water line repair. Griesbach also checked with CHP about speed limits within the Ponderosa community. There is no official speed limit. Drivers may go as fast as it is “safe to travel.”

Secretary:

Update website

Communications – see agenda for primary list

Additionally:

- Received a phone call from Jennifer (not Thompson) regarding water line repair debris left along the side of the road, specifically Tamarack although she said there are other sites throughout the subdivision. She wants it addressed, she says it is an eyesore and possibly a hazard.

Multiple conversations with RCAC, Jo Ann was able to find several cabin construction dates and sent me an excel list of them. I have completed preloading the field worksheets for the guys to inspect the water lines. Anything built 1985 or after does not need inspection. *Need legal size paper* Dolmovic please provide a list of cabins built by you with year of construction.

Completed annual water and snow assessments, turned into county, and accepted.

Total Amount \$174,443.22 **Total Parcel Count: 148** (tax code 54678)

Total Amount \$ 93,318.94 **Total Parcel Count: 327** (tax code 54662)

Tom mailed the final letter for me.

Would like to revisit how meters are read and recorded next year.

Conferred with treasurer and GM about company laptop. Received notification from Microsoft that my current Windows support ends summer/fall of 2025. The processor in this computer cannot run Windows 11. Either this processor needs to be updated, or we need another laptop. This one still works.

Water Operations report provided by T. Harness

Kramer well is in the middle of a creek bed – project on hold.

Weed clearance was done at Summit tank. The marker is stuck.

Fawn produced about 7000/day; Lake produced about 6000/day

Snow removal Operations report.

MT5 is at McGregor's Welding in Springville.

Plow needs braces welded, guy from Cedar Slope can do it.

Fire Hydrant snow removal

Seems efficient. The district will continue with the current contract as it stands. This is the final year for the current contract with Toro's Tree Service.

Treasurer – Landers

The treasurer purchased a new printer. Would PCSD be willing to pay for part or all of the cost.

Re: Lead Service Line inventory costs. Klemcke will send his crew up to show T. Harness the procedure of checking individual service lines in two places (connection box and at the house). Will pay workers \$25/hour. Should be able to complete 20-30 lines per day. Will provide status update in September.

After review of the financial statements and summary, Gordon noted that the total for water was not consistent with expenditures. The total for water should be \$7440.56.

Gordon moved to accept the treasurer's report as corrected, Ohnesorgen seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

Additional Reports

PPOA Liaison – Ohnesorgen

Looking for someone to do the newsletter. Also looking for board members. Sharon Thomas is taking care of the paperwork to bring the Ponderosa Fire Brigade back under the PPOA.

There was a community chipping activity on August 5, might have another toward the end of Sept.

Working on CPR training.

Request to put up Fire Brigade sign.

US Forest Service Liaison - none

Status Update – Holby Tank replacement project (grant)

The checks have been received! The insulation boxes will become part of the ongoing tasks list. A huge thank you to Beth Benton for her dedication and perseverance on this project!!

Director Comments

Business items:

Ongoing items: *These will be completed as weather and time allow.*

- Gates or access prevention barriers on Holby foot bridge, and access road to Holby well site – status report – Harness reported he has not been directed to complete this project. General manager will discuss this project with Dolmovic. Cope knows where the gate should be placed. Del White requested a key/combination to the gate since it will block access to some of his property.
- Status of upgrade for current radio/walkie talkie communication equipment – *radios were purchased, they work!*
- Look for funding opportunities for new building to house district equipment and workshop
- Holby tank site – insulation boxes

Old Business

- Status of security cameras for PCSD building and well sites – *Cameras purchased, need install.*
- Continuing discussion of Snow Removal rates: current rates related to cost of services, Proposition 218 public hearing requirements, Voting requirements, Justification requirement for rate of increase. Determination about whether to move forward with the rate increase process.
Note: Treasurer asked to compile projected costs of replacing equipment and diesel storage – keep projected costs on the agenda.
- Grant for water system needs – O’Neill and/or Ohnesorgen to report
- Revisit inquiry from Dianne Ayers regarding PCSD acquiring a well on Kramer family property. *Waiting to hear from Ms. Ayers regarding her family’s requirements, determination of well inspection responsibility, and determination of PCSD financial responsibility.* Discussed above under General Manager report.

New Business:

Resolution 2024-241- A Director Appointment

There is a vacancy created by the resignation of Beth Benton. Since her resignation is mid-term, and since the vacancy occurred less than 130 days before a regular election, per Government Code Section 1780-(d)(3) the PCSD board may appoint someone to fill the remainder of the term.

Gordon moved and O’Neill seconded to accept resolution 2024-241-A appointing Robert Cope as Ponderosa Community Services District Director, to fill the remainder of the term that expires in December 2026. At that time, the seat will be available for election a regular term due to expire in December 2030. The motion carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday August 22, 2024, at 12:30 pm in the district building.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm.

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Robertson/Board Secretary