

THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF
CASTROVILLE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
May 18, 2021

President James Cochran called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Directors Present (Virtual GoToMeeting): President James Cochran, Vice President Glenn Oania, Director Cosme Padilla, Director and Ron Stefani

Absent: Director Adriana Melgoza

General Manager: Eric Tynan

Secretary to the Board: Lidia Santos

Staff Present:

Guest: Donna Meyer, Steve Snodgrass, Grant Leonard, and Caltrans Project Manager Brandy K Rider along with other Caltrans staff members.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Office Manager/Secretary to the Board Lidia Santos at the request of President James Cochran.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. A motion was made by Glenn Oania and seconded by Ron Stefani to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2021 Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

AYES:	4	Directors:	Cochran, Stefani, Oania and Padilla
NOES:	0	Directors:	
ABSENT/NOT			
PARTICIPATING:	1	Directors:	Melgoza

Consent Calendar accepted as presented

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. None.

Correspondence Calendar accepted as presented

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. *Monterey Herald* – Water board committee recommends advancing Pure Water Monterey expansion
2. *Associated Press* – Water bill may open spigot for Biden infrastructure plan
3. *Nature Food Journal* – Water scarcity footprint reveals impacts of individuals dietary choices in US
4. *ACWA* – Integrated Regional Water Management, the path to a resilient water resources future

Informational items accepted as presented

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Salinas Valley Basin GSA requesting for agency partner investments in Deep Aquifers study and report on partner agency contributions to this effort – Donna Meyers, General Manager with the Salinas Valley Basin GSA is requesting the consideration of the Castroville CSD of \$15,000 towards the Deep Aquifers study to begin in January 2022. The District's contribution will be matched with partner agency contributions to fund the approximately \$1,000,000 study for this critical part of our groundwater basin. The study will include recommended study elements approved by the SWIG in

November 2020. The study will include broadly the following components: descriptions of the geology, hydrogeology, and extents of the deep aquifers, estimate a water budget for the deep aquifers and quantify any overdraft, address economic and administrative constraints on extracting from the deep aquifers, provide guidance on managing the deep aquifers, and propose and initiate a deep aquifers monitoring program. All participating agency partners will be asked to contribute to the study depending on their size from \$10,00-\$100,000. Castroville CSD is being asked to make a smaller contribution but is still an important contribution in getting this study done. Ms. Meyers answered any Board questions and concerns and would appreciate Castroville CSD's consideration of this request.

2. Current project overview and update on State Route 183 (Merritt Street) Castroville Improvement Project – Brandy K. Rider, Project Manager with Caltrans provided the Board with a slide presentation of this project. The slide presentation covered an overview of the project such as project facts, project benefits, public outreach, estimated funding breakdown, partnerships and the proposed project schedule, which can be viewed on pages 21-25 of this board packet. Also, in attendance were other Caltrans staff members to answer any questions or concerns the Board and public may have. Ms. Rider encouraged the Board to attend the virtual public meeting scheduled on Wednesday, May 26, 2021, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The virtual public meeting will present information about the project, and time will be allocated to collect public comments on the project.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Salinas Valley Basin GSA requesting the consideration of the Castroville CSD of \$15,000 towards Deep Aquifers study – General Manager Eric Tynan recommended the Board consider the request from the Salinas Valley Basin GSA to contribute \$15,000 toward the Deep Aquifers study as this study would be a benefit to Castroville CSD. The letter from General Manager Donna Meyers, from the Salinas Valley Basin GSA making this request can be viewed on page 20 of this board packet. Director Ron Stefani concurs the study is important. A motion is made by Ron Stefani and seconded by Glenn Oania to approve the request from the Salinas Valley Basin GSA of \$15,000 towards the Deep Aquifers study. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

AYES:	4	Directors: Cochran, Stefani, Oania and Padilla
NOES:	0	Directors:
ABSENT/NOT PARTICIPATING:	1	Directors: Melgoza

2. Monterey Bay Economic Partnership has partnered with the Central Coast Broadband Consortium and is asking the Castroville CSD if it is open to the concept of considering a subsidized broadband solution for the Castroville area – Steve Snodgrass asked if the Castroville CSD would be open to the concept of considering a subsidized broadband solution for the Castroville area. The broadband concept submitted by Mr. Snodgrass can be viewed on pages 26- 28 of this board packet. This service would be required to go through the Proposition 218 process. At this time it only a concept as the details still need to be ironed out. He is only asking if the Board is open to this concept. General Manager Eric Tynan reported to the Board that with limited staff that this concept would not be suitable for the District to provide. In addition many customers may not want this broadband service and adding this fee to customers water bills will cause problems. Director Ron Stefani agreed with General Manager Eric Tynan and suggested that Mr. Snodgrass take this discussion to the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, in particular Supervisor John Phillips for further discussion. Most residents in Castroville have Spectrum as their internet provider already. In addition Cruzio is a private internet service provider and this project would be required to be put out to bid. After some discussion, a motion is made by Ron Stefani and seconded by Glenn Oania to table this item to the next regularly board meeting pending further information. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

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AYES: 4 Directors: Cochran, Stefani, Oania and Padilla
NOES: 0 Directors:
ABSENT/NOT
PARTICIPATING: 1 Directors: Melgoza

3. Notify Monterey County Elections Department if Castroville CSD to remain at-large or move to a by-district method of voting – General Manager Eric Tynan informed the Board that a notice was received from the Monterey County Elections Department seeking a response from each jurisdiction that currently elects board members at-large and if they wish to move from At-large to By-district Method of Voting, (notice can be viewed on pages 29-30 of this board packet). The Board requested General Manager Eric Tynan consult with District Legal Counsel Christine Kemp before they make a decision on this matter. A motion is made by Cosme Padilla and seconded by Ron Stefani to table this item until the next regularly scheduled board meeting pending District Legal Counsel review and recommendation. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

AYES: 4 Directors: Cochran, Stefani, Oania and Padilla
NOES: 0 Directors:
ABSENT/NOT
PARTICIPATING: 1 Directors: Melgoza

4. Consider approving proposal not to exceed \$60,000 from MNS Engineers for Professional Engineering Services for Washington Sewer Tunk Line Bypass Site Assessment and Design Plans (60%) Update – General Manager Eric Tynan recommended the Board approve the proposal submitted by MNS Engineers as he is pleased with the work they do for the District and anticipates grant funding with cover these fees. The proposal can be viewed on pages 31-33 of this board packet. A motion is made by Ron Stefani and seconded by James Cochran to approve the proposal (not to exceed \$60,000) from MNS Engineers for Professional Engineering Services for Washington Sewer Tunk Line Bypass Site Assessment and Design Plans (60%) Update. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

AYES: 4 Directors: Cochran, Stefani, Oania and Padilla
NOES: 0 Directors:
ABSENT/NOT
PARTICIPATING: 1 Directors: Melgoza

5. North County Recreation and Park District (NCRPD) request for funding, “Extended Recreation Services” for fiscal year 2021/2022 – General Manager Eric Tynan stated the request for funding for “Extended Recreation Services” for fiscal year 2021/2022 submitted by NCRPD General Manager Alex Lopez can be viewed on pages 34-35 of this board packet. The funding request is for \$125,000 and he is also requesting to carry forward \$20,000 in funds that were not used for capital improvement projects in fiscal year 2020/2021 for a total of \$145,000. \$45,000 of the \$145,000 will be used for capital improvement projects as listed on the request submitted.
6. Preliminary 2021-22 Operating Budgets for Water (Castroville Zone 1), Sewer and Governmental (Castroville Zone 1), Sewer and Governmental (Moro Cojo, NMCHS, & Monte Del Lago Mobile Home Park Zone 2) and Sewer (Moss Landing Zone 3) – General Manager Eric Tynan and the Board reviewed and discussed all budget items for the different funds. However, the Budget & Personnel Committee: Directors Melgoza and Stefani had met on May 11, 2021 with the General Manager and discussed and reviewed the budgets and discussed a 3% staff wage increase per the Wage Step Program approved by the Board, October 2018, which is included in this preliminary budget. The Board agreed to leave the preliminary 2021/22 Operating Budgets as presented. Final adoption of the budgets will not be made until the June 15, 2021 regularly scheduled board meeting.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Update on status of grants for Moss Landing-Sewer Zone 3, Castroville-Sewer Zone 1 and Castroville-Water Zone 1 for system upgrades and improvements – General Manager Eric Tynan reported to the Board as mentioned at last month's board meeting current grants awarded are the Clean Water Small Communities Planning Grant (\$500,000) with State Waterboards for administration, preliminary engineering report, plans and specs for sewer in Moss Landing, project assigned to MNS Engineers. The IRWM Implementation Grant (\$395,000) is with DWR for the Deep Well (Well #6) and the use will be specified in the DWR/MCRWA agreement. Pending, the DAC Involvement Programs amount TBD with DWR is for the design of the Washington Sewer Bypass for Castroville sewer is also assigned to MNS Engineers. Projects are in the design process and waiting to move forward with the construction process of the grants. Current funding efforts: Moss Landing sewer system improvements, Castroville emergency well replacement, Castroville water supply improvements and Castroville wastewater improvements.
2. Update on the Castroville CSD contribution of \$83,000 for the Protection of Domestic Drinking Water Supplies for the Lower Salinas Valley project to Monterey County Water Resources Agency (destruction of Well No. 3) – General Manager Eric Tynan reminded the Board as reported at last month's board meeting that MCWRA sent a letter regarding the reclassification of Well #3 on parcel 030-262-008-000, which can be viewed on page 19 and 20 of this board packet. The Castroville CSD contributed \$83,000 and in exchange for making said contribution, the MCWRA shall assure the District the following: the MCWRA is carrying out MCWRA's responsibilities under the Grant Agreement, the MCWRA will use said funds solely for the purpose for which they are contributed, the District is not a project applicant, nor in any manner responsible for implementation of the grant project; and any District funds contributed, and not so expended, shall be returned to the District. The Project allows the Agency to leverage State funding to complete the destruction of wells within Zone 2B, also known as the CSIP service area. Well #3 is within the Project area and has a status of "Active". Well #3 is being reclassified from a "Active" status to an Abandoned status. Well #3 will be officially reclassified as Abandoned thirty-five days following the date of this letter dated March 19, 2021. However, General Manager Eric Tynan wants to hold off on the destruction of Well #3 and confirmed with State Water Board that per CCR, Title 22, Section 64449(d)(2) states, "Constituent concentrations ranging to the short term contaminant level are acceptable only for existing community water systems on a temporary basis pending construction of treatment facilities or development of acceptable new water sources." The Division recommends Castroville CSD use Well #3 only when other wells are not able to meet demands (response can be viewed on page 60 of this board packet and list the secondary MCLS for this well). For this reason, General Manager Eric Tynan will request to delay the destruction of the well.
3. Update on Cal Am's Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (desal project) – General Manager Eric Tynan let the board know that Cal Am is moving forward with the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project instead of desal. They are doing a Water Purchase Agreement with Monterey One Water in regards to the Pure Water Expansion project instead.
4. Update on well levels – General Manager Eric Tynan updated the Board on the well levels for Well #2, #3, #4 and #5 which can be viewed on page 65 of this board packet. Currently, Well #4 & #3 are doing all the work. Furthermore, the well levels are starting to trend down quickly.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMUNICATION: When needed, this time is reserved for the Board of Directors to communicate activity, educational classes, and/or Committee reports.

1. Update on Monterey One Water (M1W) board meeting – Director Ron Stefani reported to the Board that MIW approved the SIER for the Pure Water Expansion Project. Cal Am agreed to a Water Purchase Agreement with the Pure Water Expansion Project, which should be approved at the May 27, 2021 meeting.
2. Update on Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA) meeting – Director Ron Stefani stated that the Castroville CSD Board heard from General Manager Donna Meyers with the SVBGSA regarding the Deep Aquifers study that is needed. Also, he was not able to attend the meeting this month and Grant Leonard attended in his place. Mr. Leonard was present and informed the Board that at this meeting the SVBGSA agreed to raise rates. They are looking at a modest rate increase for next year (.10 cents per connection fee). Farmers currently pay \$5 per acre and water customers pay \$2.26 per connection.
3. Update on meetings or educational classes attended by the Directors –None to report at this.

GENERAL OPERATIONS

1. General Manager's Report – Compliance update, current projects update, meetings/seminars update, staff update, suggestive projects discussions
2. Operation's Report
 - a) Water – Pumpage & Usage Update, Water Testing Update, Current Installation
 - b) Water -Status Update, Current Contractor Work Update, Maintenance/Repair Update, Customer Service Update, Safety Issue
 - c) Sewer & Storm Drain – Jetting, Current Installation Status Update, Current Contractor Work Update, Maintenance/Repair Update, Customer Service Update, Safety Issues
3. Customer /Billing Reports – Water Sales, Water Usage, A/R Update, Customer Service Update
4. Financial Reports – Treasures L.A.I.F. Report, Internal Report, Administration Update

General Operations Reports were accepted as presented

CHECK LIST – April 2021. A motion was made by Ron Stefani and seconded by Glenn Oania to pay all bills presented. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

AYES:	4	Directors: Cochran, Stefani, Oania and Padilla
NOES:	0	Directors:
ABSENT/NOT		
PARTICIPATING:	1	Directors: Melgoza

There being no further business, a motion was made by Glenn Oania and seconded by Cosme Padilla to adjourn to the next scheduled Board meeting; the motion carried by the following roll call votes:

AYES:	4	Directors: Cochran, Stefani, Oania and Padilla
NOES:	0	Directors:
ABSENT/NOT		
PARTICIPATING:	1	Directors: Melgoza

The meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m. until the next scheduled meeting

Respectfully submitted by,



Lidia Santos
Secretary to the Board

Approved by,



James Cochran
President