



County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING
STEVEN E. WHITE, DIRECTOR

MEETING MINUTES

SHAVER LAKE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SLCAC)
November 8, 2019

Members Present: John Douglas
Alice Knapp
Jerry Sandstrom
Eric Tallberg
Peter Van Vleet, Chair

Members Absent: Steve McQuillan

County Staff Present: Jennifer Cavalla, Staff Analyst, Special Districts Administration
Chris Bump, Principal Analyst, Special Districts Administration
Richard Singleton, Engineer, Design

Call to Order: Meeting started at approximately 1:30 pm

Agenda Item 1: Review and Approve Minutes from the April 25, 2019 Meeting

Douglas asked whether the letter to the Board of Supervisors that was approved by the CAC at the April 25th meeting (Agenda Item 5) had been delivered to the Board. Chair Van Vleet stated that he has not yet signed the letter but he would do that today. Douglas made a motion to approve the minutes as written with the understanding that County staff would deliver the signed letter to the Board. The minutes from April 25, 2019 were approved 5-0 (2 absent).

Agenda Item 2: WWD 41W Asbestos Project Update

Cavalla presented the report:

Current Asbestos Levels:

The current average asbestos level for the 4th quarter of 2019 is 15.8. The maximum contaminant level (MCL) set by the State is 7, so the district is currently still in violation.

Next Steps:

The County is waiting on finalized plans from the Engineer. Once the final plans are received, the County plans to take the asbestos pipeline project out to bid in December 2019 or January 2020. WWD 41W has appropriated 2.6 million in funds for the Project. If the bids come in under 2.6 million, Project construction could start as early as April 2020 (weather dependent). The anticipated construction period is April thru November 2020.

A resident asked if the plans and specs could be posted on the Districts webpage for review. Once finalized plans are received a link to the public bidding site, which contains the project plans and specifications, will be posted on the district's webpage.

A question was raised as to whether a Prop 218 assessment will be required for the pipe replacement project. Cavalla stated that if the project cost is within the \$2.6 available budget no new assessment would be necessary. If the bids come in over the \$2.6 available, the County and CAC will meet to discuss alternative options on how to move forward with the project.

No action taken by the CAC.

Agenda Item 3: WWD 41W Rate Adjustment Proceeding

Cavalla reported that water rates have not been adjusted since about 1987. Water rates should cover the operation and maintenance costs of the system. To keep up with rising operating costs and a rate increase is needed. Previously reserve funds have been used to cover the shortfall in operating costs, but the reserve funds will be depleted after the asbestos pipe replacement project is completed. Current rates are far below those in comparable areas.

The County put out a bid in August 2019 for a water rate study for WWD 41W. Only one engineering firm submitted a proposal. After reviewing the proposal, the County hired Mark Thomas to prepare the rate analysis to determine the new water rates. It is estimated that the water rate study will be completed in April 2020. The County estimated that the study would cost approximately \$60,000. The bid from Mark Thomas was for \$45,376. Once the study is complete the District will proceed with the Rate Adjustment Proceeding. Public meetings will be held as more information becomes available. A protest vote process under Proposition 218 will be required prior to adoption of revised rates by the Board of Supervisors.

The current water rate structure includes a base fee and tiered rates for increased usage. It is expected that this fee structure will remain, but this will be determined by the engineer through the water rate study. As the study get finalized more information about the new rates will be provided.

No action taken by the CAC.

Agenda Item 4: Comments/Other Items

A resident asked if there is a vacant seat on the SLCAC. Cavalla reported that Jerry Sandstrom has resigned from the SLCAC. There are currently 2 vacancies on the committee. Typically, if a member resigns during their term, the CAC will elect a resident to fill the vacancy. Existing CAC members currently have no defined term and have been serving on the Board for several years, as no other community members have volunteered to serve. The CAC approved a motion to leave the spots vacant until the next meeting where a vote will be held to fill the vacant positions. If any member of the community would like to serve on the CAC, please contact Jennifer Cavalla at jcavalla@fresnocountyca.gov.

Douglas noted that the CAC bylaws establish terms of office, procedures for filling vacancies and election of officers. He asked if County staff could post a roster of current members, officers and their terms of service prior to the election. Cavalla reported that the CAC is an independent committee and should be providing the roster and officers to the County. The SLCAC also

approved a motion to review the currently bylaws and send in any suggested changes to the County for review.

Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting date is to be determined.
Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:30 pm