

Pinos Altos Mutual Domestic Water Consumer Association

Regular Meeting

Wednesday March 10, 2021

Pinos Altos Fire Station

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Tom Gedgaudas, President

Board members in attendance were: Tom Gedgaudas, President; Allan Phillips, Vice President; Becky Dinwiddie, Treasurer and Gary Geisler, Secretary

April Matthews, Bookkeeper was in attendance.

A quorum was proven.

No requests for public input were received.

The agenda was approved unanimously.

The minutes from the January 13, 2021 meeting were approved unanimously.

Non-Mandated Business:

Public Input: No public input was requested.

Mandated Business:

President's Report:

Tom discussed his phone conversation with Karen Torres, from the NMED. The main point was two reports the board hasn't filed as they should per the Sanitary Projects Act. The NMED hasn't been following up on who has filed due to budget restraints within the department. The first report, due July 1, is the member accountability report. We agreed it should be filed and will be prepared and submitted when it is due. Tom also discussed an annual auditor's report. Based on our income, we would need to prepare one and present it annually. This report would cost the board about \$1500 - \$2500 per report. If the board were to apply for grants, in the future, we would need to have at least ten years of auditor reports. Becky let us know that auditor costs vary greatly, depending on the CPA firm who provides the audit. She also said that the number of CPA firms that are approved by the state, are limited. Based on only needing auditor reports if we were to apply for grants and the small number of water associations that actually do them, the board decided it wasn't going to do an annual auditor report going forward. Tom then discussed the pending lawsuit the association is involved in. The last hearing was February 24, 2021, but nothing was decided as plaintiff wasn't available for the hearing due to his request for an in person hearing which wasn't granted due to confusion within the court system. The next hearing will be April 14, 2021 at 1:30 pm at the Grant County District Courthouse. This will be an in person hearing and all association members are welcome to attend. If any association member wants additional information concerning the case, they can access certain information on the court's website:

caselookup.nmcourts.gov/caselookup/app. Our case number is D-608-CV-2020-00127. Tom let everyone know about his letter supporting the Town of Silver City's application for a grant for water system upgrades. There was a discussion concerning the board using personal e mail addresses for communication, when needed, versus e mail addresses set up within our system for each officer. Due to issues involved with sending and receiving e mails from different systems, it was decided to not make any changes.

Bookkeeper's Report:

April discussed an issue she had with the voice mail for our phone number. She got it fixed and also upgraded the gigs, at no additional cost. January and February financials were sent to all board members. April has loaded all email addresses sent to her as a result of her request on last month's bill and they are set up for future email announcements. It was discussed adding something to the website when there are shutoffs or leaks going forward. Right now, any service disruptions are posted to the PA Facebook page and an email is sent out to all e mail addresses April has. She also makes numerous phone calls. Going forward she will post an announcement on the website as needed, though there might be a delay as she has to be on the main computer at her house to load it. She is going to limit the personal phone calls warning members. Association members will receive communication via Facebook, E mail (if e mail has been sent to April) and our website. Lastly, April requested setting aside money in next year's budget for a new computer. She has babied it, upgraded it and limped along but it is time for a new one. Her request will be discussed at the November meeting when Becky presents her budget. April discussed her efforts to get paid by the Forest Service for water consumed during last summer's fire. Hopefully we will receive a check in the near future.

Treasurer's Report:

Becky turned in the Annual report to the PRC in January. General liability insurance has been paid and renewed for the year. Worker's Comp insurance is in the process and payment to be made in the near future as waiting on invoice from the carrier. Becky discussed our solvency, which is good and last year we had a small loss so no excess funds. Becky discussed her first draft at a record's retention policy. She emailed it to the board for input which the board members will review and bring suggestion for additions or subtractions to the next meeting. Tom presented some information concerning water testing results that the NMED require we keep and we will look at adding that information to the records retention policy when we discuss at the next meeting. 2020 taxes were filed late January.

Secretary's Report:

Gary mailed the amended Bylaws to the Secretary of State, via certified mail. Unfortunately, the post office in Santa Fe didn't get a signature of the person picking it up. They did provide information that the Bylaws were picked up February 2, 2021. Tom is going to reach out to Karen Torres, at NMED for assistance with the Secretary of State's office so the amended Bylaws can be posted. Gary will be sending the annual letter to Alex Brown, Silver City Manager, by April 1st as required by the MOA. April informed Gary that there are 134 active connections at this time.

Certified Water Operator's Report:

December, January and February's water sample test results were good. All testing was completed timely and correctly. No issues with water quality.

Vice President/Operation's Report:

Alan was given approval to purchase a meter for use by Forest Service/Fire Department to track water pulled from a fire hydrant to load fire trucks. This expense was added to the 2021 budget last November in anticipation of making this purchase. The meter runs around \$950. Dead end lines were flushed the end of February. New meter was installed at the Hearst Church. Alan has been inspecting the valves and has learned how best to open and close them. Alan discussed the leak that disappeared in front of the firehouse. After J&S spent two days, no leak was found. Alan is keeping an eye on it. Alan discussed an ongoing issue with leaks in a section of line near the cabins along highway 15. We can replace this section of 200 feet of line for about \$10,000. We have had a leak just about once a year for the past three years and the cost is around \$1200 for each repair. The board discussed whether to just replace a section of line or keep repairing the leaks as they occur. The leaks are happening at a different hub in the line. The board decided to just monitor the situation and if the leaks increase, we can discuss replacing the whole section at that time.

Next Regular meeting will be May 12, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the PA Fire Station.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm