

Indian Creek-Westridge Community Services District Board Meeting  
August 13, 2019  
Christian Science Church, West Line Street and Grandview Drive, Bishop, CA

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board Chairperson Luis Elias. Present were Directors Jeffrey Anderson, George Batchelder, and Dave Mappus; District Manager Terry Tye; District Operator Don Buser; Secretary Stephanie Sheltz.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the May 14, 2019 meeting were approved unanimously (moved Anderson, seconded Batchelder).

**Appeal of Water Shut-Off Notice for Delinquent Payment:** Removed from agenda by Mr. Tye.

**Operations and Maintenance Report:** *May:* Hydrant 5 was used for a house fire that resulted in considerable damage. Distributed shut-off notices on West Line to replace valves. *June:* Took iron and BACT samples. Dealt with ant infestation at Well 3. Hauled trimmings and cleanup from Well 5. Well 5 was intentionally water-logged to check for leaks (none found). Service call on Pa Me to turn off valve for house repair. All wells, except Well 3, turned off to accommodate special sampling on Well 3. Twelve samples packed and shipped. Berger conducted repairs on controls of Wells 5 & 6. *July:* Mr. Buser, Mr. Tye, and Assistant Operator Kim Derr gave Bishop Fire Chief Joe Dell a tour of the ICWCSD system. Mr. Dell complimented the system. Flow-tested hydrant by the Christian Science church. Newer hydrants were also tested. All results were good. Repaired leaky hydraulic on tractor. Berger installed a dedicated circuit at Well 5. Tested auxiliary compressor. Berger replaced incorrect relay at Well 5 air control. Conducted fire hydrant flow test at Meadow Lane with Fire Chief Joe Dell (checked OK). Mr. Buser, Mr. Tye, and Mr. Derr attended two-hour and six-hour Continuing Education Unit courses. *August:* Mr. Buser accompanied Mr. Tye and a Sheriff Deputy to serve legal papers to a delinquent payer on Indian Creek. Kendall Engineering replaced broken hydrant valve at 267 Mesquite.

**Finance Report:** Mr. Tye reported that the balance in the bank stands at \$581,940, including an O & M total of \$244,195 and Capital Funds of \$337,745. Income received in May, June, July: O&M \$71,853 (includes 58 one-year prepays), Capital Funds \$30,559, for a total of \$102,412. Additional income of \$16,082 was received as full payment for street lighting. Expenses for the quarter were: \$33,438 for O & M.

Mr. Tye reported that to maximize interest on funds \$200,000 will be transferred from the checking account (\$371,665 as of 7/31/19) to the savings account (\$210,275 as of 7/31/19).

**Delinquent Report:** Mr. Tye provided the following information. There are seven active delinquent customers. This is 2.3% of total customers. As of the previous board meeting, the top three owe 72% of money owed. One customer paid in full, and prepaid for the next year. The largest delinquent sum is \$1,100. Mr. Tye served water shutoff warning notices, and a sheriff served a letter to this customer. After the protracted process, this customer is now on a payment plan. Mr. Tye made it clear to the customer that there will be no exceptions to this plan.

**Update on USDA Grant Application:** Mr. Tye is concerned that the result of this application is likely to be a loan instead of a grant. A \$425,000 loan at 2.75% interest (as stated in a copy of a letter from Antonio Ybarra that Mr. Tye handed out) would take forty years to pay off, with interest totaling \$280,000. There are indications that USDA will make a decision soon. Mr. Tye strongly discourages accepting a loan. There was consensus that a loan would only be acceptable if it was a small percentage of a grant/loan combination. Mr. Anderson would prefer no loan. If the USDA grant falls through, Mr. Tye will use it as a basis to apply for a grant from the State of California.

**OVGA Report:** Mr. Elias reported that the Ground Water Authority might change the priority level of our basin to "low." In that case, the OVGA would have to decide whether to continue or disband. Each OVGA board member will ask her/his respective district for direction. One possibility is that OVGA could be administered by Inyo and Mono Counties. Mr. Elias handed out a document prepared by Inyo County staff laying out possible scenarios. In the future Mr. Elias will ask ICWCSD board members for guidance on how OVGA should proceed. Mr. Elias would prefer to keep OVGA going, mainly because of the uncertainties in preserving the basin. DWP is unreliable, and priority level might change again. Mr. Mappus wants the OVGA to continue. Mr. Tye said that the July invoice has not appeared yet. It is unclear if at this point the annual fees to districts are being absorbed by the grant. Mr. Batchelder asked how much authority OVGA would have if someone wanted to develop a parcel. Mr. Elias explained that it covers all the basin outside DWP's adjudicated areas. Mr. Tye stated that the OVGA has a tremendous amount of absolute legal power, including eminent domain. Mr. Batchelder expressed concerns that the OVGA could be an unnecessary powerful government layer.

**Water Quality Report-Well 3 Iron Sampling:** Mr. Tye reported that four consecutive non-detects are required. So far two have been submitted. Two more tests are scheduled for September and December. After four successful non-detects the testing requirement will be eliminated permanently.

**Discussion of Acquisition of Personal Computer for Handling ICWCSD Records, maps, etc.:** Mr. Tye explained that there are a lot of important records, including one-of-a-kind maps, stored in various locations. The maps are particularly vulnerable because they are on paper that will deteriorate. If unforeseen circumstances required someone to take over for Mr. Tye, it would be hard for the person to find the necessary information. Additionally, Mr. Tye has learned that ICWCSD should have a website for alerts and notifications. Mr. Tye's proposal is to obtain a laptop computer and a scanner to archive all the records that are currently scattered. The estimated cost is approximately \$1,000. Stephanie Sheltz agreed to work with Mr. Tye on this two- to three-year project. Mr. Elias said that another group hired high school students to help with a similar project. Board members encouraged Mr. Tye in this endeavor. Mr. Tye will ask the board to consider it for discussion at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Stephanie Sheltz, approved by \_\_\_\_\_