

Indian Creek-Westridge Community Services District Board Meeting
February 12, 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, Dave Mappus, Ted Williams; District Manager Terry Tye; District Operator Don Buser; Secretary Stephanie Sheltz; and Aaron Steinwand, OVGA Executive Manager.

Introductions of all present were made.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the November 13, 2018 meeting were approved unanimously (moved Anderson, seconded Williams).

OVGA Reimbursement of LEA (ICWCSD) Contribution to Development of GSP. Q & A with Aaron Steinwand, OVGA Executive Manager. Mr. Steinwand presented some background information and reported on the current issues facing the OVGA. Dr. Bob Harrington developed a 3-year budget, which included \$108,000 for administrative costs. The grant from the state for plan development is \$713,000. Grant dollars will be distributed in the form of reimbursements as invoices are submitted for work completed. Inyo County is the fiscal agent who will pay contractors and invoice the state. The County submitted a request for an advance of half the grant amount and is waiting for a response. The County can “float” a loan to OVGA agencies until reimbursements come in. The next payment to ICWCSD is scheduled for July. Reimbursements to ICWCSD can be credited for next payment.

Daniel B. Stephens was chosen as the consultant for the plan. Although the cost of \$710,000 is above budget for this task, the amount does not exceed the total grant amount.

OVGA has exceeded its budget for staff costs, which came to \$49,000 in the first two quarters. This was due to the considerable start-up needs. The following two quarters will probably see a reduction of these costs.

Even at this rate of spending, Mr. Steinwand stated that there will be a balance of approximately \$100,000. A closer estimate should be available by May. He would like to see OVGA establish a reserve fund.

Mr. Elias explained that there was no precedent to use as a guide when Dr. Harrington developed the budget, so it is not surprising that actual costs exceeded the budget. Mr. Elias hopes additional funding can be obtained to reflect the actual hours needed. Mr. Steinwand responded that at this time OVGA is still within its overall budget.

Mr. Steinwand stated that the OVGA plans to discuss whether to retain Dr. Harrington’s consultant services one day a week because of his vast knowledge, whether to set a reserve account, and the composition of the board.

Everyone in attendance thanked Mr. Steinwand for his informative presentation.

Operations and Maintenance Report: *November:* Recharged battery on Well 1 after it failed to do a test run. Well 3 was erratic; corrected by switching on “on” position. Mr. Buser and Mr. Tye met with auditor Tom Neely. Found and corrected small leaks in Tank 5. *December:* Scott Berger fixed Wells 5 & 6, which had stopped running. *January:* Installed new manometer tube on Tank 1. Mr. Buser and Mr. Tye met with Inyo County Superintendent of Schools Barry Simpson to plan lead sampling sites at JKBS.

January: Mr. Buser, Mr. Derr, and Mr. Tye earned 6 CEUs when they attended a training on CLA-VAL valves. They also attended a refresher course on asbestos cement pipes. Procured burn permit for 2019. Repaired Ranch hydrant.

Finance Report: Quarterly Financials, 2016/2017 Audit, Delinquent Report: Mr. Tye reported that the balance in the bank stands at \$476,514, including an O & M total of \$181,367 and Capital Funds of \$295,147. Income received in November, December, January: O&M \$26,720, Capital Funds 12,039, for a total of \$38,759. Expenses for the quarter were: \$30,310 for O & M, \$49,000 for OVGA.

Mr. Tye noted that he worked on the 2016 and 2017 audit with Tom Neely. The 2-year cycle is now caught up. Tom Neely is retiring, so Mr. Tye will pursue finding a new auditor.

Mr. Tye went over the Delinquent Report. He has been in contact with the five largest delinquent residents. Most are making at least partial payments. There are two liens in place. \$1,500 has been collected so far. The last delinquent amount is \$4,561.57.

Update on Grant Application: Mr. Tye participated in a conference call with several USDA representatives. They told him ICWCSD is required to have meters, so he explained that ICWCSD is exempt on the basis that it would be a financial hardship. (The lowest estimate Mr. Tye was able to get for installing meters is 3/4 million [\$750,000.00] dollars.) They will keep Terry informed about the grant. This is the fourteenth month of the grant application process.

Mr. Tye advises against accepting the grant if it is offered as a low-interest loan because there are no urgent needs that would justify acquiring such a liability.

OVGA Update: Mr. Elias pointed out that the update was covered in the earlier presentation by Mr. Steinwand. He asked board members if they had further questions but there were none.

2018 Pumping Totals: Mr. Tye referred board members to the report in the agenda packet.

SWRCB Sampling: A detailed summary was included in the agenda packet. Mr. Tye reported that additional sampling required by the State Water Resources Control Board cost ICWCSD \$3,000 in 2018. SWRCB is considering his request for an exemption from additional sampling requirements because all the TCP samples were nondetect. It is possible that after one more sample, the rest can be done every three years.

Mr. Tye has requested a waiver for MCL sampling for iron and nitrate on Well 3. The State asked for another sampling in March, after which they will make a decision on the waiver request.

AB 54 Training for Manager and BOD Members Provided by CRWA on 3/25/2019: Mr. Tye strongly encouraged board members to attend this training about board member responsibilities. It will take place Monday, March 25, 2019, 1:00-4:00 pm at the Presbyterian Church at Main and Elm Streets in Bishop.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Stephanie Sheltz, approved by _____