

Indian Creek-Westridge Community Services District Board Meeting  
May 11, 2021  
393 S. Tumbleweed, Bishop, CA

The meeting was called to order at 5:57 p.m. by Board Chairperson Luis Elias. Also present were Directors Jeffrey Anderson, Dave Mappus, Ted Williams; District Manager Terry Tye; District Operator Don Buser; Assistant Operator Kim Derr.

Mr. Tye distributed a copy of an email (attached) from Antonio Ybarra regarding USDA grant.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the February 9, 2021 and March 24, 2021 meetings were approved unanimously (moved Mappus, seconded Anderson).

**Operations and Maintenance Report:** Mr. Buser presented his report, which is attached.

**Finance Report:** Mr. Tye reviewed the quarterly financials. The balance in the bank stands at \$701,887 including an O & M total of \$275,084 and Capital Funds of \$426,603. The total is spread out over three bank accounts: checking, savings, and grant.

USDA Grant Update: Mr. Tye said that after board approval of the grant/loan at the March 24, 2021 meeting, he asked Antonio Ybarra to move forward. Mr. Ybarra then reported that there is a problem, so there was a phone conference between Mr. Tye, Mr. Ybarra, the USDA national director, and a fourth participant. They informed Mr. Tye that USDA gives grants only to districts that are metered. Mr. Tye reminded them that this topic came up in 2018. At the time, the two bids Mr. Tye received to meter the district were approximately \$500,000 and \$700,000. Mr. Tye had told Mr. Ybarra this is not feasible for our district. During the conference call, Mr. Tye asked Mr. Ybarra if he still had the information. Mr. Ybarra said he did. Later, Mr. Ybarra sent an email to Mr. Tye (attached) with suggestions on how Mr. Tye can make an appeal to USDA, which will involve a lot of work. It will be a last-ditch effort to revive the grant/loan.

2021-2022 Budget: Mr. Tye prepared two versions because currently receipt of the USDA grant/loan is uncertain. Budget number one does not include the grant/loan, budget number two includes the grant/loan. On both, \$23,000 to OVGA, listed under Operating Expenses, will be removed. Mr. Elias was hesitant to approve two different budgets. Discussion ensued. Mr. Mappus suggested rebuilding instead of replacing valves. Mr. Tye and Mr. Buser explained that the current valves are antiquated and should be replaced with updated versions. The following motion was approved unanimously: Approve proposed budget number one (without grant/loan). Proposed budget number two (with grant/loan) will supersede budget number one upon acceptance of USDA grant/loan as specified in the letter from USDA representative Antonio Ybarra dated March 17, 2021 (Moved Anderson, seconded Mappus).

Mr. Tye asked for a vote about the amount to be used for a down payment if the USDA grant/loan is approved. The loan is for \$200,000. After discussing various amounts, including interest for five years and fully paying off the loan, the following motion was approved unanimously: Make a down payment of \$175,000, from the capital improvement fund, toward the loan if USDA grant/loan is approved (Moved Mappus, seconded Anderson).

Mr. Tye reviewed the capital replacement plan for July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024. Due to the current uncertainty about the USDA grant/loan approval, Mr. Tye prepared one plan with and another plan without grant/loan funds.

**Final Interim Audit Report from Nigro & Nigro:** According to Mr. Tye, the report is a fairly clear assessment of the district's finances. An audit of the two-year (2021-2023) budget development and financials will be done by September. Mr. Tye made favorable comments about Nigro & Nigro. A valuable service they provide is timely submission of the annual report to the state comptroller's office. Before the district hired them, this had been a serious problem. Mr. Tye will request a conference with representatives of Nigro & Nigro to find out if they noticed any irregularities. If there are no irregularities, he will ask them to state it formally.

**Delinquent Report:** Mr. Tye indicated that six people owe a total of \$2,100. He has been collecting some of the payments, and soon there will be less than \$1,000 dollars owed.

**Approval of 2020 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR):** Mr. Tye reported that quarterly sampling was required and completed due to a high turbidity reading at well 5. All quarterly samples came back with acceptable levels and the state has provided us a waiver from further sampling requirements for turbidity at well 5. Board members approved the 2020 CCR.

**Electronic Annual Report to State Water Resources Control Board:** Mr. Tye said he submitted the report. It has not been formally accepted yet.

**OVGA Update:** The OVGA (Owens Valley Groundwater Authority) update was provided by Mr. Elias. The consultant is finalizing the water sustainability plan, which is due to be completed in February, 2022. After completion, the plan will be submitted to the California State Water Resources Control Board. The plan is good, but it would have been better if DWP (Department of Water and Power) had participated more fully. Our basin area is now designated "low priority," so a water sustainability plan is not required. However, before the "low priority" designation, the OVGA received a grant to develop a plan, so it did. After the Department of Water Resources approves the plan, the OVGA board will decide whether or not to implement it. If it doesn't, the OVGA will disband. In that case, OVGA could develop trigger events that would put the water sustainability plan in motion. Mono County said that after the plan is complete, it will withdraw from OVGA. Mr. Tye said that district customers should have access to the plan. He suggested posting it on the district's website. Mr. Tye asked if the OVGA audit is done. Mr. Elias thinks it has. Mr. Tye requested a copy of it, and he will post it on the district website. It's possible the district will receive a partial refund of funds it contributed to OVGA.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.  
Minutes submitted by Stephanie Sheltz.

Indian Creek Westridge CSD Maintenance Report for Quarterly Board Meeting

May 11 2021

by Don Buser

Last Report Feb 9 2021

- FEB 11 Feb 2 New Keys To Fit New Valves (No Lead SVs)  
22 Start Cleaning (Post Burn) W-1 Burn Pit (5 Tr. Loads to Landfill)  
26 Two Loads DG to W-1 Cache Pile
- MAR 2 Five Loads Clean Dirt To Dump  
11 Mark DA 442 Wildrose (Tom Partridge) Back Yard Shallow Hand Digging  
15 " " 265 " (In Garage) Sewer Hook-up  
19 Ck " 3050 Mesq' SCE Pole Repl't  
22 " " Pa Me SCE On Res'n  
23 " " X Cedar Meadow SCE Pole Repl't  
24 Special BOD Meet re: Grant Proposal (Approval)
- APR 12 SCE Telecon. Re: Access W-1 w/ Pole Repl't @ 3050 Mesq.  
13 Valve Exercise w/ CDC Help - Discover Broken Hyd V on W. Birch  
14 Finish V Exercise - Ck DA 481 Pa Me (On Reservation)  
19 Test Run W-1 Onan Gen OK - Route Point (4ea) 4x8 Plys  
20 Sound W-4 @ 32' 3" 10-19-20 - 26' 2" = 6' 1"  
26 Inst'd (6 ea) FF tires on Yard Equipment 4-13-20 26' 11" = 4' 2"  
28 Conducted Sampling OS W-5 (5/Turbidity)  
29 One Load DG to W-1 Cache
- MAY 3 A No Trespass Sign Appeared In The Walkway @ W-5  
A Follow-up Insp'n Provided The Source And The Mistake Was Corrected  
2 Bac-Tec Samples Taken (Routine)  
10 Prep BOD Quarterly Maint Rpt - Summarize Swamp Cooler W-1  
Sound W-4 - 31' 1" 20 Days / 14 in. Increase

Terry,

Just spoke with my program director and he spoke with the national office. Based off the feedback he received from them we developed a plan that may work. A sort of last try to get around the meter issue.

We will need Indian Creek to obtain a updated quote on the cost of the meters (including installation) and update the letter that they originally drafted and sent to us for comment early in the application process (Attached). The letter will need to make a strong case for the economic detriment and no environmental considerations. As we discussed, the districts updated letter should provide an updated CIP Plan that would list the priority projects and the importance of those projects and why they are prioritized over meters. The district should also state that meters are not required by the State of California. A statement addressing that there is no issue with leaks or water loss (environmental considerations) should be included. To further support this argument, the letter should also provide some narrative on the stability of the districts water source for long term supply.

**Antonio Ybarra**

Community Programs Specialist

Rural Development

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