

# CARMEL AREA WASTEWATER DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

## Thursday, 9:00 a.m., April 27, 2023

Via Teleconference Webinar & In Person with Proof of Vaccination

## **CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL -** The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Directors: President Ken White, Pro Tem Bob Siegfried, and Directors Greg D'Ambrosio, and

Mike Rachel

Absent: Director Urquhart, Barbara Buikema, General Manager

A quorum was present.

Others: Patrick Treanor, Acting General Manager

Carmel Area Wastewater District (CAWD or District)

Rachél Lather, Principal Engineer, CAWD Ed Waggoner, Plant Superintendent, CAWD\*

Kevin Young, Plant Operations Supervisor, CAWD\* Ray De Ocampo, Laboratory Supervisor, CAWD\* Chris Foley Maintenance Superintendent, CAWD

Daryl Lauer, Superintendent of Collection\* Domine Barringer, Board Secretary, CAWD

Robert Wellington, Wellington Law Offices, CAWD Legal Counsel

Richard Verbanec, Director of the Board Pebble Beach Community Services District (PBCSD) \*

Mike Niccum, General Manager, PBCSD\*

Nick Becker, Deputy General Manager, District Engineer, PBCSD\*

In Person Public Attendees:

Laura Bowling | Board Member Friends of Mission Trail Nature Preserve Doug Schmitz | Board Member Friends of Mission Trail Nature Preserve

**Virtual Public Attendees:** 

Public Attendee|\* Admin|\*

# 1. Appearances/Public Comments: Public Comments (Matters Not on Agenda Any Subject ):

There were no public comments on non-agendized matters.

## Appearances/Public Comments on Agendized Items:

There were no public comments received by the Board.

**2. Agenda Changes:** Any requests to move an item forward on the agenda will be considered at this time.

On page 9 of the board packet, regarding the meeting minutes, there was a word change from "painting" to "paving".

<sup>\*</sup>Signifies Virtual Attendance

3. Employee Recognition: Andrew Millington

Andrew Millington passed the exam for the California Water Environment Association (CWEA) Collection Worker II. The Board acknowledged Mr. Millington's accomplishment and provided congratulations.

4. **CLOSED SESSION:** As permitted by Government Code Section 54956 et seq., the Board of Directors may adjourn to a Closed Session to consider specific matters dealing with litigation, certain personnel matters, real property negotiations, or to confer with the District's Meyers-Milias-Brown representative.

The board room was cleared of all in person attendees and all virtual attendees placed on hold in a waiting room. The Board went into closed session at 9:05 a.m. and discussed agenda item #4 regarding potential litigation. The closed session ended at 9:44 a.m. Legal Counsel reported that during the closed session the Board took up the agenda item as listed and received information from staff and discussion was held with regard to the potential litigation, and no reportable action was taken. The Board reconvened into open session at 9:45 a.m. and all of the attendees were invited back into the open session and all virtual attendees had access to the audio and visual platform to participate in the meeting.

5. Bridge to Everywhere Presentation: Patrick Treanor, Acting General Manager

Note: Presentation slides posted under separate cover.

The Acting General Manager, Patrick Treanor, provided an introduction to all of the speakers. Ms. Bowling started out the presentation and highlighted the natural assets of our area and the connections between walking and well-being. The current disconnected walking trails would be connected through the Bridge to Everywhere. Mr. Treanor spoke to trail integration of the City areas to the park areas and walked through ten connection areas. Director D'Ambrosio continued to lead the discussion starting with the first connection of Carmel Mission Trail, which can be accessed through downtown Carmel, and is a 34 acre preserve and the speakers moved through each of the ten connections.

Director Verbanec from PBCSD, asked what funding mechanisms and costs are associated with this project. Mr. Treanor stated that they are looking at grants, private donations, and other public funding.

# CONSENT CALENDAR: APPROVAL OF MINUTES, FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND MONTHLY REPORTS

Consists of routine items for which Board approval can be taken with a single motion and vote.

#### **Board Action**

A motion to receive and approve the consent agenda was made by Director Rachel and seconded by Director Siegfried. Director Urquhart was absent. After a Roll Call vote, the Board unanimously received and approved the following Consent Calendar/Agenda items.

- 6. Approve March 30, 2023, Regular Board Meeting Minutes & 02-27-23 Budget Minutes 04-10-23 Pension Minutes
- 7. Receive and Accept Bank Statement Review by Clifton Larson Allen (CLA) March 2023

  Note: This report was not received for the March meeting. The report was received on 5-2-23 via email so it was not included in the April board meeting material.
- **8.** Receive and Accept Schedule of Cash Receipts & Disbursements- March 2023
- 9. Approve Register of Disbursements Carmel Area Wastewater District March 2023
- **10.** Approve Register of Disbursements CAWD/PBCSD Reclamation Project –March 2023
- 11. Receive and Accept Financial Statements and Supplementary Schedules March 2023
- **12.** Receive and Accept Collection System Superintendent's Report March 2023, February 2023 & January 2023
- 13. Receive and Accept Safety and Regulatory Compliance Report March 2023
- **14.** Receive and Accept Treatment Facility Operations Report March 2023 February 2023 & January 2023
- 15. Receive and Accept Laboratory/Environmental Compliance Report March 2023
- **16.** Receive and Accept Capital Projects Report/Implementation Plan
- 17. Receive and Accept Project Summaries Capital & Non-Capital
- 18. Receive and Accept Plant Operations Report March 2023
- **19.** Receive and Accept Maintenance Projects Report March 2023

### ACTION ITEMS BEFORE THE BOARD

Action Items consist of business which requires a vote by the Board. These items are acted upon in the following sequence: (1) Staff Report (2) Board Questions to Staff (3) Public Comments, and (4) Board Discussion and Action.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

- **20.** General Manager Report oral report by Patrick Treanor (Acting General Manager)
  - Mr. Treanor reported on the spill that occurred associated with PG&E. PG&E has already made repairs and the District will file an insurance claim against PG&E to include all of the costs associated with this spill.
  - Carmel River Task Force meeting will occur on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and the Board was invited to attend in person or via Zoom. Mr. Treanor informed the Carmel River Task Force about the Bridge to Everywhere project.
  - Meeting with State Parks regarding the projects that the District and the State Parks are associated and work on coordinating projects.

Biobot covid testing will no longer have to be paid for by the District.
 Additional buildout of test will be conducted regarding Monkey Pox,
 Influenza, and the Covid test will continue twice a week.

Director Siegfried requested an update on information regarding Polio and H1N1. Mr. Waggoner stated that is not under the current Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) program and the District would have to pursue those tests independently. Mr. Treanor stated that a recommendation will be brought to the Board on what additional testing the District wants to pursue with the allocated budget funds slated for this type of testing.

Director Rachel requested input from Mr. Treanor on his two weeks as the acting General Manager. Mr. Treanor replied it was a good experience.

### OTHER ITEMS BEFORE THE BOARD

**21.** Sea Level Rise Planning Grant Application
Report by Patrick Treanor, Plant Engineer (Acting General Manager)

Action Required – Requesting A Motion to Accept the Sea Level Rise Planning Grant Application

### **Board Action**

After a brief report out by Mr. Treanor A motion to receive the Sea Level Rise Grant Application was made by Director Rachel and seconded by Director D'Ambrosio. Director Urquhart was absent. After a Roll Call vote, the Board unanimously received and approved the following Consent Calendar/Agenda items.

Director Siegfried stated that in the letter of recommendation (page 131 packet) from the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea it was stated that "they own the pump stations along Carmel beach belong to us". Director D'Ambrosio stated that they do not own the pump stations,

Mike Niccum, General Manager, PBSCD complimented the District staff for their leadership in moving this project forward.

**22.** President White's Letter regarding another treatment district's 218 notice to the District Board of Directors and General Manager, Barbara Buikema, pertaining to the Tahoe-Truckee Sanitation Agency Flyer (TTSA) Proposition 218 Notice to Property Owners Of Proposed Sewer Rates

President White spoke about the publication from TTSA and their multiyear rates for the coming five years. He was interested in the merits of the District preparing multiyear budgeting and published multiyear rates to the public, with the caveat to adjust rates as necessary.

Director Siegfried indicated it would be a good idea to look at projecting out estimates. He suggested that the public bring in water bills to the District if the use of the sewage system is below average. He would like to see a board discussion about putting out an invitation to the public to see if their flow is less than the District is billing them and use the reserves to cover the reimbursement. It would also provide the District the data that they need to make decisions.

President White suggested that the budget committee take this projected forecasting discussion on. Both Director Siegfried and Director D'Ambrosio agreed to taking this subject matter up in the budget Committee.

Director Siegfried requested to agendize inviting the public to apply for a rebate for data purposes. This data gathering would be collected from their water bills.

President White clarified the motion that the Budget Committee discuss preparing projected multiyear budgets and rates and bring back to the full board for discussion.

### **Board Action**

There was consensus from the Board for the Budget Committee to discuss projected multiyear budgets and rates . Director Urquhart was absent.

### **Board Action**

A motion to agendize the discussion of a policy rebate for low usage was made by President White and seconded by Director Rachel. Director Urquhart was absent. After a Roll Call vote, the Board unanimously agreed to agendize a policy discussion regarding rebates based on low usage.

Mike Niccum, General Manager, PBCSD, stated that there is no nexus between the costs of providing sewer services and the costs of staff managing the plant and treating the sewage and the water usage. "Your costs didn't go down 30% when the usage/flows went down 30%, and it doesn't change the capital projects that need to be completed". Must take into consideration second homes. Suggested getting a consultant.

# INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

23. April Construction Updates of Project #18-01
Electrical/Mechanical Rehab and Sludge Holding Tank Replacement –
Report by Plant Engineer, Patrick Treanor, Plant Engineer (Acting General Manager)

Mr. Treanor gave a brief overview of the project and stated that the District has received two of the Motor Control Center (MCC) out of four. The new influent pump has started up and has been running well for two-half weeks. Starting the installation of the second pump out of the four influent pumps. The other two MCC pumps will arrive in May and June. The project will be complete sometime in August or September. The other large project is the potential paving change order at the plant.

- **24.** March 31, 2023, PBCSD Board Meeting Summaries-Report by General Manager, Written by Barbara Buikema and presented by Patrick Treanor, Plant Engineer (Acting General Manger)
- **25.** Special District Association County of Monterey April 18, 2023 Patrick Treanor, Plant Engineer (Acting General Manager)

Mr. Treanor highlighted the following:

- Brown Act and Zoom meeting attendance
- Cooperative Liquid Asset Security System (California CLASS)
- Legislative Days- John Laird May 16th and 17th in Sacramento
- **26.** Pension Meeting, April 10,2023- Report Written by General Manager, Barbara Buikema and presented by Patrick Treanor, Plant Engineer (Acting General Manager)

Director Siegfried stated that the Pension Committee to hold a meeting with Hastie Financial Group to defend their investment strategies.

**27.** Six Sigma Project Update on Source Control Program, Rachel Lather, District Engineer and Patrick Treanor, Plant Engineer (Acting General Manager)

Note: Presentation slides posted under separate cover.

Director Rachel left the meeting at 11:27 am.

Director D'Ambrosio asked what strength the Ordinance has to have vendors comply. Rachel Lather, Principal Engineer, stated the Ordinance has a process and administrative penalties that can be enforced. President White, stated that the Restaurant Association needs to be contacted, which he has already spoken to Barbara Buikema, General Manager, on this topic. Ms. Lather stated another Source Control meeting will be scheduled to setup how to reach out to the Restaurant Association.

**28.** Cyber Security Update, Presentation by Chris Foley, Superintendent of Maintenance

Note: Presentation slides posted under separate cover.

## 29. Announcements on Subjects of Interest to the Board Made by Members of the Board or Staff

Oral reports or announcements from Board President, Directors or staff concerning their activities and/or meetings or conferences attended.

PBCSD Board Public Meeting Notice & Agenda - The next PBCSD meeting is scheduled for: Friday, April 28, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. - Director Siegfried is scheduled to attend. Friday, May 28, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. - Director Urguhart is scheduled to attend.

**Special Districts Association of Monterey County** – The next SDA meeting is scheduled for: Tuesday, July 18, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. – President White is scheduled to attend. Tuesday, October TBD, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. – Director Rachel is scheduled to attend.

Reclamation Management Committee (RMC) Meeting - The next RMC meeting is scheduled for: Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. President White and Director Rachel are scheduled to attend.

Director Siegfried made the following additional comments:

- County updated Local Area Management Plan and there will be public outreach for the septic tanks.
- CBA Meeting regarding short term rental mandate and additional housing and there is going to be pressure on vacant land and work needs to be done on the condemnation presentation done sooner than later. Mr. Wellington replied that he has reached out to Best Best & Krieger Law Firm and have condemnation attorneys with experience and contact has also been made with Copeland to provide a presentation to the Board within the next two meetings.
- Request to have a board discussion regarding road repairs around town regarding lateral replacements. Director Siegfried, in discussion with the General Manager, Barbara Buikema, it was conveyed that a City permit would have to be obtained. Director Siegfried wanted to know if a conditional permit should be issued to determine if the sewer lateral road patch is stable. President White stated that the manhole cover changes made has caused differential to the black top creating a bump in the road.

## **30.** ADJOURNMENT:

The Board adjourned open session at 9:05 a.m. and took a 5-minute break to clear the room of public attendees. The Board then convened into closed session at 9:10 a.m. The Board came out of closed session at 9:44 a.m., and Legal Counsel reported that during the closed session the Board took up, the matter at hand with regard to the potential litigation, and no reportable action was taken. The Board reconvened back into open session at 9:45 a.m. and the meeting was convened at 12:01 p.m.

As Reported To:

Domine Barringer

Domine Barringer, Secretary to the Board

APPROVED:

Ken White, President of the Board