

MINUTES OF THE CONSOLIDATION COMMITTEE

IDYLLWILD WATER DISTRICT
25945 Highway 243
Idyllwild, CA 92549

August 28, 2018 - 6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Vice President Szabadi at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Peter Szabadi, Chair; Les Gin, Director; and Susan Nash, Public Member

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Any person may address the Sub-Committee at this time upon any subject not identified on this Agenda but within the jurisdiction of the District. Please note that for items not listed on the agenda, the Brown Act imposes limitations on what the Sub-Committee may do at this time. The Sub-Committee may not take action on the item at this meeting. As to matters on the Agenda, persons will be given an opportunity to address the Sub-Committee when the matter is considered. If you wish to speak during public comment, please fill out a "Speaker Request Form" and give it to the Sub-Committee Secretary. When the Sub-Committee Chair calls your name, please immediately step to the podium and begin by giving your name and address for the record. Each speaker will be given four (4) minutes to address the Sub-Committee.

1. CONSOLIDATION OF THREE PUBLIC WATER AGENCIES IN THE SAN JACINTO MOUNTAINS:

Discussion regarding approaches to consolidation, merger and cooperation among the three public water Districts: Pine Cove Water District, Fern Valley Water District and Idyllwild Water District.

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS:

Vice President, Szabadi opened the meeting describing his research into the history of formal cooperation among the three districts in the past 25 years. He described a grand-jury report from 1994 that alleged nearly \$400,000 in savings could be gained if the three districts were one; but a subsequent study by the district found the savings to be substantially less.

He also mentioned the joint powers agency, the San Jacinto Mountains Water Study Agency, but this expired at the end of 2013. And IWD's former General Manager Tom Lovejoy prepared several reports of his own, without involving either of the other districts.

Vice President, Szabadi told the attendees that he planned to encourage his fellow directors to involve the community in future efforts about greater water-district support. In his opinion, this process needs to originate within the community rather than from a district.

Committee member Sue Nash agreed with the idea to reestablish a citizen-advisory committee. What her concern is that she doesn't want to see any of the water districts up here fail.

Director Gin states IWD has no hidden Agenda and that we need to take a fresh look at consolidation. The future is what we are looking at and what is best for our water shed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Trudy Levy suggested that the San Jacinto Area Watchdogs might be the magnet to attract greater community interest in furthering work to benefit all the districts. Pine Cove residents Nancy Borchers and Jeff Smith expressed their lack of trust in the IWD board, and totaled many past projects and activities, which they believe were efforts that would have harmed the Pine Cove community. Tom Paulek stresses the need to work together. David Hunt has said at several IWD meetings, a consolidation committee, which the IWD board has created, appears to residents of the other two water districts Fern Valley and Pine Cove to be an effort to take them over. He feels that Fern Valley Water and Idyllwild Water would be far more productive to research than all three districts.

DIRECTORS COMMENTS: Vice President Szabadi will recommend to the Board to make an advisory group. He feels if there is a genuine interest in this community they will respond to it.

ADJOURNMENT:

A MOTION was made by Sue Nash to adjourn the meeting and Director Gin seconded. The vote was as follows:

AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Szabadi Les Gin Sue Nash			

MOTION APPROVED.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p. m.

**APPROVED:
IDYLLWILD WATER DISTRICT**

BY: _____

PETER SZABADI- VICE PRESIDENT

IDYLLWILD WATER DISTRICT

BY: _____

JEANNINE OLSEN-BOARD SECRETARY