

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

IDYLLWILD WATER DISTRICT

*The Board of Directors of the Idyllwild Water District met in regular session on April 15, 2015.*

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by President Billman at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Directors present: President Jim Billman, John Cook, Dean Lattin, Warren Monroe and Mike Freitas. Also present was General Manager, Tom Lynch and Board Secretary Kelly Clark. Finance Officer, Hosny Shouman was noted as absent.

General public present: (- 6 -)

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

MINUTES – March 18, 2015

FINANCIAL REPORTS – Tom said that financial reports aren’t available, since the CFO is on vacation. March and April statements will be available at next month’s meeting.

OPERATING STATEMENT FOR THE NINTH MONTH ENDING MARCH, 2015

DISTRICT WARRANTS FOR MARCH –

CHECK #12850 - #12892	= \$ 173,130.71	OPERATING
PAYROLL	= \$ 43,264.68	PAYROLL
FEDERAL/STATE PR TAXES	= \$ 22,935.60	TAXES
LAIF TRANSFERS	= \$ -0-	LAIF TRANSFERS
TRANSFERS/CHARGES	= \$ 60.00	

OPERATIONS REPORT FOR THE NINTH MONTH ENDING MARCH 31, 2015. One mainline leak was reported in March. Foster Lake was still dry at the end of March. IWD did not divert water during March and there was 1.62” precipitation. There has been 15.17” precipitation for the fiscal year to date. The static water levels at the Foster Lake Wells were 48.3’ below ground level which is a little higher than last month due to the rainfall, and the downtown wells are currently 20’. Vice-President Cook asked that the depth of the wells be available on the next GM Report. Production for March was 743,000 cubic feet. March unaccounted for water was .89% of production. FY unaccounted for average is 4.06%. A MOTION was made by Director Monroe and seconded by Vice-President Cook to approve the Consent Calendar, noting that the financial reports were not available. The Motion was approved and duly carried with a unanimous vote of all Directors present.

**4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS –**

**WATER AND WASTEWATER** -Rainfall has been very light this year, and we remain in Stage II. This is our fourth year of drought, and this year the state has had the lowest snowpack ever recorded. The Governor has taken an unprecedented action by ordering a first ever, State-wide, mandatory water reduction, requiring substantial water consumption cutbacks across California. The Governor’s directive calls for a 25% reduction for cities and towns throughout the state. The Idyllwild community has generally been very responsive in reducing water consumption and the District has effectively managed its water resources to ensure that Idyllwild survives the drought. Tom attended a webinar which showed the condition of the Central Valley. He said snow level is 5% of normal...the lowest ever recorded. The State is planning for a long-term drought. Some counties are planning 20% - 35% rate increases. The IWD crew is still cleaning brush from the Well #23 site where several trees were removed.

We are still awaiting approval from the State on activating our horizontal wells. The water from these wells must go through a very comprehensive testing and analysis, before we can bring the wells on-line. We are also in the process of repairing inoperative vertical wells in the vicinity of the horizontal wells to increase water production. Our detailed Well #8 analysis shows its potential viability, and the current estimate for its rehabilitation is approximately \$12,000, which would include new sleeves, pump and motor. A similar estimate will also be prepared for rehabilitation of Well #11. We also want to move Well #16 into more regular pumping if possible.

Our USDA grants for improving our District infrastructure are still going through very slow review at the regional office, but we have made excellent progress on supplying them with additional financial, capital improvement data and a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER), to make our grant submittals more competitive.

A final determination will be made by the Riverside Board of Supervisors on our Community Development Block Grant Program (C.D.B.G.) applications later in April.

The newly appointed Third District Supervisor, Chuck Washington, made a site visit to the Idyllwild Water District on March 30<sup>th</sup> to review our proposed C.D.B.G. applications and to become more acquainted with the overall District activities. They were able to tour Foster Lake, our new water tanks and discuss overall coordination with County operations in the area. Supervisor Washington was stunned at the empty Lake.

We held our sewer effluent line preconstruction meeting on Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> to familiarize the contractor, EL-CO, with details on the project and schedule. The Forest Service has been made aware of the project and will be monitoring the project's progression. Herb Bergstrom will be the on-site project manager.

We thank our customers for their continued conservation efforts, and we will keep encouraging our customers to continue their conservation efforts in our newsletters and on our website.

ENERGY CONSUMPTION UPDATE – Last month the Board approved the contract with Hot Purple Energy (HPE) to install the replacement inverters for our solar array. Work will begin this week on the three inverter replacements which should restore the energy production from our solar array.

CONTINUING EDUCATION – Staff is attending classes in advanced water treatment to stay updated on our ongoing training.

OTHER PROJECTS AND MATTERS – We are interviewing candidates for our vacant positions this week.

Our Verizon Internet service was temporarily fixed, although it has developed new problems lately. They have switched our primary circuit and removed two lizards that had taken up residence in the telephone company's transfer box. We are also looking at Time-Warner as a potential service replacement.

The Rules and Regulations committee met to discuss the Stage II and Stage III criteria, and tonight on the agenda is an item which would be the first step in clarifying water conservation conditions and trigger points for various water restriction measures. Additional meetings are planned to redraft Ordinance #62, and other District policies.

Former employee, Steve Kunkle, asked if he could ask some questions and mentioned he was responsible for testing of the horizontal wells and could never get good Bac-T results.

5. SEWER EFFLUENT LINE – The pre-construction meeting was held on April 14<sup>th</sup>. The project will begin about May 11<sup>th</sup> and should be completed by mid-summer.

IWD Board Meeting, 04/15/15, WIP, cont.

6. NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS #701 & #702 – These Resolutions set a date for a Public Hearing for water & sewer stand-by assessment fees for 2015/2016. The rate will remain the same at \$30 per acre for water/sewer availability for vacant parcels. A MOTION was made by Vice-President Cook to adopt Resolutions #701 and #702 setting a date of May 20, 2015, our next board meeting, for a Public Hearing regarding assessment fees. The Motion was seconded by Director Lattin and passed with a unanimous vote.

7. REQUEST FOR BILL FORGIVENESS – Mr. Chase Sanders was not present and the bill has been paid in full. Tom Lynch said that the next Agenda item will address this issue.

8. RESOLUTION #703 – This Resolution revokes Resolution #451, which gave consideration for a one-time partial forgiveness to customers who experienced excessive water usage at the General Manager’s discretion. Tom said, in light of Governor Brown’s declaration of a mandatory water reduction, this Resolution would not be prudent or appropriate. President Billman said that, at some time in the future, when water is more plentiful, a Resolution may be revised. Following discussion, Vice-President Cook made a MOTION to adopt Resolution #703, which was seconded by Director Lattin and approved with a unanimous vote.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Tom said he had received a letter from June Rockwell from Idyllwild Property Management too late for the agenda. He presented the letter and his reply to the Board. The letter requested that IWD release a new meter to Idyllwild Property Management for their project. IWD is not issuing water meters during Stage 2.

**DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS:** The Board discussed the prior item, saying that it brings about interesting developments. The Board agreed that the IWD Rules and Regulations need to be rewritten. How will IWD handle upgrades, transferring meters, sharing wells and costs? Tom said we need to find a way to be able to develop properties. Director Freitas said that Carlsbad, even with desalinization, still have high rates and a necessity for water cutbacks.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Steve Moulton asked if Idyllwild will have to abide by the 25% mandatory water reduction required by Governor Brown. Tom said we may have to; however Idyllwild typically has much less usage per capita than other water districts. Vice-President Cook said IWD is at the low end of customer usage spectrum and they may take that into account. They will be pulling usages from 2013, which was a low usage year for IWD. Director Monroe said that the recycled water may help us also, when it goes into effect.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Vice-President Cook made a MOTION to adjourn the regular meeting which was seconded by Director Freitas. With a unanimous vote of all Directors present, the regular meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

**IDYLLWILD WATER DISTRICT  
BY:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**KELLY CLARK - BOARD SECRETARY**

**APPROVED:  
IDYLLWILD WATER DISTRICT**

**BY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**JIM BILLMAN – PRESIDENT**