

**OLYMPIC VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES #914  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2023**

*Agenda with board packet and staff reports is available at the following link:*

<https://www.ovpsd.org/board-agenda-september-2023>

**A. Call to Order, Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance.**

Director Cox called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**Directors Present:** Dale Cox, Katy-Hover-Smoot, Fred Ilfeld and Katrina Smolen.

**Directors Absent:** Bill Hudson

**Staff Present:** Thomas Archer, District Counsel; Brandon Burks, Operations Manager; Brad Chisholm, Fire Chief; Mike Geary, General Manager; Aline Henriksen, Administrative Assistant; Dave Hunt, District Engineer; and Danielle Mueller, Finance & Administration Manager.

**Others Present:** Ed Heneveld, Andrew Homer, Richard Koffler, and David Stepner.

Dr. Heneveld led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B. Community Informational Items.**

- B-1** Friends of Squaw Creek (FoSC) – Mr. Heneveld noted that the group’s name changed to Olympic Valley Watershed Alliance (OVWA). The group will host volunteers on Truckee River Day, October 15<sup>th</sup> to progress the meadow restoration.
- B-2** Friends of Olympic Valley (FoOV) – None.
- B-3** Olympic Valley Design Review Committee (OVDRC) – The October 5<sup>th</sup> meeting has been canceled.
- B-4** Olympic Valley Municipal Advisory Council (OVMAC) – The October 5<sup>th</sup> meeting has been canceled. Mr. Stepner said several of the previous meetings have been cancelled, which may be due to the County’s desire to consolidate regional Municipal Advisory Councils.
- B-5** Squaw Valley Mutual Water Company (SVMWC) – Mr. Koffler and Mr. Stepner provided operational updates including completion of the fiscal audit, successful billing collections, and construction progress. The SVMWC looks forward to continued coordination on the intertie project with the District.
- B-6** Firewise Community – The Olympic Valley Town Meeting regarding emergency and wildfire preparedness was well attended by approximately 90 people. Community members have voiced a desire to resurrect some of the past social gathering opportunities within the Valley.
- B-7** Mountain Housing Council of Tahoe Truckee (MHC) – Director Ilfeld shared that while the final MHC meeting was in September, Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation will continue to support regional housing needs primarily by gathering data, distributing information, and supporting legislative efforts. Director Ilfeld discussed Senate Bill 440 related to area medium income and provided information about the housing needs in our region. While it appears that the regional need for housing has decreased recently, the North Lake Tahoe/Truckee region has approximately 8,200 units of unmet demand and there are approximately 23,000 units which are not occupied full-time.

- B-8** Tahoe-Truckee Sanitation Agency (T-TSA) – Director Cox reviewed the T-TSA Board Meeting summary. The transition from chlorine gas to sodium hypochlorite for disinfection is a positive step for the treatment process and has been functioning well.
- B-9** Capital Projects Advisory Committee (CAP) – Ms. Mueller said there was a joint CAP, Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT), Tourism Business Improvement District (TBID) Zone 1, and TBID Advisory Committee meeting which recommended \$20M in sponsorship funding to the North Tahoe Community Alliance (NTCA) Board of Directors and Placer County Board of Supervisors. Ms. Mueller provided an overview of relevant projects.

**C. Public Comment/Presentation.**

None.

**D. Financial Consent Agenda Items.**

Director Smolen convened with staff on September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023, from approximately 7:50-8:10 A.M. to review items D-1 through D-11, and other finance-related items on the agenda. Ms. Mueller provided a summary of the meeting. There was a discussion about the change in the Tahoe Truckee Sierra Disposal policy which will directly charge customers who place more than four cans curbside. Information about the policy was shared in the District’s fall e-newsletter.

Public Comment – None.

Director Hover-Smoot made a motion to approve the financial consent agenda, which was seconded by Director Ilfeld. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Absent | Ilfeld – Yes | Smolen – Yes

**E. Approve Minutes.**

**E-1 Minutes for the Board of Directors Regular Meeting of August 29, 2023.**

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment, and approved the minutes for the Board of Director meeting of August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Public Comment – None.

Director Ilfeld made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Director meeting of August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023, which was seconded by Director Smolen. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Absent | Ilfeld – Yes | Smolen – Yes

**F. Old & New Business.**

**F-1 Fuels Management Program.**

The Board reviewed the item and accepted public comment.

Chief Chisholm informed the Board that Cross Check Services mobilized to commence work on the OV-1 Fuels Reduction Project. The Board requested a site visit during operations for interested community members. Chief Chisholm provided information about the OV-4 project and the property owner and public outreach completed so far. The Directors commended the advertising to date. OV-5 has been identified in the CWPP but the timeline for that project is unknown and will likely be

coordinated with the Alpine Meadows project. There was a discussion about the timing of the projects, which are not sequential. Staff noted that despite the many grant opportunities, the staff's bandwidth limits the ability to progress too many projects at once. Staff have worked with Feather River Forestry to guide the appropriate strategy and project prioritization. There was a discussion about the OV-3 evacuation corridor project, and coordination with Caltrans on fuels management along Highway 89. Chief Chisholm provided information about residential defensible space inspections and the efforts related to lot-scale wildfire preparedness. There has been a significant spike in defensible space inspections for short-term rentals, which is challenging given staff availability.

#### Public Comment –

Dr. Heneveld requested the District focus efforts on pursuing grants that would match home hardening efforts and defensible space at the individual level. Chief Chisholm responded that while these efforts are a high priority, staff do not have the bandwidth to pursue and administer further grant funding. Dr. Heneveld requested specificity related to tree spacing guidance as related to tree species.

Staff provided information to the Directors about the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) Meeting from August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023. During the meeting the RWQCB accepted the Administrative Civil Liability Settlement Agreement and adopted a Stipulated order for the Palisades Development, LLC for violation of the stormwater pollution prevention permit (SWPPP) at Palisades at Squaw Construction Project. During the meeting Mr. Geary, Director Smolen, and Dr. Heneveld advocated for allocation of a portion of the funding for Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs) within the watershed for projects like fuels management and creek restoration. Due to the importance of penalizing the business prior to dissolution to showcase the importance of performing under the SWPPP, the RWQCB approved the settlement agreement without delay. However, the RWQCB stressed the importance of the enforcement staff to identify SEPs in the future. The District discussed working to fund future projects with SEP funding and structuring memorandums of understanding to be prepared for future funding opportunities related to the SWPPP enforcement action.

#### **F-2 Strategic Planning.**

The Board reviewed the item and accepted public comment.

Mr. Geary reviewed the staff report and provided a presentation which outlined the proposed process to update the District's Strategic Plan. The purpose of the item was to prepare the Board for the process in the coming months and receive direction on the scope and timing on the effort.

The Directors said that they are interested in having a professional third-party facilitator lead the strategic planning process and that the scope should focus on identifying the District's priorities, goals, and objectives rather than revising the District's guiding principles. The Directors thought updating the Plan every ten years would be beneficial and that the timing of the effort seemed appropriate given the current staff. There was a discussion about the alignment of the Fire Department and District guiding principals and ensuring that the District's mission appropriately encompasses the Fire Department's work.

The Directors requested an update to the existing workplan to understand the accomplishments from 2012; after the updated workplan is presented to the Board, staff will proceed with a request for proposals for strategic planning facilitation.

Public Comment:

Dr. Heneveld discussed concerns that the Fire Department is understaffed and unable to provide important public services including ambulance transport and resources to pursue funding for lot-scale wildfire prevention. There was a discussion about the financial modeling currently underway. Several alternative revenues and mechanisms to address staffing challenges and provide the best quality of service to constituents are being considered. Advantages and disadvantages of consolidation and a parcel tax measure were discussed. The strategic planning process will allow continued vetting and prioritization of these issues.

### **F-3 Operations Department Utility Truck Purchase.**

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment, and approved the purchase of a ¾-ton four-wheel drive utility truck for an amount not-to-exceed \$67,900 and declared the existing Ford utility truck as surplus equipment.

Mr. Burks reviewed the staff report and clarified that while the current vehicle's mileage is relatively low (approximately 75,000 miles) the truck is 24 years old, is having significant mechanical failures, and requires frequent maintenance.

Public Comment – None

Director Hover-Smoot made a motion to approve the purchase of a utility truck in an amount not-to-exceed \$67,900, declare the existing Ford utility truck as surplus equipment, and authorized staff to sell, donate, and/or dispose of the old truck. The motion was seconded by Director Ilfeld; the motion passed.

Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Absent | Ilfeld – Yes | Smolen – Absent

### **F-4 Notice of Completion – West Tank Coating Project.**

The Board reviewed the items, accepted public comment, and authorized staff to file a Notice of Completion with Placer County for the 2023 West Tank Coating Project.

Mr. Hunt reviewed the staff report.

Public Comment – None.

Director Hover-Smoot made a motion to approve staff filing a Notice of Completion with Placer County for the 2023 West Tank Coating Project. The motion was seconded by Ilfeld; the motion passed.

Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Absent | Ilfeld – Yes | Smolen – Absent

**F-5 Notice of Completion – Zone 3 Tank Coating Project.**

The Board reviewed the items, accepted public comment, and authorized staff to file a Notice of Completion with Placer County for the 2023 Zone 3 Tank Coating Project.

Mr. Hunt reviewed the staff report.

Public Comment – None.

Director Hover-Smoot made a motion to approve staff filing a Notice of Completion with Placer County for the 2023 Zone 3 Tank Coating Project, which was seconded by Director Smolen; the motion passed. Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Absent | Ilfeld – Yes | Smolen – Yes

**F-6 Declare Equipment as Surplus and Authorize Sale, Donation or Disposal of Items.**

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment, declared the three water storage tanks as surplus equipment, and authorized staff to conduct a sale, donate and/or dispose of the items.

Mr. Hunt reviewed the staff report. Mr. Hunt stated that Placer County Water Agency may be interested in purchasing the equipment. Mr. Hunt stated prior to the sale staff would determine the best buyer, considering Mutual Water Company, Silver Creek, and Palisades Tahoe, among other local entities.

Public Comment – None.

Director Smolen made a motion to authorize staff to conduct a sale, donate and/or dispose of the three water storage tanks. The motion was seconded by Director Ilfeld; the motion passed. Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Absent | Ilfeld – Yes | Smolen – Yes

**F-7 Everline Resort and Spa – Development Agreement – 6<sup>th</sup> Amendment.**

The Board reviewed the items, accepted public comment, adopted Resolution 2023-19 approving the sixth amendment to the Everline Resort and Spa - Phase 2 Water and Sewer Service Agreement, and authorized the General Manager to execute all necessary documents.

Mr. Hunt reviewed the staff report, originally executed in 2008. The current amendment provides an extension for completion of the pressure reducing valve station.

Director Smolen announced a conflict of interest due to her spouses' employment and left the room.

The Board voiced frustration at the delayed development and continued requests for permit extensions and Development Agreement amendments. Staff responded to the frustration but clarified that that the District cannot influence the development's timeline; the Resort does not need the water infrastructure until vertical development, and we cannot require it until then.

Public Comment – None.

Director Ilfeld made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-19 approving the Water and Sewer Service Agreement with the Everline Resort and Spa - Phase 2. The motion was seconded by Director Hover-Smoot. A roll call vote was taken; the motion passed.

Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Absent | Ilfeld – Yes | Smolen – Absent

#### **F-8 Application to Appropriate Water – Truckee River Diversion.**

The Board reviewed the items, accepted public comment, and directed staff to renew or withdraw Water Rights Permit Application A031486 with the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Rights.

Mr. Hunt reviewed the staff report. The State Water Board staff notified the District in July 2023 that the Truckee River water supply project would need to move forward to maintain the permit as “active”, and placed a deadline of October 13, 2023, to notify the State Water Board of the District’s intentions. Given the undependable water supply from the Truckee River, and the cost and labor required to complete necessary studies to maintain the permit application, staff recommended withdrawing the Application to Appropriate Water No. A31486. Withdrawal of the application would result in the District losing its water right priority date of 2003. Legal Counsel noted that the District can apply again in the future without prejudice. Mr. Hunt explained that the District does not currently use any surface water and the capital costs for a surface water treatment plan would be significant (likely \$20-30M); operating costs would also substantially increase.

Public Comment –

Mr. Koffler suggested public outreach regarding the water rights permit application to ensure the community has accurate information and does not have concerns about the permit withdrawal.

Director Smolen made a motion to withdraw Water Rights Permit Application A031486 with the State Water Resources Control Board with the understanding that, if desired, the District may apply later, without prejudice . The motion was seconded by Director Hover-Smoot. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Absent | Ilfeld – Yes | Smolen – Yes

#### **F-9 Recognition of Service by Resolution 2023-18 – 32 years – Tom Archer, Legal Counsel.**

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment, and adopted Resolution 2023-18 recognizing 32 years of service by Thomas Archer.

Director Cox presented Resolution 2023-18 and Katrina Smolen read the resolution. President Cox, and Mr. Geary offered gratitude for Tom Archer’s 32 years of commitment to Olympic Valley Public Service District. Mr. Archer expressed his sincere thanks.

Public Comment –

Mr. Geary read a comment from Jim Porter, an attorney based in Truckee: “Tom Archer is a very talented attorney, genuinely a good guy, and most deserving of your humorous proclamation.”

Resolution 2023-18, recognizing 32 years of service by Thomas Archer, was adopted.

Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Absent | Ilfeld – Yes | Smolen – Yes

**G. Management Status Reports.**

**G-1 Fire Department Report**

Chief Chisholm reviewed the report highlighting the purchase of new front seats for Brush 21 funded by the Firefighters Association, the October 4<sup>th</sup> community-hosted fundraiser at the Olympic Valley Chapel, the upcoming OV-4 Community Meeting on September 28<sup>th</sup>, and notable meetings over the past month. There was a brief discussion regarding staffing and employment opportunities.

**G-2 Water & Sewer Operations Report**

Mr. Burks reviewed the report highlighting winter transition operations, installation progress of new water meters, annual sewer cleaning, the sanitary survey inspection, and a letter provided to legislators related to AB 1594 related to zero emissions vehicle requirements.

**G-3 Engineering Report**

Mr. Hunt reviewed the report. The design of the District/Mutual Water Company Intertie Project is progressing. Staff will work with Director Ilfeld and Hudson to structure the project's proposed cost share agreement; Mr. Geary noted that staff understands that the burden will not be held equally. Staff provided brief information on the DRAFT Olympic Valley Water Management Action Plan and the upcoming technical advisory committee meeting.

**G-4 Administration & Office Report**

Ms. Mueller reviewed the report highlighting recent meetings, administrative staff training, progress on the document management system project, and overdue utility statements.

**G-5 General Manager Report**

Mr. Geary reviewed the report highlighting recent meetings including a Forest Futures Salon regarding woody Biomass.

**G-6 Legal Report (verbal)**

Mr. Archer reiterated his dedication to the community and how he will miss the District's discussions.

**G-7 Directors' Comments (verbal)**

The Directors restated gratitude for Thomas Archer's service and noted that they look forward to the strategic planning process. The Board added that the strategic planning sessions may include consideration of mechanisms to increase achievable housing in the Valley, such as lowering utility rates for accessory dwelling units and suggested staff share information about the Lease to Locals program in an upcoming newsletter.

**J. Adjourn.**

Director Ilfeld made a motion, seconded by Director Smolen, to adjourn at 12:00 P.M. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes | Hover-Smoot – Yes | Hudson – Absent | Ilfeld – Yes | Smolen – Yes

By, J. Asher