

**SQUAW VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES #871
AUGUST 25, 2020**

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

<https://www.svpsd.org/board-agenda-august-2020>

A. Call to Order, Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance. President Dale Cox called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Directors Present: Directors: Dale Cox, Katy Hover-Smoot, Bill Hudson, Fred Ilfeld, and Victoria Mercer

Directors Absent: None

Staff Present: Thomas Archer, District Counsel; Jessica Asher, Board Secretary; Brandon Burks, Operations Superintendent; Brad Chisholm, Fire Captain; Mike Geary, General Manager; Danielle Grindle, Finance & Administration Manager; Jessica Grunst, Account Clerk II/HR Specialist; Fabienne Gueissaz, Office Supervisor; Dave Hunt, District Engineer; Alexa Kinsinger, Junior Engineer; and Allen Riley, Fire Chief.

Others Present: Betty Aleck, Ron Cohen, Carl Davis, Jane Davis, Jen Doyle, Helen Fillmore, Keoki Flagg, Keith Fountain, Ron Gajar, Alex Hoeft, Ed Heneveld, Jean Lange, Jason Layh, Pippin Mader, Steve McNamara, Alan Muschott, Russell Poulsen, Cody Salinas, Darcy Salinas, Justin Scacco, Michael Sheehan, Alex Spychalsky, David Stepner, Dick Terry, and Anne Thys.

President Cox led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Community Informational Items.

- B-1** Friends of Squaw Creek (FOSC) – Dr. Heneveld stated that the FOSC in conjunction with Balance Engineering, Soil Tech, and Trout Unlimited have begun construction on the meadow restoration project. The goal of the project is to retain more water in the north central meadow. This will be accomplished by raising the golf course bridge near the Stables to allow more water to flow to the east, restoring stream meanders, and creating natural dams to trap sediment and slow water flow. Dr. Heneveld said that despite COVID, FOSC hopes to do some public outreach including a potential site visit. A video and the project site plan on the FOSC website will provide an overview of the project. Director Hudson said thank you on behalf of the Board. Mr. Geary suggested that FOSC could provide a plan sheet of the restoration work to be included in September's Board exhibits.
- B-2** Friends of Squaw Valley (FOSV) – None.
- B-3** Squaw Valley Design Review Committee (SVDRC) – None.
- B-4** Squaw Valley Municipal Advisory Council (SVMAC) – None.
- B-5** Squaw Valley Mutual Water Company (SVMWC) – David Stepner provided an update. The SVMWC Board is reviewing two bids for the Well 1 and Well 2 rehabilitation projects. Carson Engineering will likely be selected for the project. There are two vacancies on the SVMWC Board and one person running for the seat, thus the Board will likely appoint the additional person.
- B-6** Squaw Valley Property Owners Association (SVPOA) – None.
- B-7** Mountain Housing Council of Tahoe Truckee (MHC) – None.

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- B-8** Tahoe-Truckee Sanitation Agency (T-TSA) – President Cox stated that at the last T-TSA meeting the Board discussed negativity towards the T-TSA General Manager and renovations to the plant and headworks facility. President Cox noted that the evaluation on plant operations performed by Carollo Engineering should be completed soon. Mr. Geary stated that the flow reports usually included in the Board Exhibits were not yet available and that July's report would be included next month. Mr. Hunt reviewed the staff report. The Directors discussed discharge violations from 2002 to 2020, the importance of reporting those violations, and director benefits provided by T-TSA.

Public Comment –

Jane Davis was concerned about violations, union suppression, and defense lawyers. Pippin Mader said there was a turbidity violation this past month, pH violations were significant; he asked questions about director benefits at T-TSA; discussed the State Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) ruling; and had negative comments about agency management. Carl Davis read a letter that was submitted to District Board of Directors with information about T-TSA's structure and operations, LRWQCB, the watershed, T-TSA Board, violations, BNR project, T-TSA's personnel policies, and director compensation.

- B-9** Capital Projects Advisory Committee (CAP) – Ms. Grindle stated that the committee would meet this Thursday (8/27/20) virtually to reassess Group 3 Projects, no action would be taken.

- B-10** Firewise Community – Mr. Stepner provided an update. Firewise Community information packets were distributed to homeowners by Toby Gajar, Eagle Scout candidate. Mr. Stepner reminded the public to submit data on the time and money spent on defensible space to the Firewise Council. The council should receive a response regarding the CalFire Foundation Grant application this week. A virtual evacuation drill will take place on September 12th at 4:00, initiated by Nixle and NextDoor notifications. There was a discussion about the requirements to remain a Firewise Community. Mr. Sheehan said he was happy to assist with communication to the property owner's association and thanked the Council for the hard work.

C. Public Comment/Presentation.

None.

D. Financial Consent Agenda Items.

Directors Hover-Smoot and Mercer convened with staff on August 24, 2020 from approximately 3:00 – 3:30 p.m. to review items D-1 through D-8 and other finance related items on the agenda. Ms. Grindle provided a summary including a discussion of wildland fire strike team revenue, connection fees from the Palisades project and the building loan payment. Director Mercer said the online bill pay platform has facilitated efficient bill collection.

Public Comment – None.

Director Hover-Smoot made a motion to approve the financial consent agenda which was seconded by Director Mercer. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes
Hover-Smoot – Yes
Hudson – Yes
Ilfeld – Yes
Mercer – Yes

E. Approve Minutes.

E-1 Minutes for the Board of Directors Regular Meeting of July 28, 2020.

The Board reviewed the minutes, accepted public comment, and approved the minutes for the Board of Directors regular meeting of July 28, 2020.

Public Comment – None.

Director Ilfeld made a motion to approve the minutes for the Board of Directors meeting of July 28, 2020 which was seconded by Director Mercer. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes
Hover-Smoot – Yes
Hudson – Yes
Ilfeld – Yes
Mercer – Yes

F. Old & New Business.

F-1 Community Update – SVPSPD Response to COVID-19

The Board reviewed the item and accepted public comment.

Mr. Geary provided an update on the District's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The District continues to follow guidance provided by the California Department of Public Health and Placer County Public Health. Placer County is no longer on the State Monitoring List. The Fire Department has been deep cleaning between shifts. The Operations Department continues to work from two different sites to limit exposure if a crew member becomes ill. The administration department staff remains working remotely when feasible, however workload related to annual billing has increased the need for some staff to work from the office, with 1 administrative personnel typically in the office each day. Mr. Geary continues to attend weekly meetings related to the management of COVID-19. The COVID-19 Business Operations Plan and Training and requirements of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act have been implemented and are ongoing. Notary services and community use of the board room continues to be suspended. The Fire Department is installing child safety seat by appointment and on a case-by-case basis. The District has some concerns regarding distance learning as related to staff with children. There was a brief discussion about reintegration and COVID-19 screening after strike team assignments.

Public Comment – None.

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F-2 District Name Change.

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment, and adopted Resolution 2020-17 changing the name of the district to Olympic Valley Public Service District.

Mr. Geary reviewed the staff report.

The Directors reflected on the emotional decision to change the name of the District. The name 'Squaw' is a positive word for many residents and reflects the place people have made their home. However, the Board was grateful to the research compiled by staff and Alterra Mountain Company which shows the word is derogatory towards Native American women and thus, native American women should have the final say in the emotion attached to the word, not residents. The Directors agreed that while difficult, the name should be changed and that changing the name does not change the District's ability to provide services and honor its mission. The Director's agreed fiscal impact should be minimized where possible.

Public Comment –

Ms. Asher read and summarized the public comment submitted via email. At the time of the meeting, there were three emails in support, two in opposition, and one noting that the issue was worthy of consideration. One additional email in support and one in opposition were received by staff after public comment closed. All comment was sent to the Board prior to the meeting or as soon as it was received.

David Stepner asked if the District anticipated any legal challenges from the International Olympic Committee. Mr. Geary responded that the District will consult with counsel before the change is made official. Mr. Stepner said that the Mutual Water Company will likely follow suit and asked that he be informed of the District's legal opinion. He noted that he felt "Olympic Valley" was the best choice for the District's name.

Helen Fillmore, a representative of the Washoe tribe, offered additional perspective on the derogatory nature of the name. She stated that a name change is overdue but that it is not too late to make positive change and have additional positive memories within the Valley. She said that she hopes the Board will be leaders within the Valley and make the change.

Keith Fountain said he appreciated the compiled research and agreed with changing the name but thought the District and others might benefit from waiting to see what name the Ski Resort selected and cautioned being first to change the name.

Russell Poulsen said he supported the change. He was concerned about the fiscal impact and thus supported attrition of assets and was against a community wide survey. He noted his parent's intention to honor the Washoe, Paiute, and other tribes within the Valley.

Director Hudson made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-17 and directed staff to work with District counsel to move forward with the name Olympic Valley Public Service District. The motion was seconded by Director Ilfeld. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed.

Cox – Yes
Hover-Smoot – Yes
Hudson – Yes
Ilfeld – Yes
Mercer – Yes

F-3 Towable Air Compressor Purchase.

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment, approved the purchase of an air compressor which meets current air quality standards, authorized the General Manager to execute contractual documents, declared the existing air compressor as surplus equipment, and authorized staff to conduct a sale, donate and/or dispose of the item.

Mr. Burks reviewed the staff report and in response to questions from the Board stated that he hopes the District can sell the old compressor for a couple thousand dollars, though it may be difficult since it cannot be used in California.

Public Comment – None.

Director Hudson made a motion to approve the purchase of an air compressor in an amount of \$21,927.27 which meets current air quality standards, to authorize the General Manager to execute contractual documents, declare the existing air compressor as surplus equipment, and authorize staff to conduct a sale, donate and/or dispose of the item. The motion was seconded by Director Mercer. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed.

Cox – Yes
Hover-Smoot – Yes
Hudson – Yes
Ilfeld – Yes
Mercer – Yes

F-4 Short Term Rental (STR) Inspection Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment, approved the MOU with Placer County to memorialize their respective roles in the enforcement of Article 9.42 requiring that every STR have a Life-Safety Inspection, and authorized the General Manager to execute the MOU.

Chief Riley reviewed the staff report. There was a discussion about the process for payment collection.

Public Comment –

Russell Poulsen asked when the Fire Department would start performing inspections. Chief Riley responded that they have already started.

Director Hover-Smoot made a motion to approve the MOU with Placer County to memorialize the respective roles in the enforcement of Article 9.42 requiring that every STR have a Life-Safety Inspection and authorized the General Manager to execute the MOU. The motion was seconded by Director Ilfeld. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed.

Cox – Yes

Hover-Smoot – Yes

Hudson – Yes

Ilfeld – Yes

Mercer – Yes

F-5 Notice of Completion – 1810 Roof Replacement Project.

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment, and authorized staff to file a Notice of Completion with Placer County for the 1810 Roof Replacement Project.

Mr. Hunt reviewed the staff report.

Public Comment – None.

Director Mercer made a motion to authorize staff to file a Notice of Completion with Placer County for the 1810 Roof Replacement Project. The motion was seconded by Director Hover-Smoot. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed.

Cox – Yes

Hover-Smoot – Yes

Hudson – Yes

Ilfeld – Yes

Mercer – Yes

G. Management Status Reports.

G-1 Fire Department Report

Chief Riley reviewed the report. A structure fire was successfully stopped this past week. Chief Riley provided an update on wildland fire strike teams. The Surplus sale that was authorized last month netted a \$578.00 revenue. The radios will be donated to South Lake Tahoe Ambulance JPA (officially, the California Tahoe Emergency Services Operations Authority and known as the Cal-Tahoe JPA.)

G-2 Water & Sewer Operations Report

Mr. Burks reviewed the report. Single family residential construction inspections have been transferred from the Engineering Department to the Operations Department. Backflow testing is being completed. Mr. Burks reminded the attendees that “flushable” wipes are not flushable. He asked that the Board and public educate neighbors that the residential dumpsters should not be used for green waste and large amounts of trash should be taken directly to the landfill.

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G-3 Engineering Report

Mr. Hunt reviewed the report and provided an update on the current projects. The West Tank recoating project is on schedule to be completed in the fall of 2021, and the 1810 roof project is complete. Ms. Kinsinger started in the Junior Engineer position on Monday (8/24/20), with a lot of applicable experience from Farr West Engineering. The Board will be asked to recertify the Sanitary System Management Plan (SSMP) update in an upcoming meeting.

G-4 Administration & Office Report

Ms. Asher reviewed the report. Ms. Asher explained that there no candidates running for Board positions against the incumbents (Katy Hover-Smoot, Fred Ilfeld, and Victoria Mercer). Thus, there will not be an election, the Board of Supervisors will appoint the incumbents (likely at the November meeting). The District will give the new Oaths of Office after the appointments are made.

G-5 General Manager Report

Mr. Geary reviewed the report and provided a summary of the Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) East Slope meeting. He also gave an update on the Resort at Squaw Creek development agreement (DA) and Well 18-3R project. The Board requested that information on the timeline and history of the DA be provided when that item comes before the Board. Negotiations for the Village at Squaw Valley Specific Plan DA are also anticipated to begin soon.

G-6 Legal Report (verbal)

Mr. Archer applauded the public, staff and Director's actions related to the name change and said that the District will research any legal concerns. He provided an update on the Resort at Squaw Creek development agreement and the time extension for the subdivision improvements. Mr. Archer noted that he will begin to review any changes to the Village at Squaw Valley project which will drive changes to the prior iterations of that development agreement.

G-7 Directors' Comments (verbal)

The Directors reiterated the importance of understanding the T-TSA violations. The Directors also reiterated that the public is urged to attend and speak their minds at the monthly Board meeting.

H. Adjourn.

Director Ilfeld made a motion, seconded by Director Hover-Smoot to adjourn at 12:00 p.m. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes

Hover-Smoot – Yes

Hudson – Yes

Ilfeld – Yes

Mercer – Yes

By, J. Asher