

**OLYMPIC VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES #885
AUGUST 3, 2021**

*Agenda with board packet and staff reports is available at the following link:
<https://www.ovpsd.org/board-agenda-special-meeting-08-03-2021>*

A. Call to Order, Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance. President Dale Cox called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

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

Directors Absent: Fred Ilfeld

Staff Present: Jessica Asher, Board Secretary; Brandon Burks, Operations Manager; Mike Geary, General Manager; Dave Hunt, District Engineer; Allen Riley, Fire Chief.

Others Present: Joe Barron, Registered Professional Forester, Northstar Fire Dept.; Rob Beltamo, Washoe Tribal Planning Director; Stephen Benedict, Director of Engineering, Resort at Squaw Creek; Danielle Bradfield, Registered Professional Forester; Barry Callenberger, Wildland Rx and Project Consultant; Mike Carabetta, Firewise Community Council Member; Jared Deck, Placer County Environmental Engineering Manager; Jeff Dowling, Registered Professional Forester and Project Consultant; Michael Gross, Squaw Valley / Alpine Meadows Vice President of Mountain Operations; Spencer Holmes, Deer Creek Resources GIS Project Manager; Susan Jamerson, Washoe Environmental Protection Department; Jean Lange, Community Member; Casey Lyons, Placer County Supervising Parks & Grounds Worker; David Lockhart, Resort at Squaw Creek General Manager; Mike Martin, Squaw Valley / Alpine Meadows Chief Engineer; David Mercer, Forester Contractor and Community Member; Eric Poulsen, Community Member; Shawna Pratt, Placer County Emergency Services Specialist; Peter Rexer, Resort at Squaw Creek Homesites HOA Board of Directors and Vibrant Planet Member; Ted Rel, Associate Planner, Placer County Department of Parks and Open Space; Mike Rufenacht, Assistant Chief CalFIRE Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit; Chief Sommers, Fire Chief North Lake Tahoe Fire District; David Stepner, Firewise Community Council Member; Brandon Thurber, Placer County Senior Civil Engineer; David Wiener, Resort at Squaw Creek Homesites HOA Board of Directors.

Director Cox led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Public Comment/Presentation.
None.

C. Award Contract – Hidden Lake Loop Water & Sewer Line Replacement Project.
The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment, approved the construction contract with Longo Incorporated, and authorized the General Manager to execute all contractual documents.

Mr. Hunt reviewed the staff report. The Board asked who would perform construction inspection services and Mr. Hunt responded that Farr West Engineering is under contract for inspection and that Alexa Kinsinger, Junior Engineer, would also shadow the process as a learning opportunity.

APPROVED

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

J. Asher
8/31/21

Public Comment – None.

Director Hover-Smoot made a motion to approve the construction contract with Longo Incorporated, in an amount not-to-exceed \$546,274 with a contingency of \$30,000, and to authorize the General Manager to execute all contractual documents. 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 – Absent | Mercer – Yes

D. Drought – Stage II/Water Conservation Restrictions.

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment, and authorized implementation of Stage II Water Conservation Restrictions.

Mr. Burks reviewed the staff report. While it is not known if the Mutual Water Company will implement the same restrictions, they have historically. The Board voiced support of the water purveyors in the Valley having the same restrictions.

Director Hudson made a motion to authorize implementation of Stage II Water Conservation Restrictions, which was seconded by Director Mercer. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed.

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

E. Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Stakeholders Meeting

The Board reviewed the item and accepted public comment.

Mr. Geary and Chief Riley introduced the CWPP, all attendees introduced themselves, Mr. Callenberger presented a slideshow providing project background and Mr. Holmes provided an overview of the two District-wide maps produced.

Public Comment:

There was a dynamic and informative discussion with all participants providing knowledge in their area of expertise. Topics included:

Risk: Overall the Valley is high-risk; however, the seasonal range is short. There are many areas where trees need to be thinned, particularly on private parcels, within the north and south sides of the Valley, and along the Truckee River corridor. Historically, fire modeling is very accurate, however, the site visit showed an increase in fuels compared with the modeled vegetation and thus risk is likely higher than modeled. There are also structure-to-structure concerns with cedar shake and wood sided homes.

Data: The District is a partner in a regional effort to produce one-foot resolution LiDAR data which will be provided to Deer Creek Resources when available, likely in the late fall of 2021. Deer Creek Resources will need information on avalanche corridors as vegetation removal in these areas may be more minimal so as not to increase avalanche risk.

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Coordination: This meeting served as an initial coordination effort between many of the region's stakeholders. Several participants discussed the importance of coordinated efforts on project prioritization, funding, and the grant procurement process. Mr. Callenberger emphasized the importance of identifying all currently planned projects in the CWPP. Identifying all projects helps to leverage matching funds for grant opportunities and when prioritizing projects. The Placer County representatives said they would provide shapefiles of projects if possible. The District said they will also share maps and plans with the County as the process continues.

Permitting: There was a discussion about the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) permitting process which generally consumes two to five years and is required if products are extracted on federal land. A NEPA assessment is generally required on Federal Land while private land generally requires a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process which is less time consuming. However, project boundaries should be selected holistically and ownership and permitting requirements should not be as influential in determining project prioritization and boundaries. Foresters and the Forest Service will help navigate the federal process once projects are underway.

Firewise Council: Mr. Callenberger said the Firewise Assessment will be reviewed and included as part of the CWPP. The Firewise Council is interested in information on vegetation extracted and money spent on fuels management to maintain the Firewise Community designation.

CWPP: The CWPP will prioritize projects, however, the CWPP will be a living document and priorities can change. The final CWPP document will include a set of maps outlining all projects in a single overall map and will provide individual maps of each project to help with the grant process. Mr. Callenberger said that Deer Creek Resources will be working individually with stakeholders and will be sending a questionnaire to peer agencies and attendees.

J. Adjourn.

Director Hover-Smoot made a motion, seconded by Director Cox to adjourn at 11:45 a.m. The motion passed.

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

By, J. Asher