

PROVOST & PRITCHARD CONSULTING GROUP

Administrator Program

Keeler CSD Community Engagement Meeting

January 21, 2025

The Community Engagement Meeting began at 6:00 PM with two attendees online and three in person, in addition to four staff members present from the Provost & Pritchard team.

Hamish Kellam from Provost & Pritchard opened up the meeting by reviewing the agenda and introducing the team and sub-consultants. Hamish reported that the Post-Administrator draft plan had been submitted to the state and that a long-term consolidation plan has not yet been determined. Provost & Pritchard will continue to oversee the process through its contract with the State, which is scheduled to end on February 28, 2026. Operations and Maintenance funding has also been extended through February 28, 2026.

Provost & Pritchard is evaluating future challenges, feasibility, and conditions for long-term consolidation with neighboring systems.

Since the last quarterly meeting, arsenic levels have decreased to 70 µg/L and manganese levels have decreased to 68 µg/L. There were no incident reports over the holiday season. The fire house leak will be repaired by McMor, who have advised that a full system shutdown will be required for the repair. Provost & Pritchard will send notices to alert Keeler residents in advance of the shutdown, if required.

A new emergency text message alert system is now available to residents who wish to receive emergency notifications via text. Residents can [sign up here](#).

Financial reports were not immediately available from Inyo County from end of 2024, but Hamish reported that operational costs had decreased significantly with McMor Water Services fees. Fewer repairs have been required, which also contributed to lower emergency costs.

The Keeler CSD Board of Directors tentatively approved increasing the base water rates to \$50, so Provost & Pritchard proceed with assisting with the Proposition 218 election. A Proposition 218 process is required to raise water rates, and a notice will be mailed 45 days in advance of a public hearing. The public hearing will become part of the next quarterly meeting and Keeler CSD board meeting. If a majority of property owners or tenants submit written protests, the rate increase cannot proceed. If fewer than 50% of property owners or tenants protest, the district can adopt new rates.

RCAC continues to deliver bottled water once a month.