

KEELER COMMUNITY SERVICE DIST.
BOARD MEETING
March 16, 2021

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Sharon Cummings
Dan Dickman
Mike Gibson
Noah Bricker
Jim Macey

PUBLIC PRESENT

Karen Riggs Robert Spry
Alice Robertson Tammy Hursell
Carole Puryear Patty Thorn

1. Meeting was called to order at 5:30PM by acting Chairperson Noah Bricker.

2. Old Business:

- Review/Pass regular board meeting on March 16, 2021, minutes.
Dan made a motion to accept minutes with a correction made to section regarding Kathe Barton requiring bottles to be removed in old chlorine room, with a second made by Sharon. All board members in agreement.
- Customer's Report: All property owners have been billed. Many are keeping up or ahead of billing.
- Review/Approval of Financial Report:
 - Net amount in account: \$66, 813.04 (from County as of March 2021)
 - *Further discussion took place about discrepancies in the monthly financial report. The monthly financials received from Inyo County will be made available on the KCSD website from now on.
- Petty Cash: Cash on hand of \$145.01 – A request has been submitted to re-fill the petty cash on hand.
- Dan made a motion to approve the financial report, with a second made by Mike.
- Alice made a request to receive the agenda, minutes, financial report and petty cash 72-hours prior to the monthly board meetings.
- Sharon was not able to conduct a survey among the water users to determine who would qualify for the 4th tier. Alice stated that she had spoken with other Keeler residents about the establishment of the 4th tier and that residents are not happy about it due to no farmland is present in Keeler. Jim discussed that the 4th tier was established for bare land with water service connected to the land so that owners could irrigate trees and other plants on the property, not for farmland or to start full farming activities.
- Alice stated that the board works for Keeler water users. Mike responded that the water board is permitted to charge an agricultural fee. Patty requested to know what

the additional fee for irrigation would be. Noah responded that the rate would be approximately \$12.00 and that it is different from all existing tiers. Alice stated that rates should be set differently for individuals who do not actually live in Keeler. Mike responded that if a water user is connected to the water system, it determines the fee one is charged.

- Noah discussed that the water board must be consistent with policies and procedures, such as with the Hat Creek Construction Co. using water from the KCSD. Discussion occurred to assess how much water was truly used and how it was tracked and documented. Sharon stated that 2,000 gallons of water was used and paid for by the company.
- Alice discussed the water leak down the alley. She went with Jon Duke and Robert Spry. The leak was repaired in less than three minutes and cost \$5.00 a piece for the plates to fix the meter bottoms. All meters should be fixed.
- Alice stated that the issues at Sarah Miller's property were fixed quickly and affordably. Alice also requested to know who is responsible for paying for the electricity and water wasted during water leaks, stating that the board should be responsible. She stated that charging water users additional money is not fair.

3. New Business:

- Sharon stated that she can no longer continue the pilot project. She is handing all information over to Leigh.
- Jim discussed that Kathe Barton insists the KCSD move forward with the POU project. California Rural Water is conducting a feasibility study to solve the arsenic issue, which should be finished by June 2021.
- Mike requested to know when the last corrective action was completed. Sharon responded that Carole finished it in 2020 and that a new one is due on April 2, 2021. Mike stated he would work on it.
- Mike stated that all POUs should be tested one last time, all residents should be given bottled water, and further water updates would be given. Sharon stated that 6-7 POUs still need to be tested.
- Jim discussed that CalRural water's solution would involve a point of entry for water and that a system would not be located within the house.
- Noah discussed the KCSD's Quickbooks subscription. The current subscription expires in May 2021 and will need to be renewed so that no records are lost. Alice mentioned that Microsoft Excel might be an option for maintaining accounting records. Sharon stated that the county has a say in how the KCSD maintains financial records. Leigh stated that she is familiar with Quickbooks and would like to continue using it.

- Carole discussed the feasibility study. She expressed needing help with the emergency response, operations plan, and financial report. Alice stated she would be interested in helping Carole.

4. Director's Reports:

- Sharon Cummings: Announced that she would be retiring from the KCSD and that this meeting would be her last as a board member.
- Dan Dickman: Karen Riggs has volunteered to help with the KCSD website. He also announced that he would be retiring from the KCSD and that this meeting would be his last as a board member. Alice stated that she knows of two people who would like to join the board and that she would be happy to help Karen with any questions she may have.
- Noah Bricker: Stated that if any Keeler resident can haul his own water to please do so. He also reminded everyone that water distribution continues to take place on the 1st and 15th of every month from 8AM-9AM.
- Mike Gibson: Would like to continue discussing for the next board meeting how to manage outside water sales. The KCSD needs a formal way to keep track of water being sold and whatnot. If the website continues, all documents need to be posted on the site.
- Jim Macey: Discussed his search for a certified water operator. Kathe Barton confirmed that the KCSD must have a D1 and T1. She said the Inyo County board of directors had talked about hiring an operator to work with the special districts. Matt Kingsley said that that was not officially decided but that the county would help the KCSD find an operator. Kathe Barton's boss located an operator in Alpine County, but the person is too far away. The other person found is located near Kramer Junction, which is also far away. Justin from CalRural Water located an operator near Inyokern named Jim Bracken. A job description for the position cannot be finished until the feasibility study is completed. The KCSD would need to determine how much it would cost to hire Jim Bracken into this role.

5. Public Comment:

- Alice commented that all board meeting minutes should be accurate and should include exactly what the person said. She thanked the board for their work. She agreed with Mike that all information should be posted on the website.
- Robert thanked Leigh for her work as the secretary
- Karen wanted to let everyone know that managing the website is made simpler when documents are sent to her in PDF form.

6. Dan made a motion to adjourn at 6:52PM, with a second made by Noah. All board members in agreement.

Minutes by Leigh McLendon, Secretary

Board Member Signature



Date

4/20/21