

KEELER COMMUNITY SERVICE DIST.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS’
MINUTES
January 21, 2020

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Dan Dickman (chairperson)
Carole Puryear
Sharon Cumming
Mike Gibson

COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT

Corey Upton Jim Macey
Steven Puryear Brian Desmond
Noah Patty Thorn
Alice Robertson Alan Akin

GUESTS PRESENT

Holly Alpert Ph.D.
Kathe Barton
Sarah Petersen

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:01pm

2. Introduction of special guests: Holly Alpert Ph.D. (Program Director) from Integrated Regional Water Management Program; Kathe Barton and Sarah Petersen from Inyo County Environmental Health Office.
 - Holly introduced the IRWMP program as a water management in the Eastern Sierra. They are up on grant applications from the State of California for “disadvantage” small water districts. She proposed to apply for a grant offered by the State to assist with technical assistance and private development. The request is based on a professional needs assessment first. The grant could help with a technical expert working on a one-on-one, qualified Keeler worker to get operational plans updated. When Holly met with Carole, as a board member, the need for some money to create a feasibility study for dealing with the on-going arsenic issue was discussed. She indicated the grand application needs to be in by the end of January.
She and Carole have already begun working on it. What Holly was hoping to receive from meeting with the board, was the go-ahead from the board for a feasibility study. The possible cost of the study would be in the range of \$20,000 and for technical assistance about \$15 – 20,000 range. Sharon, a board member, asked if KCSD must maintain its current levels. Kathe responded to the grant possibility, “the town would still need to continue working on the system’s maintenance and POU updates”.
 - Dan opened up the meeting for other questions from the public. Alice Robertson spoke about the historical issue of the silica and the Ph levels in the tank that have been out of balance. She volunteered to work with anyone to address this issue, as she has had prior experience. Kathe asked if she had a current certification to work with the water. Alice responded it had lapsed a few years ago, but believed it could easily be renewed after an on-line course. She would renew if her help would be needed. Kathe Barton stated the arsenic levels have been stable until recently where there have been spikes in the POU’s in varying residents.
 - More discussion was heard about no follow-through on magnesium testing at the POU and other issues with the present arsenic removal system. The last cartridges purchased have not all worked. At this time there are no other suppliers of these cartridges certified by the state of California. Carole and

Dan have been working with a company in Arizona to a company to recreate or take over the production the original Isulex units.

- Kathe cautioned the board to not buy a large quantity of filters until a field test (pilot project) could be conducted by several residences on the “new” POU’s capabilities.
- Noah asked when he installs his whole house reverse osmoses system if it could be also included in the testing. Kathe responded, regardless of the outcome of the testing on his unit the KCSD Board was only responsible for the KCSD’s POU. She welcomed his participation in the testing.
- Holly requested an official “go-ahead” for the grant application from the board. Dan explained without having it as an action item (it was an informational item) the board needed to call an emergency meeting to pass the request for a grant application submission.
- The board agreed to meet the following day (Jan. 22, 2020) at 1pm to pass this action.
- Question was raised by Sharon to Kathe the State’s Water Management Title 22; Sec. 64417 regulations stipulates the Board of Directors has the authority to turn off a customer’s water as a result of non-compliance of the POU directive. Kathe agreed, the State insist customer compliance to have a working POU unit in every active residence. If the customer does not comply the Board MUST turn their water off or risk non- compliance for the entire community. Kathe also stated no By-Laws Article needs to be created because this is a State regulation.
- Dan Thanked the guest and continued the agenda

3. Old Business:

- Review of October’s minutes: Sharon motioned to pass them with one correction, Mike seconded. All the board responded yea.
- Customers’ Report: given by secretary; all bills were mailed out with notices to only drink water from the filtered source. There are several delinquent accounts.
- Review/Approval of Financial Report: Tabled to next month.
- Progress on KCSD’s Website: Carole completed the website to satisfy requirements. The new website’s address is: keelercsd.specialdistrict.org.
- The web site has board members, meeting dates, agendas and minutes from previous month.
- Follow-up on rate charge for transient users: Board found it unnecessary to create a new charge.
- Up-date on trash “Roll Off” bin. It will be left at the corner of Laws & Franklin until full.

4. New Business

- KCSD is still looking for a new supplier for State Certified POU units.
- Action Item: The need to replace defective POU units for under \$1,000. No Action was taken.
- Possibility of a rate increase by July: Tabled indefinitely
- Review/Revise/Adoption of By-Laws: Secretary was charged to correct/retype the minutes to include last month’s insertion to Article V; Sec. C.

5. Directors’ Reports

- Dan Dickman-reported on need to shut off the towns water (main line) to repair leak on corner of dump road and Oliver. Much discussion ensued with Noah and several others volunteering to work on it. A shut off date was set for Feb. 5, 2020 from 9am to 4pm.. Notices will be sent in the monthly billing along with posting notices around town.

- Carole Puryear-completed the County’s fourth quarter water reading and will post on web site
- Sharon Cummings-Directed the secretary to create such plan and fill in the required “Emergency Notification Plan”.
- Mike Gibson-expressed concern over the unfilled Board position. He suggested posting notices around and on the web site.

6. Public Comment: Patty Thorn stated she has been having issues with her water. The board said they will look into it.

Hearing no more comments, Dan closed the meeting at 8:15pm. All the board agreed.

Minutes Submitted by _____Secretary

Board Member’s Approval _____ Dated _____