

THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF
CASTROVILLE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
August 17, 2021

President James Cochran called the meeting to order at 4:36 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Directors Present (Virtual GoToMeeting): President James Cochran, Director Cosme Padilla, and Director Ron Stefani

Absent: Vice President Glenn Oania and Director Adriana Melgoza

General Manager: Eric Tynan

Secretary to the Board: Lidia Santos

Staff Present: Guadalupe Ibarra

Guest: Grant Leonard

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by General Manager Eric Tynan at the request of President James Cochran.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. A motion was made by Ron Stefani and seconded by Cosme Padilla to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2021 Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

AYES:	3	Directors:	Cochran, Stefani and Padilla
NOES:	0	Directors:	
ABSENT/NOT			
PARTICIPATING:	2	Directors:	Melgoza and Oania

Consent Calendar accepted as presented

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Notice to public drinking water systems from California Water Boards regarding the ongoing dry conditions in California, prepare for drought impacts statewide, water source contingency and conservation planning.
2. Letter of support from Castroville CSD General Manager Eric Tynan for the Central Coast Wetland Group's proposed multi-benefit recreational, water quality and flood plain enhancement project, "Castroville to the Coast".
3. Letter regarding the Carmel River Cease and Desist Order. WRO 2016-0016, Milestone 5 from California American Water to State Water Resources Control Board dated October 21, 2020.
4. Via: Email Monterey County Farm Bureau regarding response to LandWatch of Monterey County letter dated July 19, 2021 to the SVBGSA Board of Directors.
5. Via: Email Monterey One Water General Manager Sciuto to Castroville CSD General Manager Tynan regarding Monterey One Water has developed a new Low-Income Sewer Assistance Program to help qualifying residential customers with their wastewater bill and for Castroville CSD to come alongside and join effort.

Correspondence Calendar accepted as presented

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. *Monterey County Farm Bureau – Why American Farms Need Immigration Reform*
2. *Monterey Herald – Monterey Peninsula water officials object to Cal Am’s ‘unfounded accusations’*
3. *Monterey Herald – Monterey water officials told to pay for another Cal Am review*
4. RCAC Certificate of Completion, General Manager Eric Tynan for Financial Management and Accounting with QuickBooks online-Part 1 and Part 2
5. *Monterey Herald – Drought: The end of California’s groundwater free-for-all*
6. *Monterey Herald – Monterey Peninsula letter writers blast commission decision*
7. *Monterey Herald – Monterey Peninsula water officials reluctantly agree to pay for buy-out study*
8. *Environment – Without Enough Water To Go Around, Farmers In California Are Exhausting Aquifers*

Informational items accepted as presented

PRESENTATIONS:

1. None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Recognize Customer Service Representative Guadalupe Ibarra; employee’s long-term service contribution of 20 years to Castroville CSD – General Manager Eric Tynan acknowledged Customer Service Representative Guadalupe Ibarra for her long-term service of 20 years to Castroville CSD. She was presented with an award for her long-term service contribution of 20 years to the District. She was congratulated by the Castroville CSD Board of Directors and staff present. Per the employee handbook for her 20 years of service to the District, Ms. Ibarra will also receive a \$200 gift card/certificate of her choice. A motion is made by Cosme Padilla and seconded by Ron Stefani to recognize Guadalupe Ibarra, employee’s long-term service contribution of 20 years to Castroville CSD. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

AYES: 3 Directors: Cochran, Stefani and Padilla
NOES: 0 Directors:
ABSENT/NOT
PARTICIPATING: 2 Directors: Melgoza and Oania

2. Letter via email from LandWatch asking for the support of the Castroville CSD Board of Directors to support its request to the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency that, pending completion of a sustainability study for the Deep Aquifers, it impose a moratorium on extractions from new Deep Aquifer wells in the 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasin, i.e., wells that were not permitted prior to July 1, 2021 – After much review and consideration, the Castroville CSD Board of Directors came to the decision that they cannot support this request as currently, the Castroville CSD is planning to drill a new well. Per Director Ron Stefani the GSA plan states that any action regarding this matter will take place in 2023. A motion is made by Ron Stefani and seconded by Cosme Padilla for the Castroville CSD Board of Directors to not support the request from LandWatch to the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, that pending completion of a sustainability study for the Deep Aquifers, it impose a moratorium on extractions from new Deep Aquifer wells in the 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasin, i.e., wells that were not permitted prior to July 1, 2021. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

AYES: 3 Directors: Cochran, Stefani and Padilla
NOES: 0 Directors:
ABSENT/NOT
PARTICIPATING: 2 Directors: Melgoza and Oania

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3. Consider approving proposal for professional engineering services-Emergency Deep Aquifer Supply and Storage Tank Project for \$288,747 from MNS Engineers – General Manager Eric Tynan informed the Board that the proposal can be viewed on pages 63-70 of this board packet, which he has reviewed with MNS Engineers. The professional engineering services for the planning and draft design document preparation for the Emergency Deep Aquifer Supply and Storage Tank Project needs to be completed so the District can move forward with putting out to bid the construction phase of this project. In addition, this project will be subsidized with the IRWM Implementation grant of \$395,000. The purchase of the property next to Site 4 should be finalized September 2021. A motion is made by Cosme Padilla and seconded by Ron Stefani to approve the proposal for professional engineering services-Emergency Deep Aquifer Supply and Storage Tank Project for \$288,747 from MNS Engineers. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

AYES: 3 Directors: Cochran, Stefani and Padilla
NOES: 0 Directors:
ABSENT/NOT
PARTICIPATING: 2 Directors: Melgoza and Oania

4. Consider new office hours for Castroville CSD (close for lunch 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday) – General Manager Eric Tynan recommended the Board permanently close the District office for lunch from 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Closing an hour for lunch, addresses many staff and Board concerns, which can be viewed per the memo addressed to the Board by General Manager Eric Tynan on page 71 on this board packet. In addition, for the past several weeks the District office has been closed for lunch and there have been no complaints from customers. A motion is made by Cosme Padilla and seconded by Ron Stefani to approve permanently closing the District office for lunch from 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

AYES: 3 Directors: Cochran, Stefani and Padilla
NOES: 0 Directors:
ABSENT/NOT
PARTICIPATING: 2 Directors: Melgoza and Oania

5. New District CCSD decals on all district vehicles and entry signs – General Manager Eric Tynan let the Board know that new CCSD decals have been placed on all district vehicles and the entry sign. Signs by Van designed and placed quality colorized decals on the vehicles. He is pleased with the work they did and invited the Board to stop by the District yard to view the decals.
6. Recommend destruction of Well #3 in lieu of feasibility of desalter – General Manager Eric Tynan recommended to the Board to proceed with the destruction of Well #3 due to elevated levels exceeding MCL's for chlorides, TDS and specific conductance in Well #3. A memo addressed to the Board with his recommendation can be viewed on pages 72-74 of this board packet. He had researched several options in particular the feasibility of desalter and concluded these options would not work. Well #3 has been disconnected. Also, the District may need to return the \$395,000 grant for an emergency water supply for the proposed Well #6 as the grant was awarded based on the destruction of Well #3. Furthermore, the Castroville CSD has already agreed and submitted \$83,000 for MCWRA to destroy Well #3, CCSD is working diligently to complete the purchase of land next to Well #4 for a new Deep Well #6, complete permitting and construction of Well #6 and continue to pursue additional grant funding. Director Stefani and the other Directors in present were disappointed that Well #3 cannot be saved. After some discussion, a motion is made by Cosme Padilla and seconded by Ron Stefani to approve the destruction of Well #3. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

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AYES: 3 Directors: Cochran, Stefani and Padilla
NOES: 0 Directors:
ABSENT/NOT
PARTICIPATING: 2 Directors: Melgoza and Oania

7. Discuss restorations and improvements of Castroville downtown overhead sign – General Manager Eric Tynan discussed with the Board the possible restoration and improvements of the Castroville downtown overhead sign. Examples of different designs were drawn by Signs by Van, which can be viewed on pages 75-76 of this board packet. General Manager Eric Tynan also informed the Board that it was brought to his attention that the poles are rusting from the inside and need to be repaired. Per General Manager Eric Tynan cost to replace the poles is estimated at \$160k-\$190k. If the sign is brought down CalTrans may not allow the poles and sign to go back up. Director Stefani stated having these poles rusting is a safety hazard and they need to be repaired. He informed General Manager Eric Tynan to contact Caltrans to discuss further and to consider including the restoration of the sign as part of the CalTrans Improvement project for Castroville and also contact Supervisor Philipps. Additionally, in writing obtain a letter from CalTrans if the sign comes down for repairs that they will permit it to go back up. Per General Manager Eric Tynan, Caltrans usually does not like to get involved with historical structures but he will contact them.
8. Submittal of Castroville CSD's risk and resilience assessment Environmental Protection Agency Certification (EPA) – General Manager Eric Tynan wanted to inform the Board that he had submitted the risk and resilience assessment certification for the Castroville CSD, which is mandated by the EPA.
9. Castroville Street Improvements by the County of Monterey Resource Management Agency Department of Public Works – General Manager Eric Tynan wanted to make the Board aware of the Castroville street improvements to be made by the County of Monterey Resource Management Agency Department of Public Works; from Main Street to Blackie Road and Castro Street to Merritt Street, Moro Cojo to Wood Street and Geil Street to McDougal Street. On page 78 of this board packet a map of the proposed slurry areas and patching can be viewed. He also informed the Board of a sink hole that has developed on Geil Street/Koester Street this past Sunday, located not far from the District office. He also had discussed the sink hole with the Department of Public Works and since the sewer main is directly below, it was decided emergency repairs would be made by the Castroville CSD. However, he also had the line videoed by Greenline and could not find any cracks in the line. The Don Chapin Company will be doing the emergency repairs this week.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Update on status of grants for Moss Landing-Sewer Zone 3, Castroville-Sewer Zone 1 and Castroville-Water Zone 1 for system upgrades and improvements – General Manager Eric Tynan reported to the Board as mentioned in June that most of these projects are in the implementation process at this time. Current grants awarded are the Clean Water Small Communities Planning Grant (\$500,000) with State Waterboards for administration, preliminary engineering report, plans and specs for sewer in Moss Landing, project assigned to MNS Engineers. He is reviewing plans for the lift stations with plans to have a few of them relocated out of the roadway and also installing spring assisted vault lids. The IRWM Implementation Grant (\$395,000) is with DWR for the Deep Well (Well #6) and the use will be specified in the DWR/MCRWA agreement. Pending, the DAC Involvement Programs amount \$61,807 with DWR is for the design of the Washington Sewer Bypass for Castroville sewer is also assigned to MNS Engineers and they are working on the 60% design phase. Current funding efforts: Moss Landing sewer system improvements, Castroville emergency well replacement, Castroville water supply improvements and Castroville wastewater improvements.

2. Update on Well levels – General Manager Eric Tynan provided the Board with the status of the well levels, which can be viewed on pages 79 and 80 of this board packet. All well levels have continued to drop and then flat lined. He will continue to monitor the well levels.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMUNICATION: When needed, this time is reserved for the Board of Directors to communicate activity, educational classes, and/or Committee reports.

1. Update on Monterey One Water (M1W) board meeting – Director Ron Stefani reported to the Board that it was quite a battle to approve the rate increases as the second reading of the ordinance was not done and it also required to be approved by two-thirds of the board members and they could not get the amount of votes needed. A 5 year rate increase was finally approved that they all agreed on and instead will be effective as of August 1, 2021 instead of July 1, 2021. Cal Am agreed to contribute 2 million towards the Pure Water Expansion project and had come to an agreement with the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District but when it came to signing the agreement, the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District backed out on signing the agreement.
2. Update on Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA) meeting – Director Ron Stefani let the Board know that the GSA has approved the 180/400 basin plan and it is complete. It is out for a 45 day review and will then still require a 90 day waiting period to be finalized. Both he and Eric applied for the 180//400 GSA committee and encourage Grant Leonard to also apply.
3. Update on meetings or educational classes attended by the Directors –Director Cosme Padilla announced that he was appointed by Supervisor Philips to be on the redistricting committee. On a sad note, he wanted to mention that the president and CEO of CHISPA Alfred Diaz-Infante died in a car crash earlier this week in Salinas and just yesterday Carlos Ramos died too. The loss of these two individuals is a great loss to the community. It would be great if the Castroville CSD could recognize these individuals for their contributions they have made to the community.

GENERAL OPERATIONS

1. General Manager's Report – Compliance update, current projects update, meetings/seminars update, staff update, suggestive projects discussions
2. Operation's Report
 - a) Water – Pumpage & Usage Update, Water Testing Update, Current Installation
 - b) Water -Status Update, Current Contractor Work Update, Maintenance/Repair Update, Customer Service Update, Safety Issue
 - c) Sewer & Storm Drain – Jetting, Current Installation Status Update, Current Contractor Work Update, Maintenance/Repair Update, Customer Service Update, Safety Issues
3. Customer /Billing Reports – Water Sales, Water Usage, A/R Update, Customer Service Update
4. Financial Reports – Treasures L.A.I.F. Report, Internal Report, Administration Update

General Operations Reports were accepted as presented

CHECK LIST – June 2021 & July 2021. A motion was made by Cosme Padilla and seconded by Ron Stefani to pay all bills presented. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

AYES:	3	Directors: Cochran, Stefani and Padilla
NOES:	0	Directors:
ABSENT/NOT		
PARTICIPATING:	2	Directors: Melgoza and Oania

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There being no further business, a motion was made by Ron Stefani and seconded by Cosme Padilla to adjourn to the next scheduled Board meeting; the motion carried by the following roll call votes:

AYES:	3	Directors:	Cochran, Stefani and Padilla
NOES:	0	Directors:	
ABSENT/NOT PARTICIPATING:	2	Directors:	Melgoza and Oania

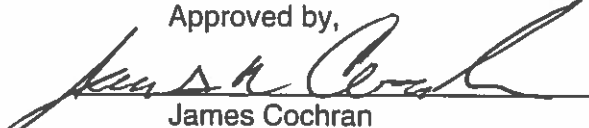
The meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m. until the next scheduled meeting

Respectfully submitted by,



Lidia Santos
Secretary to the Board

Approved by,



James Cochran
President