

1 **ALPINE SPRINGS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**
2 **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**
3 **November 10, 2017**

4 Pursuant to notice given, the regular meeting of the Board of Directors, Alpine Springs County Water District, was held
5 Friday November 10, 2017 in the District Board Room, 270 Alpine Meadows Road
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8 **I. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL**

9 President Grant called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM at the District Office Board Room. All joined in reciting
10 the Pledge of Allegiance.

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12 Directors Present: Janet S. Grant, President; Jon Northrop; Evan Salke; and Dave Smelser. Christine
13 York arrived at 9:05 AM.

14 Directors Absent: None

15 Staff Present: John Collins, General Manager; Judy Friedman, Recording Secretary.

16 Guests Present: Chief Michael Schwartz, Chief Todd Conradson, and Forest Fuels Coordinator Mike
17 Vollmer, North Tahoe Fire Protection District (NTFPD),
18

19 **II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

20 There were no comments on items not on today's agenda.
21

22 **III. ITEMS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION & ACTION**

23 **A. FINANCIAL REPORTA**

24 District CPA Mike Dobrowski was not available for today's meeting, but submitted a written report, which was
25 reviewed by the Board. Director Salke noted there are still some questions Dobrowski was going to address.

26 **Director Smelser made a MOTION to accept the October 31, 2017 Financial Reports as presented.**

27 **Director Northrop SECONDED the motion. Directors Grant, Northrop, Salke, Smelser, and York being**
28 **in favor, the motion was APPROVED unanimously.**

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30 **Director Smelser made a MOTION to approve debits for payroll and checks 29630 – 29685. Director**
31 **Salke SECONDED the motion. Directors Grant, Northrop, Salke, Smelser, and York being in favor, the**
32 **motion was APPROVED unanimously.**
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34 **B. APPROVAL OF MINUTESB**

35 **Director Northrop made a MOTION to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2017 Regular Board**
36 **meeting as presented. Director Smelser SECONDED the motion. Directors Grant, Northrop, Salke,**
37 **Smelser, and York being in favor, the motion was APPROVED unanimously.**
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39 **C. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT.....C**

40 Chief Schwartz reported:

- 41 • Although there were no calls this month, NTFPD has been busy.
- 42 • The Alpine station was staffed 27 days last month. The station has been staffed an average of 28.8 days
43 per month this year.
- 44 • On October 19, twenty-four engines from this region were sent to Northern California fires. Of that, 18
45 were from the Tahoe Basin. The engines went to the Loma Rica fire and then were dispatched to
46 Sonoma. NTFPD engines are credited with saving the Buena Vista Winery.
- 47 • The positive result of the recent precedent-setting fires in Northern California will be changes to fire
48 service in California, if not nationally. Schwartz is involved in this effort as all components of the fires
49 are being investigated. He cautioned against jumping to conclusions about what started and spread the
50 fires as investigations move forward. A lot was learned and the information will lead to better systems.
- 51 • This area is still in unofficial fire season as people burn piles of leaves and controlled burns are taking
52 place. NTFPD is doing a PR campaign to let people know that most smoke they see is from those burns.

- Schwartz emphasized the importance of defensible space. Properly treated properties really do stop fires from spreading.
- Schwartz attended FireShowsWest 2017 in Reno. The keynote speaker was the Michael Hingson, author of “Thunder Dog.” Hingson, blind since infancy, and his seeing-eye dog were heroes getting people out of the burning towers of 9/11. Schwartz participated in a panel discussion, Fire Chiefs Unplugged.
- Eldorado and Placer Counties, OES, and Calfire are exploring ideas to address the short-term rental phenomena from online bookings. People tend to think it’s okay to have outdoor fires without considering health and safety issues of burning in the forest. They equate camp fires with the great outdoors.
- NTFPD has hired a consultant to explore efficient governance models within the District, particularly Meeks Bay. The consultant will review the services provided, the resources available, and make recommendations on efficiencies.
- Director Smelser referred to a letter in today’s meeting packet from John Moise regarding evacuations in the event of a major disaster, such as fire. Schwartz has not seen the letter, but said the concerns he hears have to do with losing insurance or evacuation. He noted that during the Tubbs Fire, for example, the issue wasn’t wildland fire; fire was driven house to house by intense wind. That said NTFPD is doing a lot to mitigate risk. Individuals can prepare by being aware and having 5 and 30 minute plans for evacuation. Every piece of the issue is being evaluated in the aftermath of the Sonoma and Napa fires.

Chief Conradson reported:

- Inspections continue.
- The District has done eight propane tank re-locations recently. Tanks have been across property lines, buried, or in snow shed areas. People aren’t always happy with where the tank needs to be located, but ASCWD approved the amended fire code and property owners must comply.
- The fire extinguisher recall from Kidde was distributed. The ones with plastic handles can fail to discharge or clog.

Forest Fuels Coordinator Mike Vollmer introduced himself, saying he has been working on forest and fire issues in the Tahoe Basin since 2002. Most recently, he worked on those issues at TRPA and was able to spearhead a lot of changes. Vollmer is a founding member of the Fire Safe Council. He reported:

- Chipping is over for the season.
- Schwartz said Vollmer is working with the Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership, a public/private collaboration to identify and address environmental threats from drought and climate change to watersheds, forests, and communities from Emerald Bay to Squaw Valley, including Alpine Meadows.
- Vollmer is working with property owners and defensible space contractors.

D. GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT.....D

General Manager Collins presented his written report. Highlights included:

- The Alpine Sierra Subdivision EIR hearing was October 26, 2017. The final comment period closed November 3rd. Collins has drafted the District’s Will Serve letter. Several residents have requested the draft.
- Repairs on Tanks 4 and 4A have been completed. The main beam that supports the roof joist was rebuilt.
- Collins has been working with the auditors.
- He met the new TCPUD General Manager Sean Barclay.
- Data is being compiled for the HDR Rate Study and the contract was signed.
- The newsletter was sent to the printer, but apparently got lost before it made it to the post office. The printer is re-doing it at his cost.
- The Bear Creek Assessment and Design Project has been narrowed down to 5 from 16 projects submitted. The next stakeholder’s meeting is November 13. The main focus is to reduce transport of sediment from USFS property.

- The ski area is contracting with Placer County for the Avalanche Control Program, instead of individual property owners. ASCWD will need to grant the County an easement, which has been approved by the District’s counsel.
- Collins is waiting to hear from the US Forest Service regarding the master Special Use Permit for the tanks.

E. OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT REPORTE

Buz Bancroft’s written Water/Sewer Report for 10/1/17 - 10/31/17 was included in the Board packets. Collins highlighted the maintenance performed. There were no additional questions or comments.

F. TTSA REPORT F

Director Northrop presented the report included in today’s meeting packets. Oz Butterfield has announced his retirement from the TTSA Board. The next meeting is scheduled for December 13, 2017.

G. NOTICE OF NON RENEWAL OF ASCWD AND ALPINE MEADOWS AVALANCHE CONTROL AGREEMENT G

Director Northrop made a MOTION to acknowledge receipt of the Notice of Non-Renewal of ASCWD and Alpine Meadows Avalanche Agreement ending October 31, 2017. Director Smelser SECONDED the motion. Directors Grant, Northrop, Salke, Smelser, and York being in favor, the motion was APPROVED unanimously.

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS..... H

1. BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE (DIRECTOR GRANT)

- Discuss, if necessary, non-standard transactions.**
- Discuss monthly reports and status of investments/cash and vote to approve, if necessary, new investments.**
- Review, discuss and vote to approve, if necessary, requests from customers regarding billing issues.**
- Review, discuss and vote to approve, if necessary, requests for unbudgeted expenses and capital expenditures.**

The Budget and Finance Committee Report of the November 9, 2017 meeting was distributed. President Grant reported the Committee was able to clarify questions regarding bank fees and the NTFPD contract. Per previous Board direction, the expiring CDs were renewed at 1.3% for six months, due May 8, 2018.

A customer submitted a request to remove a penalty charge due to the bank cancellation of the payment. A second customer asked for a reduction in interest for her late payment. The Committee recommends denying both requests, per policy.

Director Salke made a MOTION to deny requests from customers requesting a penalty charge and interest be deleted from their bills, per ASCWD policy. Director Northrop SECONDED the motion. Directors Grant, Northrop, Salke, Smelser, and York being in favor, the motion was APPROVED unanimously.

2. ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (DIRECTOR SALKE)

No report was given.

3. PARK, RECREATION & GREENBELT COMMITTEE (DIRECTOR YORK)

No report was given.

4. LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE (DIRECTOR SMELSER)no meeting

No report was given.

1 **I. OPEN ITEMS.....I**

2 There were no Open Items to be reviewed.

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4 **J. CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD.....J**

5 John Moise submitted a letter regarding recent Northern California fires and evacuation options for Alpine
6 Meadows. Another letter regarding the issue was sent to President Grant. Discussion followed regarding the
7 comments and the parameters of ASCWD in addressing the issues raised. Part of the concern is the new
8 subdivision approved by Placer County, which calls for “sheltering in place” as an option to evacuating.
9 Although ASCWD contracts for services with NTFPD, ASCWD does not have authority over the County
10 evacuation plans or approvals. That said, the Board asked that Mr. Moise’s letter be forwarded to Chief
11 Schwartz for discussion at the December ASCWD Board meeting.

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13 **IV. DIRECTORS’ COMMENTS**

14 There were no additional comments.

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16 **V. ADJOURNMENT**

17 **There being no further business before the Board, at 10:17 AM Director Northrop made a MOTION that**
18 **the meeting be adjourned. Director York SECONDED the motion. Directors Grant, Northrop, Salke,**
19 **Smelser, and York being in favor, the motion was APPROVED unanimously.**

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21 Next regularly scheduled Board meeting – Friday, December 8, 2017, at 9:00 a.m.

22
23 Respectfully Submitted,

approved as submitted 12/8/17

24 Judy Friedman

25 Recording Secretary

26 THE PAPER TRAIL SECRETARIAL & BUSINESS SOLUTIONS
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