

1 **ALPINE SPRINGS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**
2 **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**
3 **September 10, 2021**

4
5 **NOTE: Due to continued COVID restrictions, this meeting was a “hybrid” of an in-person meeting for Board and staff**
6 **and Zoom for additional attendees**
7

8 **A. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL**

9 President Grant called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

10
11 Directors Present: President Janet S. Grant, Vice-President Janice Ganong, Dave Smelser, Evan Salke and
12 Christine York

13 Directors Absent: None

14 Staff Present: General Manager Joseph Mueller, O&M Supervisor Miguel Ramirez, District CPA Mike
15 Dobrowski, NTFPD Division Chief Steve McNamara, and Recording Secretary Judy Friedman

16
17 Guests attending via teleconference included Liz Zang, John Mecklenberg, and Jennifer Faber. There may
18 have been others on the call who did not identify themselves.

19
20 **B. PUBLIC COMMENT**

21 There were no comments on items not on today’s agenda.
22

23 **C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

24 **C1) AUGUST MINUTES**

25 **It was moved by Smelser and seconded by Salke to approve the minutes of the Regular Board meeting**
26 **of August 13, 2021 as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.**
27

28 **D. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

29 **D1) FINANCIAL REPORT**

30 District CPA Mike Dobrowski presented the August financial reports. Work has begun to get the auditors the
31 information needed. The Tank 4 and 4A Replacement line item of approximately \$1.6 million will be moved
32 to fixed assets. Discussion followed as Dobrowski answered questions clarifying the report.

33 **It was moved by Ganong and seconded by Smelser to approve the financial reports for August 2021 as**
34 **presented. Motion carried unanimously.**
35

36 **It was moved by Ganong and seconded by Smelser to approve checks #32059 – 32109, payroll, and**
37 **electronic fund transfers. Motion carried unanimously.**
38

39 **D2) FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

40 Chief McNamara reported:

- 41 • NTFPD is providing mutual aid, including personnel and equipment, to the Caldor and other
42 regional fires. That said, the local stations remain fully staffed. The Caldor fire could have come into
43 the Basin through Fallen Leaf Lake, over the Desolation Wilderness, or through Echo Summit.
- 44 • “Living with Wildfire” on the NTFPD website has a lot of information to help the public prepare
45 for evacuations
- 46 • As Fire Marshall, he continues to work with development projects and weighing in on plan reviews
- 47 • The Alpine Fire Safe Community hosted a successful work day

- 1 • NTFPD will continue to apply for grants to treat priority projects. NTFPD applied for but did not
2 receive a CCI grant because the criteria of a disadvantaged community. If awarded, it would have
3 included Alpine Meadows.
4

5 There was brief discussion about the feasibility of using fire boxes in neighborhoods, the flow issues during
6 the Caldor Fire suppression efforts, and red flag warning requirements. McNamara assured the Board that
7 ASCWD is one of the top three water purveyors in the area as far as adequate water supply, cooperation with
8 staff, and consistency in communications and maintenance.
9

10 **D3) GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT**

11 General Manager Joe Mueller presented his report for the month of August. He has met with two consultant
12 firms regarding the Master Plan. Mueller hopes to have proposals by the end of the month.
13

14 The site visit from the auditors was postponed until October 18 because of air quality concerns.
15

16 Mueller updated the group on meetings regarding new developments including Alpenglow about how service
17 will be provided and how it ties into the Master Plan and the Base-to-Base Gondola project.
18

19 The Snow Crest Tributary Restoration is almost at 100% design, but the presentation to this Board has been
20 postponed.
21

22 At the Valley Wide Meeting, Mueller was asked if ASCWD could bill more frequently and there were
23 requests for additional playground equipment.
24

25 Mueller continued to review general tasks over the past month, as well as Office Manager activities. A letter
26 was sent to JMA owners regrading hydrant flows.
27

28 A lot of time has been spent understanding the current District health care policies and the new CalPERS
29 plans.
30

31 Per a discussion last month, water flows were being diverted back into Bear Creek. However when the
32 nearby fire started, the decision was made to fill the ponds in case the water was needed for protection. In
33 future years, the flows in the Creek will be watched, but the lesson was learned that if needed, the ponds can
34 be filled quickly.
35

36 **D4) OPERATION & MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

37 Operations Manager Miguel Ramirez presented the August 2021 Water/Waste Water Report, which included
38 maintenance done over the past month. There was a brief discussion about how trends in water supply and
39 use are tracked, which will be part of the Master Plan process.
40

41 **D5) TTSA REPORT**

42 The District’s representative to TTSA, Dave Smelser, presented a report of the August 18, 2021 Board
43 meeting. The new CalPERS Plan was approved, but the Board asked to revisit it next year. Mueller said the
44 CalPERS Plan was discussed at the Area Manager’s meeting and there will be investigation into the local
45 Special Districts banding together to provide health insurance benefits.
46

47 **E. BUSINESS ITEMS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION & ACTION**

48 **E1) ROOF REPAIRS TO FIRE STATION 56**

1 Chief McNamara presented the staff report dated August 13, 2021 explaining the recommended repairs to
2 Station 56. NTPFD is asking that ASCWD split the cost of re-roofing the station.
3

4 Discussion followed. ASCWD built Station 56 in 1992. That said, if the roof was installed incorrectly at that
5 time, the leaks should have been apparent then. The Board also considered where funds would come from to
6 split the cost of a new roof. Dollars cannot be allocated from the enterprise funds of water, sewer, or trash, so
7 it would have to come from the 20% of property tax that is allocated to the park fund, which is
8 approximately \$12,000 in the red.
9

10 Ganong noted the proposal from D&D Roofing cited several possible reasons for the roof failure. There
11 really is no way of knowing when the damage happened. Salke suggested the ski area is the biggest
12 beneficiary of NTFPD's EMT and ambulance service. Perhaps they should contribute to the upkeep of the
13 station. Smelser wondered if there is a way to tell whether or not a defective building was turned over after
14 construction. Discussion continued clarifying the request and the pros and cons of ASCWD contributing to
15 the re-roof. McNamara said NTFPD has included the work in its current budget.
16

17 The topic was open to public comment. John Mecklenberg suggested more homework needs to be done
18 before a decision is made. Liz Zang said it is important to review and understand the maintenance records.
19 Public comment was closed.
20

21 **E2) BANK OF THE WEST SIGNATURE CARD**

22 **It was moved by Salke and seconded by Smelser to add Joseph Mueller as a signatory on the ASCWD**
23 **Bank of the West accounts. Motion carried unanimously.**
24

25 **F. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

26 **F1) BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE (PRESIDENT GRANT)**

27 Grant presented the report of the September 9, 2021 Budget and Finance Committee meeting. She noted the
28 staff reorganization, which was discussed at the August Board meeting. There could be associated
29 unbudgeted expenses of approximately \$30,000 for a new employee, which will not be apparent until
30 January. At that time, a mid-year budget adjustment may be requested. The August Treasurer's Report was
31 included in the Committee notes.
32

33 The six requests to remove penalties will be considered under Item H. below.
34

35 **F2) PARK, RECREATION & GREENBELT COMMITTEE (DIRECTOR YORK)**

36 The report of the July 22, 2021 Park, Recreation and Greenbelt Committee meeting was included in the
37 meeting packet.
38

39 **F3) LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE (DIRECTOR SMELSER)**

40 This Committee did not meet.
41

42 **F4) ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (DIRECTOR GANONG)**

43 This Committee did not meet.
44

45 **G. OPEN ITEMS**

46 Mueller noted Smelser's comments about fire boxes and asked if the Board wanted more information. There
47 was agreement the decision on those is up to NTFPD.
48

1 **H. CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD**

2 Grant reviewed each of the six requests from owners to remove penalties from their bills. The Budget and
3 Finance Committee recommends denying each, based on District policy. Mueller asked about allowing one
4 “forgiveness” each x number of years. He will make a recommendation for the Committee to consider.
5

6 **It was moved by Smelser and seconded by Ganong to deny removal of penalties for each of the six**
7 **requests. Motion carried unanimously.**
8

9 **I. CLOSED SESSION at 12:24 PM**

10 **II) GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957: PUBLIC EMPLOYEE EVALUATION**
11 **General Manager performance evaluation for fiscal year 2020/2021**

12 Open Session was reconvened at 12:29 PM. There was no reportable action.
13

14 **J. DIRECTORS’ COMMENTS**

15 Grant suggested a Special Board meeting be convened to consider the CalPERS health care changes, which
16 will result in a substantial increase in rates. Mueller described the existing and proposed plans. CalPERS is
17 asking for Board action on how the District will participate. Because Open Enrollment ends the week after
18 the October 8 meeting, he agreed that a Special Meeting should be called. It was scheduled for Thursday
19 September 23, 2021 at 9:00 AM.
20

21 **K. ADJOURNMENT**

22 There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 PM. The next
23 regularly scheduled Board meeting is Friday October 8, 2021 at 9:00 AM.
24

25 Respectfully Submitted,

26 Judy Friedman

27 Recording Secretary

28 THE PAPER TRAIL SECRETARIAL & BUSINESS SOLUTIONS