



County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING
STEVEN E. WHITE, DIRECTOR

MEETING MINUTES

SHAVER LAKE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SLCAC)
April 26, 2019

Members Present: John Douglas
Alice Knapp
Steve McQuillan
Eric Tallberg
Peter Van Vleet, Chair

Members Absent: Darryl Moore
Jerry Sandstrom

County Staff Present: Jennifer Cavalla, Staff Analyst, Special Districts Administration
Daniel Vang, Principal Analyst, Special Districts Administration
Saul Zamora, Engineer, Design

Call to Order: Meeting started at approximately 2:10 pm

Agenda Item 1: Review and Approve Minutes from the January 25, 2019 Meeting (41W, 41S, 31, 31B)

John Douglas proposed two suggested revisions to the minutes. The minutes from January 25, 2019 were approved 5-0 (2 absent), with revisions.

Agenda Item 2: WWD 41W Asbestos Project Update

Current Asbestos Levels:

The latest test result from a sample take on 3/20/19 showed asbestos levels of 70.4 MFL which is above the MCL of 7 MFL. Asbestos results received for the two weeks prior to the 3/20/19 sample date were below the MCL. The reason for the increase in Asbestos levels is unknown,

Total Project Costs to Date:

At the last meeting, the CAC requested the costs to date spent on finding a solution to the asbestos problem. The District has spent \$393,508.16 on solving the asbestos since 2015.

Survey Results:

The District sent out 1,424 surveys for direction regarding the asbestos pipeline replacement project (Project). To date 495 surveys have been returned. Out of the returned surveys, 73% voted yes to moving forward with the Project. Some of the concerns of the no voters were: the

survey did not have enough information, the cost of the project was too much, or that residents were not concerned about the asbestos levels because they were drinking bottled water.

Next Steps:

The State has recommend the discontinuation of the zinc-ortho phosphate treatment (Treatment) for reducing asbestos levels. Since the implementation of the Treatment, the District has continued to have spike in asbestos levels. Lead and Copper levels have also increased. This data calls into question the effectiveness of the Treatment. In addition, the State has notified the County that they will be issuing a compliance order for the District. This mean that the State will mandate the District come into compliance with the MCL for Asbestos.

At this time, WWD 41W has the funds available for the estimated cost of the Project, so the County will move forward with the Project without completing a Prop 218 for an Assessment. WWD 41W has appropriated 2.6 million in funds for the Project in Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (FY 19-20).The County will put the Project out to bid by January 2020. If the bids come in under the 2.6 million Project construction could start as early as April 2020 (weather dependent). If the bid prices come in above the 2.6 million, the District will have to proceed with a Prop 218 for an Assessment to raise the additional funds necessary to complete the Project in future years.

Water Fees:

The County will be moving forward with a water fee increase for WWD 41. Water rates are currently \$11.67 per month and have not been increased since the 1970's. Water rates should typically cover the operations and maintenance (O&M) of the water system. The current water rates only provide for approximately 32% of yearly O&M costs. A fee increase also requires the District to go through a Prop 218 process. The County will be hiring an engineer to complete a water rate analysis to determine the new water rates. More information will be provided to the Community on the water rate increase as the process moves forward.

No action taken by the CAC.

Agenda Item 3: Fire Truck Purchase (CSA 31)

The County will go before the Board of Supervisor on July 9, 2019 to amend the Civic League Contract. The amendment will increase the reimbursable expense for FY 19-20 to allow for the purchase of an additional fire truck, the purchase of a generator and other potential expenditures for the Community Center.

No action taken by the CAC.

Agenda Item 4: Review Anticipated Budgets for Fiscal Year 19-20 (41W, 41S, 31, 31B)

Budgets for FY 19-20 are still under review, but the County wanted to inform the CAC of the major budgeted expenditures within each district.

CSA 31's major items are the Civic League contract, 15K was budgeted for potential water tank inspections and 100K was budgeted just in case emergency repairs are needed.

WWD 41W budgeted 2.6M for the Project, 150K just in case emergency repairs are needed, 50K for water tank inspections, 15K for generator maintenance and 30K for the Prop 218 process. The District is also looking into purchasing a new snowcat for approximately 30K.

WWD 41S budgeted 60K for the update of the sewer system maintenance plan (SSMP), 60K just in case emergency repairs are needed, 20K for generator maintenance, and 80K for the potential aerator sewer pond system update.

CSA 31B budgeted 60K for the update of the sewer system maintenance plan (SSMP), 60K just in case emergency repairs are needed, and 80K for the potential aerator sewer pond system update.

The appropriated expenditures allow each district to spend up the set amount during that fiscal year. Any money that a district does not spend during a fiscal year remains in the district reserves.

No action taken by the CAC.

Agenda Item 5: Fresno County General Plan Updates – Effects on the Shaver Area (41W, 41S, 31, 31B) Presentation by John Douglas (Presentation represents speakers own views, and was not reviewed by the County of Fresno)

John Douglas presented information about the main functions of a general plan. The County is currently updating the General Plan, but the update does not include the Shaver Lake area. General plans typically are good for 20-25 years and the Shaver Lake Community Plan has not been updated since 1986. One of the main purposes of the General Plan is to allow coordination of infrastructure plans, such as roads, water and sewer, to serve proposed development. Current County plans assume ultimate development of over 6,000 homes in the Shaver Lake area and there are currently between 2,000 and 3,000 homes. Issues that have substantially changed in the past 30 years include increased wildland fire hazards, limited emergency access, reduced availability of property insurance, and limited water supply. Given these changes and County plans for two to three times the number of homes in Shaver Lake, he requested that the SLCAC send a letter to the Board of Supervisors requesting that the Board direct County staff to review plans for Shaver Lake at the earliest possible time, in particular the amount of additional development that is reasonable given conditions related to public health and safety, particularly wildland fire hazards and emergency access. The SLCAC voted 5-0 (2 absent) to send the request to the Board of Supervisors.

Agenda Item 6: Comments/Other Items

A resident asked about the plan for fire hydrant testing discussed at a previous meeting. Steve McQuillan let the resident know that the fire department has currently tested 41 out of the approximately 303 fire hydrants within CSA 31. The fire department is testing to see if the tops of the hydrants can be spun and not for water flow (which has never been an issue). Out of the 41 hydrants tested so far, all could be opened. The fire department will continue to test the remaining hydrants as time allows. Steve also mentioned the need for supplies (grease and wire brushes) for continued testing. The County informed Steve that the cost of these supplies can be reimbursed through CSA 31's contract with the Civic League.

Ryan Stewart from the Highway 168 Fire Safe Council spoke about the plans to create the Shaver West Shaded Fuel Break. The project runs through land owned by WWD 41 and he

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needs to have a right of entry signed to access the property for the project. The SLCAC is in full support of this project. County staff will work on getting the cooperative agreement with the Highway 168 Fire Safe Council signed as soon as possible.

No action taken by the CAC.

Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting date is to be determined.
Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:40 p.m.