



Oceano Community Services District

Summary Minutes

Regular Meeting Wednesday, January 13, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.

Location: TELECONFERENCE

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** at approximately 6:00 p.m. by President Austin
2. **ROLL CALL:** Board members present: President Austin, Vice President White, Director Gibson, Director Villa, and Director Replogle. Staff present: General Manager Will Clemens, Legal Counsel Jeff Minnery, and Business and Accounting Manager, Carey Casciola.
3. **FLAG SALUTE:** led by President Austin.
4. **AGENDA REVIEW:**
A motion was made by Vice President White to move agenda item 8A ahead of agenda item 6, with a second from Director Gibson and a 5-0 roll call vote.
5. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA:**

Jackie Mansoor	Provided grant funding information available from the SLO APCD.
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8. BUSINESS ITEMS:	ACTION:
<p>a. Review and consideration of District Code 15.10 Sale of Fireworks.</p>	<p>After an opportunity for public comment, Board discussion, and input from Sheriff Commander Wells and Fire Chief Lieberman, the Board provided staff with the direction to draft a revised Ordinance to limit the discharge of safe & sane fireworks to July 4th only from the hours of 10am to 10pm and to limit the number of vendors to a total of four and allow first right of refusal to the current vendors and to draft a letter to the County of San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors in support of adopting an administrative code for review and consideration at a future Board meeting.</p> <p>Public Comment:</p> <p>Gary Wells – In support of limited safe and sane fireworks to one day per year along with an administrative fireworks prosecution ordinance and a website or phone line dedicated to reporting illegal fireworks.</p> <p>Lucia Casalnuovo – In support of limiting safe and sane fireworks to two days per year, July 4th and December 31st.</p> <p>Charles Varni – In support of limiting safe and sane fireworks to July 4th only.</p> <p>Esther Meyers, Open Door Preschool – In support of the sale of safe and sane fireworks to support community non-profits.</p> <p>Julie Tacker – In support of repealing District Code entirely or at least limit the days and hours safe and sane fireworks can be discharged.</p> <p>Bill C. – In support of limiting safe and sane fireworks.</p>

	<p>April Dury – In support of better rules and regulations for the sale and use of safe and sane fireworks as well as a community committee for input.</p> <p>Suzanne Wells – In support of the sale of safe and sane fireworks, limiting the use of safe and sane fireworks to 1-2 days per year and the District sending a letter to the County Board of Supervisors recommending they draft an administrative ordinance.</p>
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6. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS:

A. STAFF REPORTS:

- i. **Sheriff's South Station** - Commander Jay Wells – December 2020 Report for the Oceano response area: 583 calls for service generating 141 crime reports for theft from unlocked vehicles, theft in general, narcotics and domestic violence. 31 cases have been reported to the DAs office. Due to COVID-19 jail bookings are down and people committing minor offenses and misdemeanors are being cited in the field and released.
- ii. **FCFA** - Chief Steve Lieberman – Provided an update on his participation in the Incident Management Team which is working with the County of SLO Public Health Department to stage pods within the county for COVID-19 vaccinations. Please visit ReadySLO.org for more information and to register for email updates.
- iii. **Operations** - Utility Systems Manager, Tony Marraccino – Continuing with daily rounds; weekly and monthly samples; 11 work orders; 18 USAs; 9 customer service calls; 5 after hours call outs; FOG Program is complete for 2020; 5 new meters installed for new developments; 1 angle stop repaired and one leaking that will be repaired; paving done due to repairs; continuing with weed abatement; meter reading this month; Zero SSO's for December and 1 SSO for January thus far that is scheduled for repair on the 25th of January; 3 Ready311 tickets for December; equipment runs completed for the first of the month; concrete, asphalt and old meters have been recycled; Lopez is at 39.8%. 19,645 AF, Lopez delivered 54.82 AF and zero has been pumped.
- iv. **OCSO General Manager** – Will Clemens – attended (virtually) NCMA meeting and working with other agencies to prepare the 2020 Annual Report. Well index level is approximately 1 foot lower than this same time last year; Flood Control Zone 3 technical committee meeting – 20,000 AF is the trigger for the Low Reservoir Response Plan, if the Board of Supervisors declares an emergency; California Coastal Commission heard the appeal for the injection test well here in Oceano and found no substantial issues related to the appeal. State Parks has paid their invoice for the flyer inserted in utility bills. We continue to waive late fees for residents paying their bill.

B. BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OUTSIDE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- i. Director Villa – Reported on the 12/17/2020 Oceano Advisory Council (OAC) meeting.
- ii. Director Gibson – Reported on the 1/7/2021 Ad Hoc Sub Committee for Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) meeting and the 1/8/2021 State Water Subcontractor Advisory Committee.
- iii. Vice President White – Reported on the 12/18/2020 Five Cities Fire Authority (FCFA) Meeting.
- iv. Director Repogle – None
- v. President Austin – Reported on the 12/16/2020 & 1/6/2021 South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District (SSLOCSD) meetings.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT ON SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS:

Public comment was received from:

Julie Tacker	In support of posting the letter from SSLOCSD to the website vs attaching to the minutes and to have the option of an email/ mailing list for agendas. In opposition of the injection test well for the Central Coast Blue project.
April Dury	In support OCSD Board of Directors reviewing legal expenses incurred by the SSLOCSD.

7. CONSENT AGENDA:	ACTION:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Review and Approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting December 9, 2020. b. Review and Approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting December 23, 2020. c. Review of cash disbursements. d. Annual review of the District's Investment Policy and Consideration of a Recommendation to approve a resolution adopting the District's 2021 Investment Policy and submittal of the District Fiscal Year 2020-21 Quarter 2 Treasurer Report. 	<p>After an opportunity for public comment and Board discussion, staff recommendations were approved with a motion from Vice President White, with a second from Director Gibson and a 5-0 roll call vote.</p> <p>Public Comment: April Dury – Requested additional information on a warrant to Burdine printing.</p> <p>Julie Tacker – Requested that public comment is made before making a motion.</p>
8. BUSINESS ITEMS CONTINUED:	ACTION:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Consideration of 2021 District Priorities and Goals with Board Direction as deemed appropriate. 	<p>After an opportunity for public comment and Board discussion, staff recommendations were approved with a motion from Vice President White, with a second from Director Gibson and a 5-0 roll call vote.</p> <p>Public Comment: Julie Tacker – In support of an ad hoc committee for parks and recreation. In support of divesting parks and recreation power. In opposition of the Central Coast Blue project.</p> <p>April Dury – In support of a community committee for the OCSD website. In support of prioritizing goals and 'Future Agenda Items' for 2020.</p>

9. HEARING ITEMS - None

10. RECEIVED WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None

11. LATE RECEIVED WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

Larry Griswold	In support of implementing the same firework laws as Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach.
Roxanne Bohn	In support addressing the firework issue.
John Kelly	In support moving towards the same firework laws as Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach.
Jill Abercrombie	In support of implementing the same firework laws as Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach.
Suzanne & Gary Wells	In support establishing an administrative code to

	prosecute illegal fireworks, limit the days allowed, and establish an anonymous hotline to report illegal fireworks.
Julie Tacker	In support of reviewing the Health and Safety Code and County Counsels' response.
Megan LeBlanc	In support of safe and sane fireworks year-round.
Kim LeBlanc	In support of safe and sane fireworks year-round.
Jim Bernhardt	In support of modifying the fireworks regulations to match Grover Beach.
Arlene Sackman	In opposition of allowing fireworks year-round and in support of eliminating all fireworks in Oceano.

12. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** Continued, Deferred Infrastructure Program, Lopez Water Contract Amendments, Wastewater CIP, The Place, EIR State Parks PWP, Old Firehouse Art, California Voting Rights Act, Fireworks Ordinance, District Flag Policy/ Pride Month, Social Media Policy / Live Stream Board Meetings.
13. **FUTURE HEARING ITEMS:** None
14. **CLOSED SESSION:** None
15. **ADJOURNMENT:** at approximately 8:20 pm



TO: Linda Austin
FROM: Jeremy Ghent
SUBJECT: Response to questions from Oceano Community Members

IS THERE A CHANCE OF PROJECT COST INCREASES?

As part of best practices for project development the District's Redundancy Project Team has already undertaken a Risk Management analysis that identified risks to project schedule and budget. The project as awarded has no known outstanding financial risks that would lead to cost increases. While projects of this size and duration often encounter some cost increases during construction, there is no inherent high-risk exposure to major cost increases.

WILL THE USDA LOAN REDUCE OCEANO RATES?

The District service area includes the disadvantaged community of Oceano. As part of the District's financial plan for funding the redundancy project the team was successful in securing a long-term(40 yr) low-interest (1.375%) loan from the United States Department of Agriculture in the amount of \$4,464,000. This represents approximately 16% of the \$28million borrowed to construct the project. The benefit to the District ratepayer were two-fold.

1. The low interest rate reduces total interest costs. (approximate savings to the District of \$4,250 per year)
2. The 40 year term reduces the District's Annual Payment over a conventional 30year loan.

Acquiring the USDA funding required additional environmental work and some project delay which are direct expenses of securing the funding.

The question has been asked to staff as to whether this favorable USDA funding would result in lower rates for the Oceano Ratepayers. Costs associated with securing the funding are not entirely finalized, but at current expenses the savings to the average Single Family Residence would be approximately \$0.03 to \$0.06 per month. Discussion on this matter will occur at a future SSLOCS D meeting.

WHY DID WE IMPROVE THE PLANT INSTEAD OF MOVING THE PLANT?

The District is glad to announce that after 6 years of project development the District has awarded the construction of our Redundancy Project to Filanc Construction. The necessary Project creates a treatment facility that staff can maintain and operate, protects the health and safety of our community, and various coastal and tourism resources.

Since 2015 District leadership has developed and delivered the Redundancy Project to ensure that the treatment facility can be operated during various conditions and still meet all waste discharge requirements as required by the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

The decision to modify the existing plant had clear and substantial value to the ratepayer. While the cost of the redundancy project can be covered by the existing rates and charges, the cost of completely relocating the facility would result in an approximate doubling or a 100% increase in current wastewater rates and charges over the existing rates for the community. The District seeks to use its revenues effectively and responsibly, and as such has made fiscally sound decisions that extends the life of the existing facility by approximately 30 years and protects our community from unnecessary rate increases.

Respectfully,

Jeremy Ghent, P.E.
District Administrator
South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District.
Agenda Item 7A