

Chester Public Utility District
PO Box 503
251 Chester Airport Rd.
Chester, Ca. 96020
530-258-2171

Minutes of Regular Meeting: September 19, 2017 at 3:00pm. Located in the Chester Public Utility District conference room: 251 Chester Airport Road.

Directors Present: Wes Scott, Greg McIntire, Ben Thompson and Steve Trotter.

Directors Absent: Vacancy

Guests Present: 1, includes Stacy Fischer, a Chester Progressive Rep.

Staff Present: 5 CPUD/CFD employees and volunteers.

1. **Call to Order:** Director Scott called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.
 - Director Scott led the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - Agenda approval: Director McIntire made the motion to approve the agenda with no changes. Director Thompson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
 - New District Secretary, Kelly Sanders and new Seasonal Full Time Maintenance Worker, Liam Bengard were introduced. All welcomed them to the CPUD team.
2. **Closed Session:** none
3. **Reconvene from Closed Session:** n/a
4. **Report on Closed Session:** n/a
5. **Public Comment Non-Agenda Items:** None.
6. **Approval of August 15, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes:** Director McIntire made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Director Trotter seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
7. **Approval of August Financials:** Director McIntire made a motion to accept financials. Director Trotter seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
8. **General Manager's Report: by Frank Motzkus - (Exhibit A)** GM Motzkus said he was reviewing the Health, Vision and Dental Benefits. He may have a proposal by next meeting. Negotiations for Firefighters Union hopefully will be complete by Friday and ready for the Board by next meeting.
Tax share of 7% for Broussard Annex still waiting for LAFCO.
Nothing heard from Olsen Barn.
GM Motzkus, Chief Waterman and Chief Fluke toured the areas that are being considered for consolidation: Prattville, West Almanor, and CPUD. Director Scott recommended forming an Ad Hoc committee regarding the District consolidation: GM Motzkus, Chief Waterman and Director Scott make up the Ad Hoc Committee. Director McIntire made a motion for the above 3 people to make up the CPUD side of the Consolidation Research Group. Director Trotter seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
Open House October 14th. Helicopter Companies, Fire Equipment displays etc.
9. **Fire Chief's Report: - (Exhibit B). Presented by Chief Waterman:** Chief Waterman thanked Captain Dean for covering for him in his absence.
Lassen Team folks out on Wild Land Fires. Many meeting the 960 PERS maximum hours worked. OES Water Tender 32 has been out a lot with good reviews.
New agreement with High Desert renting our ambulance coming soon. Ambulance has returned.
46 SCBA bottles obtained with Collins Pine Grant. Article coming to thank them.

10 sets of turn-outs were obtained with Collins Pine Grant, one purchased by the Chester Fire Association and 1 set was purchased by Chester Fire Department.
VFA Grant will purchase radios, software and installation for the fire apparatus. Resolution at a future meeting.

Zoll Monitor is ready to go.

Medic Matt Turner has been working hard on the new PCR Data Base. Turner and new District Secretary, Kelly Sanders visited Wittman, our Ambulance Billing Company.

Silver Fire case is not over. An appeal has been filed with the state court. Our attorney said we have a strong case.

Lisa Phillips and Ethan Monday, two of our volunteers are taking the Driver Operating Training. Basin Chiefs met to move repeater to Dyer and off of Stover.

10. Public Comment: Agenda Items: None.

11. Resolution 394: Confirming Interest Grant Funding from State Water Resources Control Board: GM Motzkus stated that this resolution lets the State Board know that the CPUD Board has given permission to the General Manager to speak on CPUD board behalf. This is the last step. Director Trotter made a motion to accept the Resolution. Director McIntire seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

GM Motzkus also explained that this is to get the plans together to upgrade the Waste Water Collection System. This is a planning grant. Kahlen Group will be the engineering group.

12. SCI Consulting Group Proposal for a Local Funding Measure Public Opinion Survey and Feasibility Analysis: GM Motzkus explained that they compile facts about the district and survey voters. They were used at Plumas Eureka and were successful. They have a 95% success rate. The process will take 4 to 5 months. They will help us decide on whether we go through ballot measure or Prop. 218. They also tally the voting results and train the staff on talking points. He would like them to be used in getting a tax assessment for the Fire Department. Director Trotter made a motion for SCI to bring a proposal before the board at a future meeting for review and approval. Director McIntire seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

13. Proposed Water Rate Charges: GM Motzkus explained that there hasn't been an increase since 2002. We are currently operating at 55.5% less than what we need to cover Operating and Expense with nothing going to reserves. The base rate will increase, the metered formulas will stay the same. For Prop 218 we will need a letter out by Sept. 29th, in the Paper by Oct, 4th. Voters can turn in their protest votes back to us for 45 days, public hearing on Oct. 17 board meeting, Nov 13 would be last day to receive protest votes. From Nov.11 through Nov. 17 the protest votes will be counted. Resolution and Agenda needs to be out by Nov. 17th for the Nov 21st board meeting. If all this happens, rates can go into effect December 1, 2017. GM Motzkus asked if the board would want included in the letter the CPI index clause. The board agreed. After a brief discussion there was a recess at 3:52pm.

Reconvene at 3:55pm: GM Motzkus returned with a formula of 66.50% which made it a \$10.52 dollar raise on the R2 meters. This would allow for \$28,000.00 per year to be put in reserves for the Water Department, plus if the CPI Index gets added in yearly, that figure would increase. Director Trotter made a motion to accept the 66.50% increase to the base rates and to keep up the CPI Index in the following years as well. Director Thompson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. GM Motzkus reiterated that the protested votes have to be 50% of the vote plus 1 to pass a "NO" vote.

14. Authorization for the Potential to sell Engine 7251: Chief Waterman stated that the engine has overheating problems and it would take \$65,000.00 to make it highway useable. It currently just stays local. It does carry the "Jaws-of-Life". He said eventually that he would like it replaced with a Type 6. After a brief discussion about all the costly repairs that have been done to 7251 over the last few years, Director McIntire made a motion to sell 7251. Director Trotter seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

15. **Correspondence:** none

16. **Comments:**

- A) **Directors:** Director Trotter asked where the revenue from the prison renting our ambulance go. Chief Waterman stated that it went to Fire account.
- B) **Staff:** Chief Waterman stated the Bryce Ruschhaupt was interested in being a board member but he lives at West Almanor. Director Scott stated that they need to be a registered voter in the District, but maybe after the potential consolidation of districts he could run.

Director Scott adjourned the meeting at 4:13.

Cheryl Johnson, Clerk to the Board.

Approval of Minutes

