

PORT COSTA SANITARY COMMISSION

of the Crockett Community Services District

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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING, SEPTEMBER 11, 2019

1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Vice Chairperson Cusack. Present were Commissioners Scheer, Mann, and Beauchemin, along with Dept. Manager Barnhill, and Mr. McDonald. Mr. Surges was absent excused. Mr. Barassi was in attendance as a member of the public.
2. AGENDA ORDER: There were no requests to hear agenda items out of order.
3. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.
4. PUBLIC HEARING: None.
- 5.a. DISTRICT BOARD ACTIONS: Mr. McDonald said that six ordinances will be considered for adoption by the District Board to reaffirm prior ordinances previously adopted by the District Board. Mr. Cusack asked if the ordinances are currently in place. Mr. McDonald said the prior ordinances adopted have been enforced and new ordinances will help solidify our authority. Ms. Sheer asked if District Counsel looked at the ordinances. Mr. McDonald said the need to reaffirm was discovered by counsel during the preparation for codification of the District Code. Mr. McDonald said the Board created an adhoc committee to research the potential acquisition of the mortuary building located on Rolph Park Drive and Pomona Street, across from the Crockett Community Center and pool, to serve as the new District and Sanitary Department office building. Valley Operators contract, effective October 1, 2019, was awarded unanimously.
- 5.b. SELF-MONITORING REPORT: Mr. Barnhill reported that CIWQS is having technical issues that have delayed the submission of Electronic Self-Monitoring Reports (eSMR) and cover letters. No violations occurred in July.
- 5.c. DISTRICT STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS: Mr. McDonald said there was a request to discuss the District's Standard Specifications, how they came about, and how they affect Port Costa. He said the District Standard Specifications were originally developed from Central Contra Costa Sanitation District (Central San) prior to the formation of the Crockett Community Services District in 2006 and modified by the Crockett Sanitary Department over the years. He said the majority of the specifications provide direction to engineers, the design of new sewer construction, and construction of new sewers. Ms. Scheer asked if there is a grandfather clause since the majority of Port Costa sewers differ from the adopted specifications. Mr. McDonald said there is no such clause but similar issues happen in Crockett and are dealt with on an individual basis. Mr. McDonald said that non-conforming conditions have been allowed by the Crockett Sanitary Commission due to feasibility constraints, he said Port Costa Sanitary Commission can provide similar direction to staff. Mr. Barassi said he is concerned that the specifications, as written, do not match with existing conditions in Port Costa and force properties to be considered non-conforming. Mr. McDonald said specifications primarily come into play when installing new lateral sewers and are not

enforced against existing sewers unless repair or replacement is required. He said it would be a substantial cost to re-draft the specifications to match conditions and the total cost would be carried by Port Costa. Mr. McDonald said the engineering portion of the specifications could make it challenging to plan new development in Port Costa and Crockett as they would have to plan for tying into our existing systems. Mr. Mann asked if we are following Central San specifications. Mr. McDonald said staff follows and implements our own specifications but regularly integrates specifications and drawing obtained from other larger agencies, such as Central San, to help keep administrative and engineering costs down. Mr. Mann asked if there is risk of homeowner claims against the District for not having a sewer that meets our specifications. Mr. McDonald said he doesn't see a risk and doesn't think there is a need to make major changes to our specifications. Mr. McDonald said as an example that uninspected ABS is a violation but the Commission can allow the non-conforming condition to exist. He added that the District Standard Specifications were last updated by Resolution in June 2019 stating it would be an easy process to incorporate additional changes the Port Costa Commission feel would benefit the town of Port Costa. He urged commissioners to look at the Standard Specifications which are available on our District web site.

6.a. FINANCIAL REPORT: Mr. McDonald said the monthly Summary Worksheet is not available yet due to the early date of this meeting. He said there was nothing out of the ordinary which occurred last month.

7. WASTEWATER: Mr. Barnhill said the three following items are interconnected, 7.a. Discuss septic tank and alternative treatment, form recommendations, 7.b. Receive quote to clean septic tank, and 7.c. Receive engineering proposal to inspect and assess the septic tank. Mr. Cusack recommended the topics 7.a. through 7.c. be combined in the discussion. There were no objections to combining the three items for discussion purposes. Mr. Barnhill said the discharge option study written by Larry Walker Associates included options for trucking wastewater and piping wastewater to Crockett for treatment. Mr. Mann asked if Crockett would allow Port Costa wastewater to be discharged into their system. Mr. McDonald said that C&H and Crockett wastewater is tested separately at the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). He said that the Crockett Sanitary Commission has the authority to allow Port Costa to discharge into the Crockett collection system. Mr. Barassi said he thinks we should continue to maintain and operate the Port Costa WWTP as it is. Mr. Mann said that since we are looking at spending substantial funds to continue operations that we should continue looking at alternatives. Ms. Scheer asked what it would cost to replace the tank. Mr. Barnhill said the cost is unknown. Mr. Mann recommended that Mr. Barnhill speak with Kent Peterson and ask about a previous pumping job at Port Costa. Ms. Scheer asked why we are planning to deliver waste to EBMUD in Oakland. Mr. Barnhill said that Central Sanitary District is not set up to receive sludge while EBMUD wants sludge for their system. Ms. Scheer asked if we are required to obtain three competing bids. Mr. McDonald said that since this is a maintenance project and not construction that we are not held to the same standard for this process. He said that prevailing wage is a standard that must be adhered to. Dewatering and mobile storage tanks were discussed as options to shipping wastewater away. Mr. Barnhill said he will research these as options to shipping full volume out for treatment.

8a. STAFF REPORT ON OPERATIONS: Mr. Barnhill reported that the sun shade fabric that was installed above the contact basin seems to be helping, he said the plan is to mount the fabric on framing so it can be mounted directly above the basin baffles rather than remain tied to the hand rails.

8.b. STAFF REPORT ON GOVERNMENTAL MATTERS: None

8.c. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. McDonald handed blank performance survey forms to Mr. Mann and Mr. Beauchemin and asked that they be returned to the Personnel Committee Chair Cusack to assist the Board in their performance review of the General Manager.

9.a. BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: None

9.b. INTER-AGENCY MEETINGS: None.

10. CONSENT CALENDAR: The consent item was approved unanimously (as/rb):
a. Approve Minutes of August 14, 2019.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: None

12. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: None

13. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM until October 9, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

James Barnhill
September 18, 2019