

B.O.D.
Approved 10-15-15

Redwood Valley County Water District
2370 Webb Ranch Road
Redwood Valley, CA 95470
(707) 485-0679

Board of Directors - Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 17, 2015

Directors: Granville Pool, Pamela Ricetti, Ken Todd, Jeff Basili
Staff: General Manager Bill Koehler

Call To Order: 6:00 P.M.

1. Roll Call

Present:

Pamela Ricetti, Director

Jeff Basili, Director

Ken Todd, Director

Absent:

Granville Pool, President

2. Hearing of Comments or Questions from the Attending Public for Items Not on the Agenda

Marv Talso, the new Board member, is in the audience.

3. Consider Hearing of Urgent Items Received Since the Agenda Was Posted
None.

4. Acceptance of Agenda

Motion: Accept the agenda

Motion by Dir Basili, second by Dir Todd

In favor: Dir Ricetti, Dir Basili, Dir Todd

Absent: Dir Pool

5. Approval of Consent Calendar

No comments.

Motion: Approve the August consent calendar

Motion by Dir Todd, second by Dir Basili

In favor: Dir Ricetti, Dir Basili, Dir Todd

Absent: Dir Pool

6. Approval of Minutes as Presented

No problems are noted.

Motion: Accept the August Regular Meeting minutes as corrected.

Motion by Dir Basili, second by Dir Todd

In favor: Dir Ricetti, Dir Basili, Dir Todd

Absent: Dir Pool

7. Directors and Staff Reports and Discussion of Non-Action Topics

Everything will be included in the Managers Report.

8. General Manager's Report and Action Items

a. Place Holders

GM Koehler got back from vacation early this morning and is getting back into things.

b. District Operations

The tank structural work has been done and paid for. Now nothing will happen for a while until they come back to coat the interior. Since RVCWD can't just get a half-million gallons of water from Millview to fill it, they'll either have to fill it very slowly or turn the treatment plant on long enough to fill it.

There was a leak out on N Road which led to the discovery of a valve out in a field under about 5 feet of dirt. The metal detector that is pretty standard for utilities is quite expensive and not all that useful. They bought a cheap detector, but it didn't reach far enough.

Generally, everything is going well. The valves didn't need to be replaced.

c. School Way Bridge

School Way bridge is coming along. GM Koehler talked with Ernie [Wipf] and the County DOT and they all assured him that they did what they could and MCM stepped in to eat up any extra amounts. A big part of Ernie's savings had to do with him not going through a union. Now, there will be about \$30,000 savings because not all the old pipe was removed. Basically, MCM is making money off of Ernie's cheaper work. RVCWD agreed to a bid amount, so if MCM can get someone to do the work for less, that's their profit and if they're not willing to share, that's their option. But the work for RVCWD is done at that site.

d. SGMA

GM Koehler asks the Board what they want to tell the County about formation of the agency. Carre Brown is looking for confirmation that they want the County to be in charge. Dir Todd says that there's really no other option.

Politically, the County is worried about taking this one because of the politics of having to tell someone they can't drill or have to reduce usage. Dir Ricetti asks if the government is requiring this agency to be formed and GM Koehler says definitely yes. Some other problems with this is the lack of representation for the Farm Bureau. Any advisory committees have to be kept small, or nothing gets done. It would consist primarily of the JPA for the small districts, the City of Ukiah, RRFCD, some Farm Bureau representation, and some others. Round Valley is looking to skip the whole committee idea. And the coast is largely out of it because they're not on defined aquifers (besides Mendocino).

So, it could be that the County decides what wells are to be measured, RVCWD personnel could be dispatched to check on them as long as the County works out the agreements with the land owners. Right now, the State has only said that the wells need to be sounded twice a year which is largely useless; it should be about once a month. Dir Todd asks why the State doesn't use the information that they've collected from various wells over the last 20 years. GM Koehler says that the State wants a local agency to do the work and if they don't, the State will hire someone at a much higher cost.

The nice thing about this is having an early warning system if the aquifer is being overdrawn and prevent another situation like in the Central Valley where the valley floor is dropping by inches every month. Everyone needs to get in on this. RVCWD also needs to make sure the Farm Bureau is represented. Willow and Millview have already asked GM Koehler to speak for them. Dir Todd asks about all the personal well logs that are out there. GM Koehler says that right now, those are private and only a government organization can ask for them, but the State is working on changing that, despite the resistance of the people who want the government to butt out.

e. Election/Appointment

No election was needed and Marv will be appointed.

f. Operation Contract

GM Koehler asks how the Board feels about the contract. Dir Ricetti asks about a certain item and how it would work with an annexation with RRFC. GM Koehler says that they're making it very clear that RRFC would not inherit this contract if the event of an annexation. Dir Todd says that RRFC should be on board with this since it makes their life a lot easier.

Motion: Approve the Operations Contract with Willow Water District

Motion by Dir Basili, second by Dir Todd

In favor: Dir Ricetti, Dir Basili, Dir Todd

Absent: Dir Pool

Millview has approved this contract, as well. Once Dave [Willow] takes over the operations, GM Koehler will start working more closely with Tim [Millview]

with the intent of managing that district as well. Eventually, the goal is one cohesive unit with the small districts of this valley. Of course, there are bugs here and there, but those will get worked out over time.

g. JPA Long Term Goals

The September meeting was canceled. In the next meeting, they will need to discuss where they want to go with all of this. Is it groundwater with a \$10 million project to drill a well field that move water around? It will definitely have to work with Ukiah to make sure to not overdraft the aquifer. The ideal would be the City of Ukiah merging with the JPA, but that's a distant dream at best. Right now, the State is very supportive of drought related projects and the Division of Drinking Water really likes consolidation.

Chris Neary is working on getting people to work together and get Millview and others to talk with RRFC to work together and stop with the lawsuits. RRFC is still trying to get more water out of Lake Mendocino, which is pretty doubtful considering the current state of the Lake.

The study by UC Davis that RVCWD paid half of was presented at RRFC's last board meeting and RVCWD was not invited. GM Koehler getting another presentation will be trying to do something about. He does have the Power Point presentation, but we should have been included much earlier. It's also a good idea for two RVCWD board members to be present at the next JPA meeting, Dir Todd for sure and likely Dir Pool. Ludorff & Scalminini has done a lot of work on the wells around here and have determined that Well 6 is not underflow from the river and could do about 1000 GPM. But what's more important is how fast the water moves underground. The well that we drilled down at H&W has a lot of water, but it moves so slowly through clay that it isn't any good to us. But in the years to come, we can have multiple, higher-yield wells to supply our water.

We're looking to consolidate for the good of the valley.

h. Plan for Services

At the last RRFC board meeting, there was talk about splitting costs with RVCWD in looking into the annexation, but that's expired. Now RRFC is going to send out an RFP to ask about how much it would cost to give an opinion about what this will cost. It's a big waste of money. It's all about finding out what happens to our debt in the event of any consolidation. It's a good question that needs to be answered. The better choice is to go to a bond council about this problem since it's a very specific question.

i. Ag Water Purchase

As of September 1st, 1,033 af has been used. Depending on how ag is used, it could be about 400 af unused at the end of the year. Dir Ricetti and Dir Todd both report that even with long waterings of their vineyards, the soil is still pretty dry. GM Koehler tells them to keep watering since we pay for the water whether or

not it's used. This District is not two separate parts. Ag and domestic are all in it together and if Ag doesn't all get used, domestic is affected as well. So do we charge a surcharge to the Ag users? Because if we hadn't bought that extra water, the growers would have been cut off back in June. Also, extra watering now will help fortify the soil if the rains don't come as planned this winter. Although there is frost to contend with.

9. Financial Report

The new reports add a column each month so that comparisons can be made to previous months. Dir Todd asks about the power charge for the Lake pump station. The numbers between the pump charges and the income from the Ag users are pretty close to the same. GM Koehler says it's hard to compare because some growers come in and pay 3 months in a chunk.

Millview does testing on their water before they send it to our tanks. Then we do additional sampling at various locations in the valley. But all the main testing is done by Millview and so we're saving on sampling. GM Koehler is thinking that Millview hasn't quite added in all of these costs, so there are some adjustments that should be made.

Motion: Approve the Financial Report

Motion by Dir Todd, second by Dir Basili

In favor: Dir Ricetti, Dir Basili, Dir Todd

Absent: Dir Pool

10. LAFCO

Nothing to report.

11. Mendocino County IW&PC

Nothing to report.

12. Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control

The process of going to license it still piddling along. It hasn't made it up the food chain at the State and it looks like they don't want to issue any licenses. Emphasis is put on the fact that without the Potter Valley Project, the Lake would go dry one year in ten even if the dam is raised. Now it's a fight with the Friends of the Eel trying to shut things down.

The moratorium on Millview has been lifted and they allowed a little over 200 new connections. There is also some talk about buying the Masonite 6 site, which would be a good thing. There's also an area that has a system much like a Ranney collector in the river where it is feasible to put a treatment plant if you wanted.

13-18

Nothing to report

Motion to adjourn.

Motion by Dir Basili, second by Dir Todd
In favor: Dir Ricetti, Dir Basili, Dir Todd
Absent: Dir Pool

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Minutes submitted by Jeanette Wise

Approved: Board of Directors
Date Approved: _____
Signed: _____