

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

Board of Directors - Special Meeting
Thursday, August 7, 2014

Directors Present: Granville Pool, Pamela Ricetti, Ken Todd, Jeff Basili
Directors Absent: None
Staff Present: General Manager Bill Koehler
Others Present: No attending public

Call To Order: 5:02 P.M.

1. Roll Call

Granville Pool, President
Pam Ricetti, Director
Ken Todd, Director
Jeff Basili, Director

2. Acceptance of Agenda

Motion: Accept the agenda
Motion by Dir Ricetti, second by Dir Basili
In favor: Unanimous

3. Comment/Questions from the Public

Skipped because there is no attending public

4. Discussion and Possible Approval of Monitoring Well Contract

GM Koehler starts by saying the \$120,000 should be the same now as when it was first estimated. The bulk of the increase is based on the well work being done for Millview right now, and that's deeper than we are planning on going. They will be drilling to refusal, which is either Franciscan bedrock or hitting 50 or so feet of clay. The original guesstimate is based on 500 feet and the new estimate is looking at more than 600 feet. The real downside is that we will not know about the grant money until October. He thinks we should get this done now because this is a very specialized drill company drilling an 8-inch monitoring well which local drillers cannot do. It is more expensive and we have no guarantee of success. Speaking with Jarrod Thiele with the City of Ukiah and it looks promising. Waiting for October presents two problems: 1) the well driller won't be in the area and not telling when they could come back, 2) discussions about mergers and such are heating up. The JPA agreement that has been drafted has been

passed around as gospel-truth by someone who shall remain unnamed (Dir Ricetti confirms a phone call about it), even though it has not been approved and Dir Ricetti says she hasn't even seen it. Knowing if we have a shot or no shot at groundwater gives a better understanding of how we go into the future.

Dir Ricetti asks for confirmation that we will be drilling with or without the grant money. GM Koehler says that it's his opinion that it could happen and needs to be tried. Best case, we find water and we're home free. The decision that needs to be made today is whether or not to proceed without a guarantee of grant money. H&W still is questioning transfer of that quarter acre for the well site.

Dir Todd says he talked to them [H&W] today. H&W is concerned about the vines in that area. When he [Todd] started thinking about the 100' by 100' area needed, that's a big area, and he doesn't think they'll need that whole area. GM Koehler says the reason the area is that big is for Drinking Water Source Area Protection (D-SWAP) which is set up by CDPH as an area where no pesticides or other harmful chemicals may be used. He was down at the site today and was thinking the southern end of the property where the impact may be less. If the setback is 50' from the fog-line [on East Road], that would lessen the impact on the vines. Dir Todd thinks that a price per vine may be appropriate. GM Koehler says that in the case of the property for the intertie, they decided a grant of the property to RVCWD would work better than an easement.

There needs to be a statement about what happens in the case of a good well or a dud well. This is a good position, though, because we want to be away from the river as much as possible while staying as far south as possible.

[Discussion ensues about what services and water lines are where, all referencing a map.]

Dir Ricetti asks if they drill a good test well, will they immediately drill a full size well? GM Koehler says they will as soon as we agree to pay them for it. The whole project is about \$400,000, including the test well and everything, including the building and engineering and maybe a fence. Dir Todd asks about pumps, GM Koehler says they are included. Dir Todd thought it was over a million dollars and Dir Ricetti remembers \$750,000. GM Koehler looks again and sees that the \$400,000 does not include pumps. Dir Todd mentions that it seems very expensive for pumps. Looking at the itemized costs again, it looks like \$645,000.

Dir Pool says he can work with GM Koehler on the agreement with H&W and the well drillers. Ludorf & Scalmanini wants to start working on permitting immediately and they could start drilling next week.

Motion: Start as soon as possible to get the permitting and drilling going, being aware they won't find out about the grant until October

Motion by Dir Basili, second by Dir Todd

In favor: Unanimous

5. Discussion and Possible Action of Increase in Penalty Fees for Overuse of Water

Should we start hammering people about over-usage? Dir Todd asks what he found out about the 30,000-40,000 gallon users. GM Koehler says he went by the District in Lake County to find out about what authority they call upon to punish over-users, including disconnecting chronic over-users. The woman who runs things is gone until Monday, so he wasn't able to talk to her. A couple things are goofy about it, like how they say they can cut people off completely and that they are rationing per household instead of per person, so what will they do about a household or property with 12+ people.

GM Koehler says that he's been too busy to visit the chronic over-users, but he did send out an employee to post notices on about 60 doors and we've gotten about a two-thirds response with about half of those being, "Yeah, but I've got really expensive landscaping..." to which his response was to tell them to let it die. There are a few neighborhoods like Oak Pond Ct, Uva Place, and Adreveno where they all compete with each other with their yards. Dir Basili laughs and says "Not mine" and adds that people on Oak Pond often have wells. The other half all have unique circumstances such as a death in the family where relatives come or leaks. The remaining third is suspected to be the pot growers. Starting Monday we'll be working on a way to shut them down.

We will probably be out of water by October. But the abusers account for about 7-10% of the monthly water usage, which isn't huge. One way or the other, we'll be sucking air at Lake Mendocino and at our 355 acre-feet limit at about the same time in October.

Dir Ricetti asks if we have to notify people about a penalty increase a month in advance. GM Koehler says we do. He contacted Michelle Fredrick with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and told her what the current problem is. Even though the government has set up penalties, there is no one to enforce them, so they're pointless.

Discussion moves to water trucks and who they're hauling for and where. An exception has been made for a house built before the moratorium whose well went dry. The cutoff is 1997 for if a house can receive water or not, according to CDPH.

Dir Ricetti asks what we can do and GM Koehler says we can't do much more than what we have done already. If we could prove that they have more than 25 plants, the Sheriff can be involved, but otherwise they stay out. And there's no way to get them for using domestic water for agriculture. There is a part in the laws where agencies can enforce their own ordinances, which could be a way. But nothing can really help in the last two months before harvest. However, setting things up for next time can be done.

[A discussion of current penalties and pot rates ensues.]

Dir Todd says he got a call that Redwood Valley Gravel still has their water on. GM Koehler says to the best of his knowledge, the Fords are off. They have their own water supply. He talked to them and said if they have enough water to keep their gravel wet... And they have equipment to haul water.

Dir Ricetti asks if Candy Sugarman has called him about the recording secretary position. GM Koehler responds that nobody has called him about it. There is a tentative recorder who has done the June minutes but cannot attend meetings.

No action to be taken at this time.

Motion to adjourn.

Motion by Dir Todd, second by Dir Basili

In favor: unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Minutes submitted by Jeanette Wise

Approved:

Date Approved:

Signed:

Board of Directors

28 OCT 14

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Wise', written over a horizontal line.