

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
August 1, 2019
RUBIDOUX COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Armando Muniz
Bernard Murphy
John Skerbelis
F. Forest Trowbridge
Hank Trueba, Jr.

DIRECTORS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Steve Appel, General Manager
Brian Laddusaw, Director of Finance
Brian Jennings, Manager Budgeting & Accounting

Call to order: the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Rubidoux Community Services District by President Trueba, at 4:00 P.M., Thursday, August 1, 2019, at the District Office, 3590 Rubidoux Boulevard, Jurupa Valley, California.

ITEM 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Minutes for July 18, 2019, Regular Board Meeting.

Director Muniz moved and Director Trueba seconded to approve July 18, 2019 Minutes.

Ayes – 5 (Muniz, Murphy, Skerbelis, Trowbridge, Trueba)

Noes – 0

Abstain – 0

The motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM 5. Consideration to Approve the August 2, 2019 the Salaries, Expenses and Transfers.

Consideration to approve August 2, 2019, Salaries, Expenses and Transfers.

Director Trowbridge moved and Director Muniz seconded to Approve the August 2, 2019 Salaries, Expenses and Transfers.

Ayes – 5 (Muniz, Murphy, Skerbelis, Trowbridge, Trueba,)

Noes – 0

Abstain – 0

The motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM 6. PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGE OF NON-AGENDA MATTERS

There were no members of the public to address the Board at this time.

ITEM 7. CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED INFORMATION

Staff had nothing to offer at this time.

ITEM 8. MANAGER’S REPORT

Operations Report:

Presented at the second board meeting of the month.

Emergency and Fire Report:

Presented at the second board meeting of the month.

ITEM 9. PUBLIC HEARING – Consideration to Approve Resolution 2019-854, a Resolution Authorizing Assessments Against Certain Rubidoux CSD Parcels Receiving Weed Abatement for Fiscal Year 2018-2019. DM 2019-42.

BACKGROUND

Attached for the Board of Directors consideration is Resolution No. 2019-854, which if adopted this evening, will assess weed abatement charges upon appropriate parcels for property tax collections for weed abatement services provided on properties that create a public safety and fire hazard. However, before adoption of the Resolution, the Board must conduct a public hearing affording the general public, interested parties and/or affected parties the opportunity to comment and/or protest such charges.

Notice of this afternoon’s public hearing along with parcel numbers of properties to be assessed were published in the public notice section of the Press Enterprise and were made available on the District’s web site.

As of the writing of this memorandum, staff has not received any written or verbal protests with respect to any of the specific parcels proposed to be assessed and contained within Resolution No. 2019-854.

President Trueba opened the Public Hearing. There being no comments or protests from the public, President Trueba closed the Public Hearing.

Director Skerbelis moved and Director Trowbridge seconded to Adopt Resolution No. 2019-854, a Resolution Authorizing Assessments Against Certain Rubidoux Community Services District Parcels Receiving Weed Abatement Services for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

Ayes – 5 (Muniz, Murphy, Skerbelis, Trowbridge, Trueba)

Noes – 0

Abstain – 0

The motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM 10. Review and Discuss the RCSD’s Water Lifeline Program and Application Process. DM 2019-43.

BACKGROUND

In early 1995, the Rubidoux Community Services District Board of Directors approved Ordinance No. 98, which established and set lifeline water charges for qualified RCSD customers. The intent of the lifeline program was to aid seniors who have limited means and who would be most affected by the water rate increases as a result of the 1995 COP bond issuance. The lifeline program was limited to 200 accounts in order to minimize the financial impact without having to increase rates any further. It was noted in 1995 that “While it would be desirable to extend the lifeline rate to all senior citizens, unemployed workers, welfare recipients, workers compensation recipients, and other disadvantaged community members, the reality is ‘those who can pay will need to pay more’.” The 1995 lifeline program authorized a 15% discount on the District’s monthly standby charge and a sliding discount on water usage. That scale established a 20% discount on the first 5 units of water used, 15% for the next 13 units of water, and 10% for the next 18 units of water.

In 2012, the Board reviewed and modified the 17-year old Ordinance. During the 2012 review, Staff contacted nine local water purveyors in order to determine whether they offered a lifeline rate to customers. At that time only one agency offered such a discount. No other agency provided a lifeline rate. The prevailing legal interpretation of the agencies was that it was against the spirit of Proposition 218 to discount water use for specific customers. However, the RCSD has provided low income seniors, who qualify with lifeline assistance for over 17 year (24-years now) without community outcry or legal challenges. It was the feeling of those one the Board that continuing the program was the “right thing to do.”

During the 2012 review of the Ordinance, two changes were made; the standby-charge discount was increased from 15% to 20% and the water usage rate discount was modified to 20% for the first 29 units of water used rather than a decreasing discount.

Staff gave a presentation to the Board on the District’s lifeline water program.

No action necessary at this time. Informational item.

ITEM 11. Notification Letter for PFOS and PFOA Sampling Results. DM 2019-44.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this letter is to inform you on the presence of perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) in the groundwater that is served to our customers. Following mandatory monitoring required by the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW) per Order No. 05_20_19M_011_3310044 dated March 12, 2019, it was determined that the notification level for PFOS has been exceeded. The notification level for PFOS is 13 parts per trillion and for PFOA is 14 parts per trillion. The response level for PFOA and PFOS is a total concentration of 70 parts per trillion for both contaminants.

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 116455, the Rubidoux Community Services District is required to inform its governing body of any local agency whose jurisdiction includes the areas supplied with drinking water by the Rubidoux Community Services District of concentrations exceeding the notification levels. Notification levels are health-based advisory levels established by the DDW for chemicals in drinking water that lack maximum contaminant levels. When chemicals are found at concentrations greater than their notification levels, certain notification requirements and recommendations apply.

From discussions with DDW staff, this Notification Letter is required only due to the presence of PFOS in Well 18 for water delivered into the drinking water system after July 13, 2018 which is the date Notification Levels for PFOS and PFOA was published. Well 18 has been out-of-service since March 15, 2019. As can be noted the reported sampling result for PFOS in Well 18 was 15 ng/l, just over the notification level of 13 ng/l. Well 6 and Well 4 were also sampled based on DDW's Order No. 05_20_19M_011_3310044. Well 6 source water sampling results for PFOS was over the notification level prior to nitrate treatment. After nitrate treatment, the PFOS level was reduced to 6.7 ng/l. This is the product water delivered to customers and is below the notification level. Well 4 sampling results for PFOS is 17 ng/l, which exceeds the notification level of 13 ng/l. However, Well 4 is out-of-service while GAC Treatment is being added. Once GAC Treatment is completed, Well 4 source water will be processed with ion exchange treatment and GAC treatment prior to becoming product water delivered into the water system. It is anticipated treatment processes will reduce the PFOS concentrations below the notification level of 13 ng/l.

Order No. 05_20_19M_011_3310044 requires sampling at Well 18, Well 6 and Well 4 each quarter for four quarters, which staff fully intends to comply with and report findings as necessary.

PFOS and PFOA have been extensively produced and studied in the United States. These manmade substances have been synthesized for water and lipid resistance. They have been used extensively in consumer projects such as carpets, clothing, fabrics for furniture, paper packaging for food, and other materials (e.g., cookware) designed to be waterproof, stain-resistant or non-stick. In addition, they have been used in fire-retarding foam and various industrial processes. The origin of the contaminant in our water supply

at this time is unknown but the water system is working with the State Board and other agencies to determine how and why.

If a chemical is present in drinking water that is provided to consumers at concentrations considerably greater than the notification level, the response level, DDW recommends that the drinking water system is continuing to monitor the levels in our source(s) and has not exceeded the response level at this time. Additional information will be provided to our customers in the Rubidoux Community Services District Consumer Confidence Report that comes out next year.

Based on the current evaluation of recent human and animal toxicity data, exposure to PFOA and PFOS in tap water over certain levels may result in adverse health effects including hepatotoxicity, immunotoxicity, thyroid toxicity, reproductive toxicity, and cancer (pancreatic and liver).

Director Trowbridge moved and Director Muniz seconded to receive and file this Notification Level regarding PFOS and PFOA sampling results for Wells 4, 6, and 18.

Ayes – 5 (Muniz, Murphy, Skerbelis, Trowbridge, Trueba)

Noes – 0

Abstain – 0

The motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM 12. Directors Comments.

Director Trueba adjourned the meeting at 4:48 pm.