

**Minutes of Board Meeting
Covelo Community Services District
February 12, 2025**

Purpose: To provide oversight and set policy as applicable to the proper functioning of the District.

Convene: 6:05pm

***Roll Call:** Board – Paul Filler, Joe Gauder, Sherrie Lee, Crispin Littlehales, John Marshall; Staff – Dane Downing, Greg Lohne

***Approval of Agenda for February 12, 2025** – Joe motioned & Crispin seconded to approve the agenda, it passed unanimously.

Closed Session 1: Initiation of Litigation – One Case, Government Code Section 54956.9(4)

*District Counsel advised options to remediate payment discrepancies, Board considered authorizing Counsel to make a government claim, John Motioned, Sherrie seconded – authorization passed unanimously.

Content 1:

***USDA Fire Hydrant Project:**

- **USDA Planning Grant – Authorized Rep Form Sent** – Lew emailed Board approved authorization to USDA.
- **CA CERF Redwood Region Rise Grant – Application Submitted** – Kay submitted the grant application before the January 25th deadline.

Consent Agenda: Approval of January 2024 Financial Reports, District Manager Report, Plant Operator Report, and Minutes for January 8, 2024 Regular and Special Meetings and January 28, 2025 Emergency Meeting. Joe motioned & Crispin seconded to approve the consent agenda; it passed unanimously.

Public Comment – Non-Agenda Items: None.

Correspondence: Auditor emailed 2024, 2025, 2026 Engagement letter, GM signed, auditor submitted CA State Sec Financial Reports, 2023 & 2024. Erik from SHN inquiry re: remediation well pump water disposal, needs stated: verified clean water, repair to lateral & slow discharge, or truck to plant for \$.16/gal.

Content:

***Grant Updates**

- **Sonoma Clean Power – Second Revision of Draft Concept Paper** – Video conference w/Rebecca from Sonoma Clean Power (SCP) to review draft proposal for solar generation at the treatment plant. Draft #2 was produced from our conference. I will provide edits and include costs estimates for upgrading ozone unit to UV unit. Fortner Consulting in Fort Bragg is drafting the replacement estimate.
- **DWR Grant – \$1.345m Total, Awaiting PG&E for Approval & Trench Repair** – PG&E Permit has yet to authorize solar system to go live. No date expected yet. New solar array conduit trench settled and needed gravel, Wylatti completed the repair. Denise @ Humboldt County sent Sub-Grant Agreement Amendment 2, GM signed, & emailed back. We are set to invoice upon project closure.
- **EPA – WaterTA Grant** – None.
- **FEMA/CalOES Emergency Assistance – Projects “Engaged for Closeout”** – Project funds are “obligated,” final review and approval needed to release the “hold” on the account. Once the release is made check can be sent.
- **Waterboards Technical Assistance Grant 2024** – None.

***Discuss Increasing Revenue Options – LAFCo Reply and Procedure** – LAFCo replied to our inquiry and sent list of Prop 218 regulations to discuss, follow, implement to begin a rate increase. Board agreed to begin researching what is needed.

Closed Session: Labor Negotiations, Began – 7:34, Completed – 7:50 – Board discussed PO Leave of Absence. John motioned, Sherie seconded to reallocate PO salary to GM & BK to cover PO duties.

Next Month’s Meeting: March 12, 2025, 6pm.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:58pm