

CLEAR CREEK COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Board of Directors: Johanna Trenerry - Chair; Irwin Fust - Vice;
Dave Zabaldano - Director; Murray Miller - Director; Cedric Twight -
Director

5880 Oak Street, Anderson CA 96007

Phone: (530) 357-2121; Fax: (530) 357-3723

PUBLIC HEARING SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, August 30, 2021 6:30 pm
Happy Valley Elementary School
17400 Palm Avenue, Anderson CA 96007

Minutes were transcribed via video. Anyone needing to confirm minutes may go to YouTube and look for CCCSD August 30, 2021 meeting.

MINUTES

DIRECTORS: Vice Chair Irwin Fust, Cedric Twight, Murray Miller, and Dave Zabaldano. Absent Chair Johanna Trenerry

STAFF: IGM Bill Palmaymesa and Administrative Assistant Kristen Thomas

AUDIENCE: Full Auditorium

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Fust called the meeting to order and indicated that tonight's meeting was a public hearing in regards to the rate increase. After the close of the public hearing, the Board will discuss and make a determination. He reported that protest letters would be counted at the end of the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Director Twight led the pledge.

OPEN TIME: Scott McVay asked that the new Board members receive their Brown Act training as soon as possible. He mentioned several Brown Act violations in recent months. He also indicated that several times the Board had made comments that were not factual and asked that the members be careful in their responses. Sandy Winters asked the Board to take a long hard look at what they are doing to the customers in Happy Valley with this rate increase.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **PUBLIC HEARING - RATE INCREASE (DISCUSSION)** - Vice Chair Fust gave a history of this rate study and how the CAC was formed to complete it. Director Twight explained how the rate package was calculated for the base rate and water rates fees which included all the fixed costs in getting the water to each customer. He also discussed the drought rate and the ability to pass on those costs to the

customer when having to purchase more expensive water. Jackie Longcrier voiced concern over drought rates being increased in 30 days without public input. Russell DeMore asked whether the Board had investigated all the money that had slipped away within the District, sighting excessive overtime from management. He stated that it can't be business as usual, it must be fixed. He invited the Board to visit his farm. Christine Swim asked about the impact of people utilizing their wells again and people bringing in outside water sources. She asked whether the District will lose revenues or will the base rate cover most of the administrative costs. Director Twilight indicated the base rate would cover the administrative costs. He didn't feel the loss of water sales would affect the bottom line. Scott McVay stated the base rates were going to be difficult for many people to pay. Beverly Fickes confirmed with the Board that any additional drought rate increases would have to go through a public hearing process. She asked that the Board individually indicate what this rate increase means to them and the District. Ken Longcrier asked about costs and why they were still out of control. Annette Kolkey voiced concern over the higher rates and the inconsistency of the management of the district over the years. Patrick Landon asked the Board to look at a different source of water than the Bureau of Reclamation. He said that they can't be relied upon. Another customer asked why the community is being punished for something the District created. He mentioned the numerous water leaks and breaks throughout the District. Sandra Glass voiced concern about the possibility of water being turned off to her residence when they were trying to abide by the cut back of water usage. Chuck Jones stated there are customers not paying their water bill. He asked that the District look at methods and processes to collect those funds. Ann Christy stated she had been a customer for over 20 years. She hoped that the District will get their excessive spending under control. She asked the Board to read the Human's Right to Water regulations. Several customers voiced displeasure that the Board did not increase rates more frequently. Several customers also pointed out the cheaper rates for City of Anderson water. Emily Rankin stated she was appalled with what has happened with our water district. She felt there is alleged corruption that the board did not look into. She indicated that the public as a whole feels that nothing is being done to curb expenditures. She stated it is the Board's job to take a look at the books and find where the money has been going. The public should be able to comment back after the public hearing is closed and the public hears what the Board has to say. There should be a rebuttal period.

With there being no more comments from the public, Vice Chair Fust closed the public hearing. He reported that the City of Anderson receives all their water through wells. Each Board member explained what the rate increase meant to them and the District. Director Twilight responded regarding Jackie's comment regarding drought rate changes. He reported that the Board will have to hold a public hearing soon because the actual costs for purchased water is higher than anticipated. Director Miller stated that everything was calculated on actual costs. Vice Chair Fust explained the process for Proposition 218 and the protest letters. There must be 51% of protest letters submitted to overturn the rate increase proposal or approximately 1100 letters. Protest letters were counted and verified by Chad Krick , Mary Jane Landis, and Beverly Fickes. IGM Palmyamesa announced that only 47

protest letters were received. Vice Chair Fust asked about the WIIN Act and State Loan Reserves and whether they would be placed in separate sub accounts. IGM Palmaymesa confirmed that they would.

B. ORDINANCE 2021-08 - RATES AND FEES (ACTION) - Director Twight moved to accept the Rates and Fees as presented as well as adopt Ordinance 2021-08. Director Miller seconded the motion. Discussion commenced on effective date and start date of new rates. Director Twight amended his motion to include effective date of September 1, 2021, with start date of September 14, 2021. Director Miller seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. There was some confusion regarding the motion, so the above wording was reread and confirmed and unanimously approved.

FUST - YES

TWIGHT - YES

MILLER - YES

ZABALDANO - YES

C. QUESTIONS AND/OR PUBLIC COMMENTS (INFORMATION) - Robert Christy took exception to a Board member indicating that the cost of water from Calwater was very expensive. He reported that the base rate was 2/3 less than what has been approved here tonight. Ann Christy asked about consolidating with another district as our base rates are extremely high. Scott McVay asked about the volunteer program and whether people can start to assist. Vice Chair Fust indicated that no decision can be made tonight. IGM Palmaymesa confirmed that it has not been approved yet. Mr. McVay asked each Board member to indicate whether they support agriculture in our community. Gaylene Grabeal asked about accounting reports since we haven't seen anything. IGM Palmaymesa said they were coming soon. Gaylene said with this rate increase it's important to keep on top of finances and that expenses be tracked. A customer asked about the high cost of filters for the water treatment plant.

ADJOURNMENT: Vice Chair Fust adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Submitted by

Beverly Fickes, Volunteer

ABSENT

Johanna Trenerry, Chair

Irwin Fust, Vice Chair

Dave Zabaldano, Director

Murray Miller, Director

Cedric Twight, Director

William Palmaymesa, Interim
Manager/Chief Plant Operator

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