



# Newsletter

Clear Creek Community Services District  
5880 Oak Street, Anderson, CA 96007

Serving the Communities  
of Happy Valley & Olinda  
1963 - 2020

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Issue X

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## Board of Directors

Johanna Trenerry, Chairwoman  
Irwin Fust, Vice Chairman  
Virginia Bassham, Director  
Mark Engel, Director  
Murray Miller, Director



## Manager

Kurt Born, General Manager

## \*Minutes from September 16th, 2020 \*\* Next BOD Meeting ~ October 12th, 2020\*

**DIRECTORS:** Johanna Trenerry, Irwin Fust, Virginia Bassham, Mark Engel and Murray Miller

**STAFF:** Kurt Born and Christy Roberts

**AUDIENCE:** Ben Swim, Beverly Fickes, James Rankin, Kyle German, Ed Moran, Scott McVay, Kris Wilder, Rusty Simmons, Shawna Welch and Sandy Winters

**ALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 9:06 AM

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chairwoman Trenerry led the Pledge of Allegiance

**OPEN TIME:** Chairwoman Trenerry asked the Secretary if anyone has asked to speak about items that are not on the agenda? Christy Roberts stated that audience Ben Swim would like to talk during the Prop 218 discussion. General Manager Born stated that this item is on the agenda but he wanted the opportunity to let Mr. Swim speak to the Board regarding the Prop 218 process and present the Board with his research.

**CONSENT/AGENDA:** A motion was made by Director Bassham and seconded by Vice Chairman Fust to approve the minutes from August 19, 2020, paid bills dated 8/19/20, 8/25/20, 8/28/20, 9/1/20 and 9/14/20 totaling \$280,518.90. Director Miller stated he did not see the financials but other than that, he approves. Motion was voted on and approved.

**NEW BUSINESS: WIIN Act Final Contract - Signature:** Chairwoman Trenerry asked the people in attendance to please not interfere with the meeting process until she has opened the meeting to the people. General Manager Born stated that the WIIN Act is something we've been working on for some time now. It allows the District to pay the CVP construction cost off and it allows our water service contract in perpetuity and saves on monetary costs relating to further contract negotiations. There are many benefits to this. In the year 2030 this becomes due anyway and in doing it this way, it allows us a discount of \$27,903.00 or we break it into 4 equal payments, due once a year of \$200,903.00. One way or the other, this comes due in 2030 and if we wait until 2030, the cost is even more and more interest. My suggestion is to adopt this. We are being represented by Attorney John Kenny and his recommendation is also to follow through with this. (There was continued discussion regarding the WIIN act, if you would like to see the whole discussion in writing, please contact the office for official minutes) Director Miller made a motion to table this until we get details. Vice Chairman Fust seconded. Motion was voted on and all Board members agreed to table Ordinance 2020-12 until next month.

**RCAC Rate Increase Proposal:** Chairwoman Trenerry stated that the customers need to remember that they asked for an independent study, which we did. We have done everything they have asked of us. They asked us to talk to our lawyer and a CPA and so I think the staff has been taking a lot of anger and lies from people and it's unacceptable. I ask that if you have a question, please come in and ask. I have had several people ask me about their rates and I think they felt pretty good after they talked to me about it. I'm going to let Skip explain what's going on and we will have a discussion, then I will open it up to the community. General Manager Born stated Ben Swim is the only customer in this District that has come to him and asked if he could offer an alternative to what is being proposed. Mr. Born stated it's critical and important to have an alternative. Mr. Born stated that he doesn't think people understand that this is coming anyway. We are a Federal Contractor and I posed the question; if we are a Federal Contractor then why do we have to abide by the State as well? According to our Federal contract, the guy says yes, because you are in the State of California, you must abide by State and Federal regulations and guidelines. California says everybody will be metered and their base bills will be by meter size. That is the standard developed by AWWA and is something the State is also following. Mr. Born stated that Mr. Swim has an alternative and asked Mr. Swim to speak about the data he has. Mr. Swim stated that this is just a starting point for a solution to work together. Many people in the Community are on board with stopping this RCAC rate increase, especially for people like me who have a 2" water meter. It is flat-out unaffordable. Mr. Swim stated he put together a spreadsheet with base rates. I started off with rates from other Districts, I went to a community meeting and asked several people for input and I went and sat down with Skip and Cary asking if these numbers were even feasible? I tried to come up with something that is still reasonable, a base plate to start. I think this has to be a multi-forum approach to keep rates affordable and get the Water District back to where it needs to be and we don't have lines blowing several times a month and have the appropriate equipment to get these repairs done. I understand with the RCAC study, we are looking to get a grant and that would be very helpful but I think in addition to the grant, getting a bond measure that will help support the District. This will limit some of the increase in cost to the customers. The spreadsheet I created is based on a Domestic rate of about .80¢ per unit and an Ag rate of about .25¢ per unit. Originally, I had the Ag rate at .17¢. I know the State of California is moving towards a water meter size base charge and it's a hard thing for me and other members of the Community to get over. In addition to talking with Skip, Cary and the Community meeting, I spoke with Mr. DeBerry at the Public Utility Commission and he confirmed that is the standard for California and moving to water meter base sizes, so that is not something we can get away from. I also understand that by 2025 every residence will require a water meter. The base rate I have for a 5/8" meter is \$35.00 and I increased that by 10% for each meter size until the 1-1/2", 3/4" is \$38.50, 1" is \$42.35, 1-1/2" is \$46.59, 2" is \$55.00 and from the 2" meter up, I increased it by \$20.00 and again this is just some numbers I put together. Water prices will increase, there is no way around that. I included for the first 2 years, a .02¢ per unit increase. My goal was to keep the Ag rates at or just above cost so we could keep Agriculture alive out here and all the stuff we love about Happy Valley. So this is the rate increase approach. In regard to the bond and grant, I ran some numbers for the bond to get an idea of the cost. I used a \$20 million dollar base to work from but the bond needs to be the appropriate amount to get us back to where we need to be and not over-burden the Community members. A \$20 million dollar bond at 3% over 20-years is about \$110,000 per month or about \$41.00 per customer, based on 2,700 customers and we would pay about \$6.6 million in interest over the course of those 20-years. If we did a \$10 million dollar bond at 3% for 20-years is about \$55,000 per month or about \$21.00 per customer and we would pay about \$3.3 million in interest over the course of those 20-years. Skip and I went back and forth on this and he said he didn't want to pay for something that wasn't going to be good at the end of those 20-years. Then we discussed the longevity of the 10" pipe and is, from my understanding, good for 100-years. This is a bond we could have paid off in 20 or 30 years and still have a long lifespan left on these repairs that need to be done. Now, this would be a payment either added to everyone's water bill or a payment added to their property tax bill. Either way this must be voted on by the Community. The last part of my plan, we need to have more direct accountability into how these funds are spent. I will send my spreadsheets to Skip. (there was continued discussion in regards to PROP218, if you would like to see the whole discussion, contact the office for the full minutes)

**Request for Qualifications - Select Engineering Firm for Distribution System Renovation:** Chairwoman Trenerry asked if there are any comments from the Board? Director Engel stated he would like to make a motion to approve our local engineering firm, Pace Engineering. Vice Chairman Fust seconded. Motion was voted on and approved.

Ayes: 5      Nays: 0      Abstain: 0      Absent: 0

**Water Efficiency - State Mandated Guidelines:** General Manager Born stated that this has been in the works for a couple years now and is finally coming forward. Senate Bill 606 and AB 1668 are the adoption of water efficiency standards that the State will be imposing on this District as well as all water Districts in California. It also falls in line with base meter charges and it has to do with cutting water availability. By the year 2022, according to this new bill, you will have to cut your water usage down to 55 gallons per person, per day, in the house. This is a State mandated program that is coming to fruition. This will have a direct effect on what we do in the future and is another component we will have to add into this mess. Vice Chairman Fust stated that you can't live on 55 gallons per day, per person. Mr. Born stated that there is another point to this, that by the year 2030 the gallons per day, drops to 50 gallons. There is language in these bills that state it depends upon where you live, the climate and are other factors that are included. They are talking about indoor use, not outside at this point and to me this is unacceptable. Mr. Fust stated that we need to look into this further because this is unrealistic. Chairwoman Trenerry stated that they are making the water agencies enforce this. Mr. Born stated yes, they are



**\*\*Continued Minutes from 09-16-2020 Board Of Director Meeting\*\***

going to force us to be "water policemen" to enforce their rules, regulations and control the customers use of water and I don't agree with that at all, it's wrong. They need to send their own people out to enforce it, we don't have the staff to do that. Chairwoman Trenery stated it is time to go see our representatives again and Mr. Fust agreed. Director Miller stated seems like another piece of a puzzle here and is a mandate that should be challenged. Is our meter system even set up for this per gallon system? Mr. Born stated yes because everyone has a meter. The only way we would know is if we did a census to determine how much water you're 'allowed' to use but I'm not going to be a census taker, I don't have time for that. I don't know how they are going to enforce this, aside from them putting it in our lap. There's the State for you and another mess to deal with because of stupid Legislation they are putting into place. Mr. Fust stated that he suggests we employ our Legislative Committee and Senator and find out what the deal is. Director Miller stated do we really want to be getting grant money from a group like this? Mr. Born stated that is a good question and with having another potential remedy, thanks to Mr. Swim. Mr. Fust stated Murray is right, with every grant comes conditions. Mr. Born stated yes, with every form of grant there is always a concession and we are going have to give something to get something. Mr. Swim stated that one thing to remember is that this 55-gallons is Statewide and we should be able to pull support, not just from our little Community and bring up to our Representatives. Skip and I talked briefly about this and someone like Kyle German, who now has to have 2 meters, if we were going to monitor this now with the water District having to be 'water police' each residence needs a meter and goes back to unaffordability again. Again, we need to look at this but can we look at this like a 'cell phone' with an 'add a line' charge and pay \$10 per month as opposed to the full meter base charge. I'm not sure this will work but it's something I came up with and we would be complying but yet is still affordable.

**ACWA/JPIA Annual Meeting – Report from Director Engel:** Director Engel stated that there was a JPIA Directors meeting on July 27<sup>th</sup> he gave a detailed report on 4 different categories, which are Liability, Property, Worker's Comp and Employee benefits programs. Highlights of the programs are available to anyone who requests it.

**OPEN TIME:** There were numerous comments and concerns brought about by community members. We are unable to fit them all into the newsletter without going with a font way smaller than this, that will be 100% un-readable. Please contact the office if you would like to see the full transcription of the meeting. Please keep in mind, the office staff is **NOT allowed** to send out the minutes to the public until the BOD has approved them at the next BOD meeting.

**~ Proposition 218 Public Hearing ~**

The hearing will be held on Monday, October 12th at 6:00 pm via Zoom. We are trying to retain access to the Happy Valley Elementary School Gym too so we can have some public attendance but have yet to hear back from the District Office. When we find out, we will post the updated information on our website @ clearcreekcsd.org

**To join the meeting :** [https://zoom.us/j/3097922136?](https://zoom.us/j/3097922136?PSWD=SThPM2x0UCtGMk5WQ3FeWhHUXpmdz09)  
**PSWD=SThPM2x0UCtGMk5WQ3FeWhHUXpmdz09**  
**Meeting ID:** 309 792 2136 ~ **Passcode:** 5zY2c1  
**Dial in:** 1-408-638-0968 **Meeting:** 3097922136#, 0#,  
**Password:** 892752#

All protest letters must be submitted to CCCSD prior to the start of the hearing. Letters must have a parcel or account number and MUST state on the envelope that it is a letter of protest. If you have a 1 1/2 inch meter or larger and would like to discuss downsizing your meter, please call the office at (530) 357-2121.

**~ Crop Reports ~**  
**Due December 1, 2020**



If you are on Agricultural Rates, please make sure to fill out and turn in your crop report by December 1, 2020. Any crop reports not turned in by that date risk being removed from the Agricultural Rates. If you are on Agricultural Rates and didn't receive a Crop Report in your bill you can go online @ clearcreekcsd.org and download one or come by the office and pick one up. Any questions, please call the office at 357-2121.



**~ Fall Roadside Clean Up Day ~**

**Saturday, October 10th - 8:00 am to 11:00 am**  
 Meet at the Happy Valley Community Center at 8:00 am. Bring gloves ~ Trash bags will be available. Wear your Pride Day T-shirt. Coffee and donuts will be served at 8:00 am.  
**Rain date:** October 17th.  
 For more information please call Johanna Trennery at (530)357-2416.



"This District is an Equal Opportunity Provider"

**Water Usage In Acre Feet**  
**March 1,2019 to February 29, 2020**

Month	Previous Year	Current Year	+/-
March	112.3	141.9	+29.6
April	155.5	188.2	+32.7
May	278.7	298.2	+19.5
June	474.2	466.1	-8.1
July	697.4	714.3	+16.9
August	650.9	659.6	+8.7
YTD	2369.0	2468.3	+99.3

*Figures reflect Meter readings at Whiskeytown Dam, less the water diverted to Centerville CSD.*

**Weather Observations**  
**August 2020**

**Monthly High & Low Temperatures**

High	111	Low	56
Avg. High	95.4	Avg. Low	64.2

*\*Year to Date Rainfall Totals are from January thru December\**

Rainfall Totals	2018	2019	2020
MTD	0.0"	0.0"	0.00"
YTD	6.11"	16.53"	16.29

**\*CIMIS\***

The California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS) is a program unit in the Water Use and Efficiency Branch, Division of Statewide Integrated Water Management, California Department of Water Resources (DWR) that manages a network of over 145 automated weather stations in California. CIMIS was developed in 1982 by DWR and the University of California, Davis (UC Davis). It was designed to assist irrigators in managing their water resources more efficiently. Efficient use of water resources benefits Californians by saving water, energy, and money. Visit the website @ [www.cimis.water.ca.gov](http://www.cimis.water.ca.gov).

**Water Saving Tips:**

Water during the cool part of the day, in the morning or evening.

**\*REMINDER\***

Clear Creek C.S.D. would like to remind customers to please call the District Office any time water service needs to be turned off or on inside the meter box. This will ensure that District valves will only be operated by District employees, thus protecting the customer from charges incurred if valves are broken or meters are damaged. A field staff member is on-call during the weekends and evenings. 530-357-2121