

July 13, 2009

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Novato Sanitary District was held at 4:30 p.m., Monday, July 13, 2009, at the District Office, 500 Davidson Street, Novato.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President Michael Di Giorgio, Members James D. Fritz, William C. Long and George C. Quesada.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Member Arthur T. Knutson.

STAFF PRESENT: Deputy Manager- Engineer Sandeep Karkal and Administrative Secretary Julie Borda.

STAFF ABSENT: Manager-Engineer-Secretary Beverly James.

ALSO PRESENT: Colleen Rose, Novato resident
Dee Johnson, Solid Waste Committee
Art and Pat Ribbel, Novato resident
Suzanne Brown Crow, Novato resident
Dean L. Heffelfinger, Novato resident
Phil Tucker
Dennis Welsh, former NSD employee, Novato resident
Tom Pierce

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

AGENDA APPROVAL:

On motion of Member Fritz, seconded by Member Quesada, and carried unanimously by those members present, the Agenda was approved as mailed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tom Pierce stated that he had worked in manufacturing and discussed the cost of outsourcing. He felt the Board did not realize that the District may lose reliability if the new operators are not living within thirty minutes of the District office. He stated the Board was not analyzing the risk potential when it came to outsourcing the treatment plants operations.

Art Ribbel, Novato resident, requested that audio transcripts be made available to the public at their request. He stated he was misquoted at the June 22nd Board Meeting by the Manager-Engineer-Secretary, Beverly James. He requested the current minutes show he did not request HDR Engineering Inc. to do a peer review on the Eisenhardt Report. He had requested any qualified, unbiased firm to perform the review. Mr. Ribbel briefly discussed the Eisenhardt report and disputed the report's reliability. He stated Mr. Eisenhardt will profit from his report if the District moves forward with a

private contract operator. Mr. Ribbel felt that EMA Inc., the second independent firm to review the Eisenhardt Report, did not address the same issues as the Eisenhardt Report.

Dennis Welsh asked when the bids received from the contract operators will be made available to the public. The Deputy Manager-Engineer responded that at the recommendation of District counsel and in the public's best interest, the bid results would not be released until after a Board decision. Mr. Welsh commented on the commercials on television and asked who had paid for the ads and how much was spent. The Deputy Manager-Engineer stated the ads were paid for by the District's public outreach fund.

Norm Stone, Novato resident, requested clarification for the Board meeting on July 20th. The Deputy Manager-Engineer explained that the meeting would include a detailed presentation with a financial evaluation of the bids received.

Phil Tucker, Sustainable Novato, stated he would like to see the details of the bids as they are responded to in the RFP (Request for Participation) document.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Member Long referenced a letter he received on behalf of the North Bay Water Reuse Authority from the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation. In the letter, the Bureau expressed their support of the North Bay Water Reuse Authority.

Member Fritz stated that on June 25th he had the pleasure of flying over the Novato Sanitary District treatment facility with Mr. Sam Renati, former Board Member. This trip was to continue photographic documentation of the treatment facility upgrade project.

President Di Giorgio invited the public to attend a scheduled tour of the District's treatment plant operations on Saturday, July 18th at 9AM. He noted there will be another tour on July 25th, also at 9AM.

REVIEW OF MINUTES:

Consider approval of minutes of the June 22, 2009 Regular Board meeting:

On motion of Member Quesada, seconded by Member Long, and carried unanimously by those members present, the minutes of the June 22nd regular Board meeting were approved.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Consider the collection of Sewer Service Charges on the tax rolls of the County of Marin pursuant to Section 5473 of the Health and Safety Code of the State of California.

President Di Giorgio opened the Public Hearing at 4:53 p.m.

The Deputy Manager-Engineer briefly discussed the District's sewer service charges and stated the public hearing was noticed in the Marin Independent Journal on June 25th and July 2nd. He pointed out that the District's Information Systems Specialist, Robin Merrill, was in attendance and would answer any questions from the public regarding their specific sewer service charges.

Dennis Welsh, Novato resident, asked if the sewer service charges could be collected monthly instead of the current method of semi-annually.

President Di Giorgio discussed the method the District uses to collect the funds on the tax roll and explained that monthly collection was not possible due to the prohibitive additional costs which would be involved. He expressed his concern regarding the State budget crisis and the possibility of the District losing some of their funding.

The public hearing was closed at 4:56 p.m.

- Consider adoption of Resolution No. 3005, a Resolution prescribing and providing for the collection of sewer service charges for Novato Sanitary District on the tax rolls of the County of Marin for the fiscal year 2009/2010.

On motion of Member Quesada, seconded by Member Fritz, and carried unanimously by those members present, Resolution No. 3005 was adopted.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Member Quesada requested item 7a. be removed from the consent calendar to be discussed in further detail.

On motion of Member Quesada, seconded by Member Long, and carried unanimously by those members present, the following Consent Calendar Items were approved:

- b. Consider approval of a contract for consulting services for the Household Hazardous Waste and AB 939 programs.
- c. Schedule July 27th Board meeting for 6:30 p.m. at Hill Community Room, Margaret Todd Senior Center.
- d. Approval of regular disbursements in the amount of \$378,644.37, and upgrade project disbursements in the amount of \$2,065,889.62.

Item 7a.: Consider acceptance of a proposal by Custom Tractor Service (CTS) to inject waste biosolids into the Dedicated Land Disposal Area at the Reclamation Facility.

The Deputy Manager-Engineer noted CTS has been performing biosolid injection satisfactorily for the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District and had performed the same

services for the Novato Sanitary District last season. This season, CTS has been asked to perform a full-scale injection at a cost of 0.033 cents per gallon plus a one time setup fee of \$2,500. The setup fee will be waived if one million gallons are injected this season and he noted that staff estimates that close to 1.75 million gallons will be injected. The Deputy Manager-Engineer stated that staff recommends accepting the CTS proposal and authorizing the Manager-Engineer to enter into an agreement with CTS for a not-to-exceed amount of \$70,000.

Member Quesada questioned the advantage of using the injection method over the surface spread and disc method for the disposal of digested biosolids. Deputy Manager-Engineer discussed the injection method and stated it was comparable in cost and lasting effect to the surface spreading method. He stated he would set up a cost comparison for review at a later Board meeting.

Member Long stated he believes the Board should make a decision at this time, but requested the issue be revisited at a later Board meeting for further discussion and review. He stated he would like a report to determine how the two methods affect the site.

On motion of Member Long, seconded by Member Fritz, and carried with the following vote, Custom Tractor Service (CTS) of Petaluma was contracted to inject waste biosolids into the Dedicated Land Disposal Area at the Reclamation Facility: Ayes: Di Giorgio, Long and Fritz. Noes: Quesada. Absent: Knutson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Consider Committee appointments for 2009-10. President Di Giorgio appointed the committee members as follows:

Current Committees:

Standing Joint City/District Solid Waste Committee: George C. Quesada, Arthur T. Knutson, Michael Di Giorgio, Alternate

California Association of Sanitation Agencies: Michael Di Giorgio, Delegate, William Long, Alternate

California Sanitation Risk Management Authority: Beverly B. James, Delegate, Michael Di Giorgio, Alternate

North Bay Regional Water Reuse Authority: Beverly B. James, Delegate, William C. Long, Alternate

North Bay Watershed Association: Beverly B. James, Delegate, George C. Quesada, Alternate

North Bay Watershed Association, Lateral Committee: Michael Di Giorgio, Delegate

Adhoc Committees

Adhoc Solid Waste Rates: William C. Long, Michael Di Giorgio

Adhoc Personnel: William C. Long, Michael Di Giorgio

Adhoc Wastewater Facility Upgrade: James D. Fritz, William C. Long

Adhoc Recycled Water: James D. Fritz, William C. Long

Adhoc Collection System: Michael Di Giorgio, James D. Fritz

COLLECTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS: PROJECT 72706, PHASE A- CENTER ROAD/WILSON AVE. SEWER PROJECT:

Consider adoption of a resolution making CEQA findings, approving plans and specifications, and authorizing advertising for bids. The Deputy Manager-Engineer stated that the purpose of this project is to relieve surcharge conditions in the existing sewer which runs in easements behind the homes along Center Road through to Monte Vista. He stated this portion is Phase A and believes there may be three more phases to the project before completion. He stated the Engineer's estimate for this work is \$777,002.00 but in consideration of the current economic climate, felt the bids may be considerably lower.

Member Quesada questioned the additional line. The Deputy Manager-Engineer stated the line will be an 18" diameter pipe in the public right-of-way (street) and will be the relief system to the main.

Member Fritz questioned how this bypass will affect the flow of wastewater. The Deputy Manager-Engineer stated that the upstream flows will be diverted during high flow periods such as wet weather seasons.

On motion of Member Long, seconded by Member Fritz and carried unanimously by those members present, Resolution No. 3006, a Resolution approving plans and specifications, making determinations on environmental impact, establishing prevailing wage scale, calling for proposals, and providing for notice thereof: Collection System Improvements: Project 72706, Phase A-Center Road/Wilson Avenue Sewer Project, was approved.

MANAGER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Deputy Manager-Engineer discussed his attendance at the North Bay Watershed Association meeting on July 10th. He noted their next meeting will be held on September 11th at the Marin Community Foundation.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, President Di Giorgio adjourned the meeting at 5:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly B. James
Secretary

Julie Borda, Recording

DRAFT