

April 14, 2008

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Novato Sanitary District was held at 4:30 p.m., Monday, April 14, 2008, at the District Office, 500 Davidson Street, Novato.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President James D. Fritz, Members Michael DiGiorgio, William C. Long, and George C. Quesada. Member Arthur T. Knutson arrived at 5PM.

STAFF PRESENT: Manager-Engineer-Secretary Beverly B. James and Administrative Assistant Julie Borda.

ALSO PRESENT: Sam Renati, former Board Member.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

AGENDA APPROVAL: *On motion of Member DiGiorgio, seconded by Member Quesada, and carried by those members present, the agenda was approved as mailed.*

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Member DiGiorgio discussed his attendance at the North Bay Watershed Association conference in Petaluma on April 4th. He noted two topics that were discussed: the declining salmon population and new ways to supply water with greater energy efficiency.

President Fritz discussed a tour he participated in with the Manager-Engineer at the Redwood Landfill on March 31st. He discussed different components of the landfill's daily activities including their methane gas production and subsequent burning.

REVIEW OF MINUTES:

Consider approval of minutes for the March 24, 2008 meeting: *On motion of Member DiGiorgio, seconded by Member Long, and carried by those members present, the March 14, 2008 Board meeting minutes were approved as written.*

CONSENT CALENDAR: *On motion of Member Quesada, seconded by Member Long, and approved by those members present, the following consent calendar item was approved:*

- a. Approval of regular disbursements in the amount of \$267,232.81, Wastewater Treatment Facilities Upgrade Project disbursements in the amount of \$3,130,200.65 and Board Member Disbursements in the amount of \$1,523.99.

LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION (LAFCO): REVIEW FY 2008-09 PROPOSED BUDGET:

The Manager-Engineer reviewed the LAFCO budget provided to the District and explained that LAFCO's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2008-09 projects a 3% decrease in revenues and expenditures over the 2007-08 budget. Total revenues and expenditures are projected to be \$390,090, as compared to the final FY 2007-08 budget of \$402,104. She asked for comments from the Board to submit to LAFCO.

Member Long made the comment that he would like to see the Southern Marin Sewerage Agencies consolidated because of the recent spills that had taken place. The Manager-Engineer stated that LAFCO is hearing from other agencies as well in regards to this issue.

WASTEWATER FACILITIES UPGRADE PROJECT, CONTRACT B, 2006-09:

- Consider approval of District staff member to witness factory testing of aeration blowers.

The Manager-Engineer discussed the single stage blowers that will be used as part of the Wastewater Facility Upgrade Project. The blowers are being manufactured by Turblex, Inc. whose factory is located in Copenhagen, Denmark. As part of the contract that Monterey Mechanical Company negotiated with Turblex, the District has the option of witnessing the factory testing of the District's blowers at the Turblex factory in Copenhagen, Denmark. The District has been informed that Turblex has set tentative dates in the second-third week of May for this testing.

The Manager-Engineer explained that she is of the opinion that given the circumstances of the selection of the Turblex blowers, it would be prudent to have a staff representative present during the factory testing of the blowers.

In addition, a major event showcasing European advances in wastewater treatment technologies, especially in the areas of disinfection and waste-to-energy technologies, is being held in Munich, Germany from May 5th through the 9th. This international trade fair is called the IFAT.

The Manager-Engineer stated she seeks Board authorization to allow Deputy Manager-Engineer Sandeep Karkal to participate in the blower factory testing in Copenhagen, Denmark, and schedule permitting, visit the IFAT-2008 trade show in Munich, Germany.

Furthermore, she stated that she will continue to request Turblex to finish the single stage blowers by the 2nd week of May.

On motion of Member Long, seconded by Member DiGiorgio, and carried by those members present, authorization was given for Deputy Manager-Engineer Sandeep Karkal to witness factory testing of the aeration blowers in Copenhagen, Denmark and to attend the IFAT (International Trade Fair) in Munich, Germany (if scheduling permits).

STAFF REPORTS:

- Receive staff report on telemetry modifications to reduce leased telephone line costs.

The Manager-Engineer discussed with the Board the District's current use of dedicated leased telephone data lines in its telemetry system to transmit information to its Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system. She noted that at the last Board meeting, the members asked about the status of the Cherry Hill repeater project and expressed some concerns over the cost of these lines.

She discussed the Cherry Hill site as well as the replacement of aging equipment at several pump stations. The pump station conversions as well as the replacement of several leased lines will result in a cost reduction for the District.

Member DiGiorgio expressed his concern that the phone lines would be adequate to communicate the alarms. He wanted assurance that the telemetry modifications would not allow a failed alarm similar to the failing in the Southern Marin Sewerage Agencies.

Member Long asked the Manager-Engineer if there are Engineers who can test the lines in advance to ensure they are working properly.

- Receive report by Associated Corrosion Engineers on the Cathodic Protection (CP) systems at the District's reclamation facilities.

The Manager-Engineer outlined the report prepared by Mr. Jim Hanck of Associated Corrosion Engineers, discussing the relevant observations, conclusions, and recommendations of the report. Mr. Hanck has obtained a quote for all of the necessary replacement items for a total of \$19,500.

Member Quesada discussed with the Board prior methods used to protect the pipes noting cathodic protection will give a layer of protection preventing corrosion.

MANAGERS ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Manager-Engineer discussed a California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) update letter from Mike Dillon, CASA Lobbyist. She briefly explained that the Senate and Assembly Budget Subcommittees had recently held "informational" hearings on the proposal to shift property taxes.

The Manager-Engineer reminded the Board about the CASA Conference being held at Squaw Creek Resort on April 23rd through the 26th. Attendees are: Manager-Engineer Beverly James, President Fritz, and Members Bill Long and George Quesada.

The Manager-Engineer announced that former Board Member Carlos Rivamonte had passed away on March 26, 2008. Mr. Rivamonte served four terms on the District's board from 1957 to 1978. She recommended the Board adjourn in his memory.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, President Fritz adjourned the meeting at 5:24 p.m. in memory of former Board Member Carlos Rivamonte.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly B. James
Secretary

Julie Borda, Recording

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