

Del Rey Community Services District
**Minutes of the
Board of Directors
Regular Board Meeting
May 16, 2024
7:00p.m.**

President Reyna called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Directors present: Maria Reyna, Daniel Ramirez, Joaquin Nunez
Directors absent: Stephanie Garza, Rolando Sanchez

A-2 The Board leads in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A-3 **Approval of Agenda:** Reyna made a motion to approve the agenda. Ramirez seconds the motion. All in favor; three eyes: Reyna, Ramirez, Nunez. All Absent; two absent: Garza, Sanchez. Motion passed.

B. SCHEDULED AND UNSCHEDULED COMMUNICATIONS:

Public member Rumaldo Reyna states he moved the fridge and noticed the water coming out of the fridge line was brown. Manrique asks if the District has opened hydrants or flushing any drains, as it can cause that. DM Arias translates for the public. Maria Reyna explains they remodeled her house and installed a new sink. When the water first ran, it came out brown but after a few minutes, it was clear and has been since. She asks if the water came out brown anywhere else. Rumaldo Reyna states only the fridge. Nunez asks one of Rumaldo Reyna's neighbors if his water has been brown, and Ruben responds that it has been clear. Ruben states if the water ever does come out brown, he knows it is because they are working on the wells. Public member 1 asks if the water now is worse than it has been in previous years. She informs the Board that the school has shut off their water lines and providing the students with bottled water only. Manrique explains the water is the same as last year as far as TCP, but self help gave a grant to the school for bottled water. He reassures they are putting filtration systems in all the wells. Public member from California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA) asks about the grant that was for \$56,000 for residents not paying their bill. DM Arias explains there were stipulations and it only covered from a certain time period and didn't cover trash. The District had to return around \$28,000 of the grant back to the State.

C. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- C-1 Approve payments for vendors for West America Bank – April 2024, a Total Amount of \$108,096.36.
- C-2 Approve payments for vendors for West America Bank – May 10, 2024, a Total Amount of \$78,346.37.
- C-3 Approval of Minutes of April 18, 2024, Regular Board Meeting.

Reyna made a motion to approve items C-1 to C-3. Nunez seconds the motion. All in favor; three eyes: Reyna, Ramirez, Nunez. All Absent; two absent: Garza, Sanchez. Motion passed.

D. PUBLIC HEARINGS (DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS):

D-1 Discussion/Consideration to extend contract for refuse and recycling service with Industrial Waste & Salvage (IWS). Arias explains IWS is doing good and would only have a price increase that reflects the increase in the cost of living, which would be about 3-5% annually, so he thinks it would be worth it. Public member Rumaldo Reyna asks how long the contract was for. DM Arias responds it is for 5 years. Discussion. President Reyna explains they hold a big trash day once a year and offer two trash vouchers to

the dump per year. Public member Joey Lopez thinks they are a good company, and they always attend the community events, such as the Christmas parade, so he thinks they offer great service. Reyna made a motion to extend the contract for refuse and recycling service with Industrial Waste & Salvage. Ramirez seconds the motion. All in favor; three ayes: Reyna, Ramirez, Nunez. All Absent; two absent: Garza, Sanchez. Motion passed.

D-2 Consideration for approval a policy for discontinuation of residential water service. LC Linden explains this is required by State law for residential service. Linden reviews matters on policy draft and highlights every subject. He recommends it is a good idea to have the policy available for residents in the office. The policy provides definitions, guidelines, and an outline of the policy. It provides details on all provisions. DM Arias translates for the public. Discussion. Reyna opens the item to the public for comment. Public member 2 from CRLA states it is a short notice for residents before water shut off. Linden informs the Board and the public that State law requires a policy, it is advisable to adopt whether or not intention is to establish or proceed with water shut off. It is for customer protection. Reyna explains it states after 60 days of nonpayment the resident will receive a notice 7 days prior to water shutoff. She also says COVID is gone, and the District needs to get back into the process of everyday life. It is the responsibility of the consumer to call and take action. She provides the example that if customers don't pay PG&E, their power gets cutoff. The District needs to be able to do the same in order for residents to pay their bills. The District also will work with customers as long as they are not lazy and call to make arrangements. It will push residents to be responsible. Public member 2 from CRLA asks the Board not to approve the policy today until the fees are included and to adjust the policy. Linden explains again that SB 998 requires the District to have a policy regardless of intention. Discussion. Public member Joey Lopez suggests not tabling the item, but to add fees later on. Reyna asks to discuss the fees at the next meeting. Reyna made a motion to approve the policy. Ramirez seconds the motion. All in favor; three ayes: Reyna, Ramirez, Nunez. All Absent; two absent: Garza, Sanchez. Motion passed.

D-3 Direction/Action on updating the policy for water and sewer connection fees. DM Arias says there is new construction, and they are asking how much to pay for connection fees. Reyna sates Biola would be the closest for comparison. Office Assistant Hernandez states Biola reached out to see how much Del Rey charges in connection fees as they were advised their fees were too low, and she informed them they were in the process of updating Del Rey's as theirs have not been updated since the 90's. Manrique explains he provided the comparison in fees for surrounding cities, and will work on a study to see how much it will cost to add new connections and get back to the Board with numbers to update the connection fee. Discussion. Item tabled until the next meeting.

D-4 Action/Approval of Amendment #4 supplemental to the Scope of Services (Exhibit A) to the Prime Agreement made and entered into on July 19, 2018, Amendment 1 dated December 20, 2019, Supplemental Budget Letter per acceptance dated March 19, 2021, Amendment 2 dated August 8, 2022, and Amendment 3 dated July 20, 2023, between Del Rey Community Services District (District) and AECOM Technical Services, Inc. (AECOM). Arias explains he has been in communication with AECOM, and there has been a delay that has caused other expenses and they want to make sure they are paid their fair share. Reyna asks if the delay was on their end, the District's, or the States. DM Arias responds it was on the State's end. Reyna asks if the State will compensate. Manrique thinks the State will, but there is a chance they can say no. Discussion. DM Arias explains the State will more than likely give it. Discussion. Reyna made a motion to approve amendment #4. Ramirez seconds the motion. All in favor; three ayes: Reyna, Ramirez, Nunez. All Absent; two absent: Garza, Sanchez. Motion passed.

D-5 Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Del Rey Community Services District Accepting a Water Pipeline Easement from POM Wonderful LLC at the Real Property as Described on the Easement Exhibits “A” and “B”. The District received \$600,000 in grant funding for the construction of hydraulic infrastructure to convey water from the nearby Consolidated Irrigation District canals to two of Del Rey’s stormwater basins for groundwater recharge. To construct and operate the water pipeline needed for the Del Rey Ave Basin, Pom Wonderful LLC. has requested that the District accept the dedication of a Water Pipeline Easement. Discussion. Reyna made a motion to approve the resolution. Nunez seconds the motion. All in favor; three ayes: Reyna, Ramirez, Nunez. All Absent; two absent: Garza, Sanchez. Motion passed.

D-6 Discuss ordinance for stray animals. Reyna says there is a big issue with stray dogs in Del Rey. Linden explains this is an issue outside of the scope of Community Services District. It is a subject governed by other laws, such as the County and Animal Control, unless it directly affects the operations of the District. Linden doesn’t believe it is not at the level of importance of an ordinance level, but maybe a policy level. Reyna says operators could get attacked by dogs if they are in the area for maintenance and it is a safety issue for residents and asks if they can come up with a policy for residents to keep their dogs on a leash or contained. Linden can confer with DM Arias to come up with an appropriate policy for the District, but they would be governing something out of the District’s provisions. Reyna opens the item to the public for comment. Public member Rumaldo Reyna states there needs to be a policy for dogs to be on a leash or in their yard. He has reached out to Animal Control, and they cannot take the dog if it is owned and running around, so suggests a policy will allow Animal Control to come out. Public member Joey Lopez shares a number to call or text (559-600-7387) and send a picture of the dog that needs to be picked up. They are not super quick, but they are a resource. He believes residents won’t want to keep paying or picking up their dog from the pound, so it will encourage them to keep their dogs contained. President Reyna wants to look into having Animal Control to come out every so often to patrol or come p with a policy so Animal Control can take it seriously to pick up the dogs. Linden suggests coming up with a policy that would affect the District directly in a situation with stray dogs, dangerous dogs, and reach out to Animal Control for suggestions. Reyna gives direction to LC and the District Manager to do so.

E. DIRECTOR COMMUNICATIONS/AGENDA ITEMS

Ramirez states he lives on Oaklane and there are trees that are overgrown scratching cars. DM Arias explains he sends the guys to clean up, but it is not their responsibility. Manrique explains there are Board meetings at Fresno County that residents can attend the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 9AM, to express their issues and concerns. Reyna states the Good News Club has given dates for utilization of the Hall. It will be twice a week in the Summer, and they understand they can only use it during operating hours and if it doesn’t conflict with any Hall rentals. She asks Joey Lopez to expand, and he states they plan to meet Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning June 11th if they are unable to use the School. He states he will email or print the schedule to give to the District Manager.

F. DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

F-1 Report of District Manager (Report by Carlos Arias)

DM Arias reports there was a last meeting held with the Department of Public Works that helps with the expansion of the District. FEMA finished their part, passed it on to the State and now need to wait for approval, which will be about \$32,000 for storm damages. There was a reimbursement for TCP, about \$63,000 that will be deposited to the County. Tomorrow the company responsible (Comcast) will come out to fix sewer lines and fence. He had a conversation with Dictos, and the County is giving away two lots on Academy and Jefferson and wants to ask the Board to jump on it, but advises if they get the property, they have to pay property taxes on it.

F-2 Report of District Counsel (Report by Michael Linden)
LC Linden states there is nothing to report.

F-3 Report of District Engineer (Report by AM Consulting)
Manrique gives updates on projects and reviews the report.

F-4 Report of District Accountant (Report by Paul Dictos)
Dictos not present to report financial statements.

G. ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Eileen Hernandez
Del Rey Community Services District