

1 **ALPINE SPRINGS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**
2 **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**
3 **August 14, 2020**

4
5 Pursuant to the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20, issued March 17, 2020, the Alpine Springs County Water District Board
6 Room was not accessible to the public for this Board meeting. The meeting was accessible via teleconference only. Public
7 comments were accepted by the Board on the call or via mail.
8

9 **I. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL**

10 President Grant called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM at the District Office Board Room and via teleconference.
11

12 Directors Present: Janet S. Grant, President; Jon Northrop, Vice-President; Dave Smelser, Evan Salke, and
13 Christine York

14 Directors Absent: None

15 Staff Present: John Collins, General Manager; Miguel Ramirez, Facility System Supervisor (Operations
16 Manager). District CPA Mike Dobrowski and Recording Secretary Judy Friedman participated via
17 teleconference.
18

19 Guests via teleconference: North Tahoe Fire Protection District Chief Mike Schwartz and Chief Steve
20 McNamera, and community members including Sean Capioux, Jan Ganong, Dawn Grass, Liz Zang, and Steve
21 Isbell. Phippen Mader was also present.
22

23 **II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

24 Phippen Mader addressed the Board regarding TTSA. He asked that the Board give serious consideration to the
25 appointment of the ASCWD representative. Madder voiced his concerns about past decisions that have impacted
26 TTSA employees and the Truckee River.
27

28 **III. ITEMS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION & ACTION**

29 **A. FINANCIAL REPORT.....A**

30 District CPA Mike Dobrowski presented the financial reports as of July 31, 2020. The auditors will be on-site
31 mid-September to begin field work for the FY 2019/20 audit.
32

33 **It was moved by Northrop and seconded by York to approve the financial reports for the month of July**
34 **2020. Motion carried unanimously.**
35

36 **It was moved by Northrop and seconded by Smelser to approve payment of checks #31373 - #31433,**
37 **payroll, and electronic fund transfers. Motion carried unanimously.**
38

39 **B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.....B**

40 **It was moved by Northrop and seconded by York to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2020 Regular**
41 **Board of Directors meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**
42

43 **C. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT.....C**

44 NTFPD Chief Mike Schwartz reported:

- 45 • The smoke in the area comes from fires in California and Nevada. NTFPD has allocated mutual aid
46 resources.
- 47 • Staffing in Alpine has been consistent this month. Personnel responded to 12 calls.
- 48 • Improvements are being made to Station 56 and the HVAC system will be addressed soon.
- 49 • Forest Fuels Manager Eric Horntvedt is working with surrounding agencies to address chipping and
50 defensible space.
51

- 1 Chief Steve McNamera reported:
- 2 • Prevention has about 30 plans in queue for review at any one time. He is seeing a lot of pre-
 - 3 development reviews.
 - 4 • Horntvedt is meeting with legislators, including Congressman McClintock, to secure funding for local
 - 5 projects.
 - 6 • All stations remain closed to the public.

7

8 **1. Homeowner Liz Zang has questions for ASCWD Board and Chief Mike**

9 **Schwartz/NTFPD regarding JMA request for solution to fire flow problem.**

10 Zang noted the discussion at last month’s meeting about fire flows and asked that ASCWD include funding for

11 improved fire flow on Juniper Mountain as a priority in the FY 2020/21 budget.

12

13 General Manager Collins reported Stantec is developing a hydraulic model to address a solution. There are three

14 alternatives to meet required flows and a decision on which is most effective will be made based on Stantec’s

15 report. Collins cautioned there is no quick fix, but NTFPD is prepared to serve the area if necessary. The solution

16 is not just infrastructure, it is also water supply, which is being addressed through the new tank and pump

17 stations. In response to a question, Collins described how the booster pump stations work in conjunction with

18 storage tanks.

19

20 Discussion followed as public comment was offered from Dawn Grass, Jan Ganong, Liz Zang, and Steve Isbell.

21 Grass asked that adequate flows on Juniper Mountain be a priority. Ganong asked that the Long Range Planning

22 Committee include community members. She suggested the Homeowner’s Associations could be a conduit of

23 information, in addition to the District’s newsletter.

24

25 Zang asked for more detailed meeting minutes that include reports. It was noted the reports are part of the

26 meeting packets and, just as minutes, are available to the public. Isbell feels the problem has been around a long

27 time and the neighborhood has not been aware of the situation. Collins will report back to the Board when the

28 Stantec report has been submitted and schedule a Long Range Planning Committee meeting. Ganong reiterated

29 her request to include community members.

30

31 Discussion continued as Chief Schwartz and Chief McNamera described how a structure fire in Juniper Mountain

32 would be fought. Schwartz said that with current software, NTFPD can evaluate the situation even before

33 responders are on scene. Modern equipment is very responsive and additional support, including air, is available.

34 In the event of a wildfire, firefighters use water tankers, not hydrants.

35

36 **D. GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORTD**

37 General Manager Collins presented his written report. He continues to correspond with White Wolf, reminding

38 them of the need to advance funds for ASCWD to complete the study on what requirements are needed. The EIR

39 cannot be done without that information.

40

41 In anticipation of today’s discussion about fire hydrants, Collins has begun updating the District’s Asset

42 Management Plan. Some of the infrastructure is coming to the end of its useful life. Water, sewer, and park assets

43 will need to be addressed eventually.

44

45 **E. OPERATION & MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT REPORTE**

46 Operations Manager Miguel Ramirez presented the Water/Waste Water report for July 2020. Maintenance for the

47 month included routine zone samples, repairs on the tennis courts, inspecting the tank, and sealing and striping

48 the office parking lot. Grant asked about flows for the month. Ramirez said maximum waste water flows are

49 substantially higher with more people in the valley this summer.

1 York noted the burnt log found. Ramirez thinks it came from a fire on the park beach. “No Fire” signs have been
2 installed.

3
4 **F. TTSA REPORT..... F**

5 Northrop reported the plant is operating normally and efficiently and all waste water requirements are being met.
6 He will attend the next TTSA Board meeting and remain on that Board until ASCWD appoints a new
7 representative.

8
9 **G. OWNER SEAN CAPIAUX REQUEST DISCUSSION REGARDING THE INOPERATIVE FIRE**
10 **HYDRANT ON 1541 CORTINA COURT..... G**

11 Capiaux noted his comments last month regarding his surprise that the hydrant near his home did not pass a fire
12 flow test. As a result, he could not get permits for his remodel project because NTFPD would not sign off. The
13 hydrant was not capped or tagged as inoperative Capiaux said the District is prioritizing the booster pumps when
14 fire flows should be the priority. He feels he should not have to pay for a new hydrant since it is ASCWD’s
15 responsibility to provide adequate fire flow to the community.

16
17 Capiaux would like the hydrants to be operative and feels he has been paying for a service for 45 years that he has
18 not received. He is asking for cost recovery to install a sprinkler system in his home since the nearest hydrant is
19 inoperable. Collins explained that any homeowner who trips the requirement to investigate and comply with code
20 is required to pay for it. The water district’s policy is not to pay for a sprinkler system for an individual home or a
21 new fire hydrant, if that is what the homeowner decides to do. Capiaux has not submitted plans or a proposal for
22 reimbursement.

23
24 Discussion followed regarding the water supply, fire flows, and how fires on Juniper Mountain would be
25 addressed. Smelser was told in approximately 1978 that when the Juniper Mountain development was approved,
26 there were two fire engines available to pump down the line, which was why the ASCWD fire department signed
27 off on the 23 homes proposed. Capiaux said the issue is that he assumed the hydrant near his home was operative.
28 He feels it should have been maintained or tagged as inoperable. Ganong agreed.

29
30 Chief McNamera explained the regulatory agencies dictate what NTFPD can and cannot do. NTFPD enforces
31 code. It does not address hydrants, but rather informs firefighters of the flows. Sprinklers are required for new
32 construction. Placer County defines a remodel versus a re-build and when current code, including sprinkler
33 requirements, are imposed. NTFPD requires sprinklers based on the square footage of the project. Discussion
34 continued regarding zone benefits from certain improvements and options for Mr. Capiaux. Collins suggested
35 Capiaux submit a bill to ASCWD on the costs he is incurring. The Board can then consider action on that specific
36 request. Collins reiterated the hydrants are operable and NTFPD has a strategy to address fires on Juniper
37 Mountain.

38
39 **H. COMMITTEE REPORTS H**

40 **1. BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE (PRESIDENT GRANT)**

41 Grant presented the report of the August 13, 2020 Budget and Finance Committee meeting. Collins will transfer
42 \$690,000 to Placer County and LAIF for better interest rates. The Committee received a request for financial
43 assistance, which they recommend denying.

44
45 **It was moved by Northrop and seconded by York to deny the request for financial assistance based on**
46 **ASCWD policy. Motion carried unanimously.**

47
48 **2. PARK, RECREATION & GREENBELT COMMITTEE (DIRECTOR YORK)**

49 This Committee did not meet.

50

1 **3. LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE (DIRECTOR SMELSER)**

2 This Committee did not meet.

3
4 **4. ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (DIRECTOR SALKE)**

5 This Committee did not meet.

6
7 **5. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE POSSIBLE OPEN TTSA COMMITTEE POSITION**

8 Northrop will represent ASCWD until the Board appoints a new representative. This item will be on next month's
9 agenda for possible action.

10
11 **I. OPEN ITEMS..... I**

12 No items were presented.

13
14 **J. CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD J**

15 There was no correspondence for review.

16
17 **K. DISCUSSION REGARDING JON NORTHROP VACANCY ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS....K**

18 Grant reported Dave Smelser and Jan Ganong have filed as candidates for the two ASCWD Board seats in the
19 November election.

20
21 **L. VALLEY WIDE MEETING DISCUSSION.....L**

22 Grant reported this meeting will be conducted via Zoom or tele-conference. She asked for topics for her
23 presentation. Salke suggested capital improvements and budgeting. York suggested bear boxes. Salke suggested
24 ASCWD minutes, which include the meeting packets, be emailed to each HOA president.

25
26 **M. NTFPD CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS.....M**

27 The current contract was in today's meeting packet. NTFPD and ASCWD representatives agreed in principal that
28 the contract be renewed as is with some updating of outdated information such as payment time line and
29 insurance requirements. NTFPD wants to do some updating of the fire station which they feel they can do if we
30 are in agreement to contract renewal.

31
32 **IV. CLOSED SESSION**

33 Closed Session was not convened.

34
35 **V. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS**

36 Grant noted today is Northrop's last Board meeting as his home has sold and he will be moving out of the area.
37 He was thanked for his service to the community and commitment to ASCWD.

38
39 **IV. ADJOURNMENT**

40 There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:11 AM. The next
41 regularly scheduled Board meeting is Friday September 11, 2020 at 9:00 AM.

42
43 Respectfully Submitted,

44 Judy Friedman

45 Recording Secretary

46 THE PAPER TRAIL SECRETARIAL & BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

47 **Approved 9/11/20**