

SUNLAND WATER DISTRICT
Board of Commissioners
Meeting of February 14, 2017

MINUTES

Purpose

Regular Meeting

Call to order: 9:00 a.m.

Attendees:

Commissioners Friess and Larison; Mike Langley, Manager; Karen Shay, Bookkeeper, Judy Gamble, Office Assistant, and guests Linda “Candy” Diesen, Mr. Joe Ogden, Mr. Gary Fortmann, and John Lewis. Karen Shay, our new bookkeeper, was welcomed by the Board.

Minutes:

The minutes of the January 10, 2017 meeting were approved as presented.

Manager’s Report:

District Manager Michael Langley presented his report (see attached).

Financial Report:

Karen Shay presented the 2016 year-end Profit & Loss Statement and a year-to-date Profit & Loss Statement for 2017 which were reviewed by the Board.

Old Business:

New Office Building Update: Work is progressing well. Mike Langley described a few change orders that have been approved. We still have a target date to be in the new building by April 1, 2017.

New Business:

Fee Waiver Request: Resident Linda “Candy” Diesen recently purchased the property at 208 Sunland Drive at auction. Judy Gamble gave a brief history stating that the property had been vacant for some time. The former owner is deceased and his estate did not keep up with the water and sewer assessment payments and nothing has been paid on the account since July 2015. According to policy, Ms. Diesen needed to pay all existing charges against the property before water service could be restored. Included in the charges is a \$250 reconnect fee and several late charges amounting to \$225.

It was noted that there was also an additional balance due of \$471 posted on the account in June 2015, but, as no back-up documentation was available, Mike Langley waived that charge.

In order to restore service to the home, Ms. Diesen paid \$2061.67, including a 1st quarter 2017 payment. In view of extenuating circumstances, she asked that the Board remove the reconnect fee and late charges from the account. Since this was a county auction and did not go through normal escrow where these charges would have been revealed and paid for, the Board approved that a credit in the amount of \$475 to be posted to Ms. Diesen's account, which was agreeable to her. It was stressed that issues such as these are considered by the Board on a case-by-case basis and in no way alters standard SWD policy.

Personnel: Richard Sleeper is close to obtaining a certification upgrade with the Washington State Department of Ecology from a Basic Wastewater Treatment Operator to a Level 1 Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator.

Visitors Issues:

Emergency Preparedness: Mr. Joe Ogden, who visited the Board last month regarding emergency preparedness, was reassured by the Board that the SWD would like to participate with the Sunland Owners Association and the Sunland Golf Club on a joint committee to consider procuring a system to protect SunLand against the loss of potable water in the event of a major catastrophic event. Mr. Ogden intends to contact SLOA and the Golf Course.

Request for Public Records: New SunLand resident, Mr. John Lewis, presented a written request for Public Records pertaining to the annual water service assessment for the SunLand community including SunLand Division 17. Mr. Lewis stated he had sent a request a month ago via our website contact but did not receive a response. Mike Langley stated the request had not been received by the SWD and we would look into an apparent glitch in the website e-mail contact process and see that it is corrected.

Heat Pump Water Heater: Mr. Gary Fortmann wanted to advise the Board that the heat pump water heater study which was done a year ago will not save any money. Mike Langley said he will get together with Mr. Fortmann to discuss the issue outside of the meeting.

Checks & Vouchers: – Karen Shay presented a payment voucher and Judy Gamble presented three transfer checks for signature which will be submitted to the County. All documents were signed by Commissioners Larison and Friess.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Gamble
Office Assistant