



Phelan Piñon Hills Community Services District

4176 Warbler Road • P. O. Box 294049 • Phelan, CA 92329-4049 • (760) 868-1212 Fax (760) 868-2323

**PHELAN PIÑON HILLS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
May 1, 2013
Phelan Community Center
4128 Warbler Road, Phelan, CA 92371**

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Alex Brandon, Vice President
Al Morrissette, Director
Mark Roberts, Director
Joe Fahrlender, Director

Board Member Absent: Charlie Johnson, President

Staff Present: Don Bartz, General Manager
George Cardenas, Engineering Manager
Debbie Bishop, Board Secretary

BOARD MEETING – 7:00 P.M.

Call to Order

Vice President Brandon called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

Roll Call

All Board Members were present except President Johnson.

1. Approval of Agenda

Director Roberts asked to move Item 3e to Item 4. Director Roberts moved to approve the agenda. Director Morrissette seconded the motion. All were in favor.

2. Public Comment

a. General Public

Nancy Cosgrove, President of the Piñon Hills Chamber of Commerce, spoke to the Board and publically thanked Don Bartz for taking the members of the Piñon Hills Chamber on a tour of Meadowbrook Dairy. She thanked the Board for having the foresight and vision to acquire the land and water rights.

Lori Weston gave everyone a written report for her reason to attend which was to ask the Board to consider generating power at the Meadowbrook Dairy site. Vice President Brandon referred her to the Districts Alternative Energy Committee.

b. Community Reports

- County Supervisor – None
- Fire – None
- School District – None
- Sheriff – Sgt. Krusbe spoke to the Board and briefed them on the calls received in March. She compared the calls to Big Bear and the Phelan Piñon Hills area had less than half the calls. A discussion took place regarding the types of calls the Sheriff's department typically receive.

3. **Consent Items**

Ms. Bishop made corrections to the minutes as requested by Vice President Brandon and a copy was presented to the Board. Director Morrissette moved to approve the minutes as amended. Director Roberts seconded the motion. All were in favor.

4. **Matters Removed from Consent Items**

In regards to Item 3e, Director Roberts stated he didn't feel these should be taken off of the Directors limit. He stated these are not critical conferences or necessary for a Director to attend and felt they should go towards his limit. Director Morrissette briefed the Board as to why he felt it was important to go. He noted the contacts that have been made at the ACWA Conference and stated the CSDA Conference is the Legislative Conference in which it's a good time to meet with the representatives and gather information. Director Fahrlander stated he has figured out that when the Legislators are in town, they are busy running from place to place. He stated when you meet with them in Sacramento; you are able to get quality time. Vice President Brandon stated he saw the merit in attending the CSDA conference, but not the ACWA Conference. Director Fahrlander moved to approve the CSDA Conference. Director Morrissette seconded the motion. All were in favor except Director Roberts. Director Fahrlander moved to approve the ACWA Conference. The item failed for lack of majority.

5. **Presentations/Appointments**

a. **None**

6. **Continued/New Agenda Items – Action Items**

a. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Solar Project and Comparison**

Mr. Bartz briefed the Board on the Solar Project and the Comparison and gave them an excel presentation. Mr. Bartz stated staff recommends the Board direct staff to continue working with SunPower on the purchase of the Solar Project and for staff to submit the pre-application to obtain the loan through I-Bank.

A discussion took place regarding the solar panels and their aesthetics.

Director Morrissette agreed with staff's recommendation. Director Roberts asked if the way the project was designed by staff was compliant with the Districts Purchase Agreement. Mr. Kennedy stated he was comfortable with the recommendation. Director Fahrlander stated he supported this tonight, but recommended the Board be cognizant to stay away from the RFP's and go back to the traditional bid process. Vice President Brandon agreed with Director Fahrlander and stated he would be comfortable in going along with staff's recommendation.

Vice President Brandon asked to switch items 6c and 6b. The Board agreed.

c. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Inviting Local Clergy to Provide and Invocation**

Mr. Bartz briefed the Board on the item. A discussion took place regarding the Mojave Water Agency's procedure. Mr. Kennedy stated that procedure was prior to the City of Lancaster's opinion. He briefed the Board on the City of Lancaster's policy. He noted the District has Lancaster's policy to follow which has been upheld by the Court. He stated the only concern he would have is that there is a little bit of a catch 22 as to how that policy gets implemented.

Vice President Brandon introduced several representatives from the local religious faith groups in the District that were in the audience. He then read a statement from Pastor Eric York of Harvest Christian Center.

Director Roberts asked if there was any thought of staff time to maintain the roster of religious speakers. Director Brandon felt it would take the most time to establish the list and stated he could probably help with the list.

Director Morrissette stated he is not in favor of this because he personally doesn't believe in organized religion. He stated as an elected official, he represents the community and felt it was good for the community.

Director Fahlender stated he recognizes the importance of this to the community. He questions the verbiage of the language in the policy and stated it was limiting language to an established congregation. Mr. Kennedy stated that was a good point. A discussion took place regarding rewording the language to account for all clergy in the District.

The Board agreed to have staff formulate a policy and bring it to the Board for their review.

b. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Senior Nutrition Program

Mr. Bartz briefed the Board on the Senior Nutrition Program. He noted President Johnson submitted questions that he had on the item which was distributed to the Board. He stated staff recommends the Board review the program requirements and make a recommendation to move forward with the program.

Vice President Brandon stated he spoke to President Johnson regarding his concerns.

In reviewing the requirements, Director Roberts asked Vice President Brandon several questions regarding the program such as how it would work, who would do what and who would be responsible for what.

Director Fahlender asked if the matching funds will be from the donation of the facility in kind and if that would be ok. Vice President Brandon and Director Morrissette stated that was the intention and that the County does not care where it comes from.

Director Fahlender recommended the District approve acceptance of the program. Director Roberts felt it was important that staff review this program after a year. Director Roberts seconded the motion. All were in favor.

d. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the District Dollars Program

Director Morrissette briefed the Board on the concept of the program. He stated he is looking for some input from the other Directors. Mr. Kennedy stated there are areas in taxes, accounting, workers compensation, etc that would need to be researched. Director Morrissette stated he got the concept from the Wilson Center in Washington DC.

Director Fahlender asked if there would be an issue with overtime for staff. Mr. Bartz stated he has directed staff that he would like to reduce overtime. Director Fahlender asked Mr. Bartz if he has a list of items that could be done. Mr. Bartz suggested cleaning weeds, painting, picking up in the parks, cleaning solar panels, etc.

Director Fahlender stated he is willing to invest \$2,000 of attorney time and four hours of staff time to check into the program. After further discussion, Vice President Brandon suggested Mr. Kennedy look into this within the limits set by Director Fahlender before staff spend time on it.

Director Morrissette suggested the labor rates for jobs be set at certain rates.

Director Fahlender suggested Mr. Kennedy and Director Morrissette work together on this item.

e. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Assigning a Board Member as a District Representative for ACWA/JPIA

Mr. Bartz stated Director Johnson resigned from his position. ACWA/JPIA requested the District assign a representative and an alternate.

Vice President Brandon moved to appoint Director Roberts. Director Fahlender seconded the motion. All were in favor.

7. Review of Action Items

Mr. Bartz stated he had nothing further to report.

8. Committee Reports

- a. **Engineering Committee** – Director Roberts stated they have not met yet. He stated they will meet the second Wednesday of the month.
- b. **Parks, Recreation & Street Lighting Committee** – Vice President Brandon stated they will meet next Tuesday.
- c. **Finance Committee** – Director Fahrlender stated they haven't met this month, but last month they put together a tentative schedule for the budget meetings.
- d. **Government Affairs Committee** – Director Morrissette stated they reported at the last meeting; however, he had an update that Assemblyman Steve Fox attended the pancake breakfast at the Community Services Awareness Day and the District was presented with a certificate.
- e. **Waste Management Committee** – Vice President Brandon stated they will meet on the 16th of the month.
- f. **Adjudication Committee** – Director Roberts stated they met and reviewed the current status of the depositions and the upcoming trial. They also discussed the amount of involvement our legal has in an effort to minimize costs. Director Fahrlender stated they also covered Mojave Water Agency's involvement in the District's issues. Mr. Bartz stated he spoke to a reporter and told him the Mojave Water Agency has no jurisdiction over the Districts Well 14.
- g. **Surplus Inventory Committee** – Mr. Bartz stated they will meet in the near future.
- h. **Alternative Energy Committee** – Director Morrissette stated this was discussed previously in the meeting.
- i. **El Mirage Annexation Committee** – The Committee had nothing further to report.

9. Staff and General Manager's Report

Mr. Bartz stated staff has shifted duties so that the dead-end lines can be done during regular staff time. He also stated the reading of the wells changed from everyday to every other day. The valve turning machine has freed up staff to do more valves in a shorter amount of time. They were able to do 264 valves this month. Vice President Brandon asked if Mr. Bartz can calculate when the savings would pay off. Mr. Bartz asked for a couple months to gather that information. Mr. Bartz reported the District purchased season tickets for the Mavericks so the District can donate tickets to the different activities in the District.

Vice President Brandon inquired on the Phelan Park Picnic Shelter and its status. Mr. Bartz stated he will find out the status.

10. Reports**a. Director's Report**

Morrissette – Director Morrissette reported he attended a San Bernardino County Workshop titled Community Needs on the April 25th and briefed the Board. He stated he spoke with Chris Cummings of Sheep Creek Water the other day and he mentioned that Rite Aid has a water plan submitted to the County to extend their water mainline to meet fire flow. He stated they are hoping to have it in by July 15th.

Roberts – Director Roberts had nothing further to report.

Brandon – Vice President Brandon stated Napa wants to build on Riggins which is probably why Rite Aid is trying to go that far. Vice President Brandon reported on the Community Services Awareness Day and thanked staff.

Fahrlender – Director Fahrlender had nothing further to report.

b. **President’s Report** – none

11. Correspondence/Information

None

Set Agenda for Next Meeting –The next Board Meeting is May 15, 2013.

- **Discussion and Possible Approval of Employee Personnel Manual Changes to Section 3.7; Salary Ranges**
- **Discussion Regarding Offering Insurance for Items Such Issues Like Water Breaks on Customer Side, etc.**

Adjourn

With no further business, the Board Meeting was adjourned at 10:26p.m.

_____	_____
Alex Brandon, Vice President	Date
_____	_____
Debbie Bishop, Board Secretary	Date