

**CARPINTERIA SANITARY DISTRICT
IN THE
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

MINUTES

These are the **minutes** of the **regular** meeting of the Governing Board of the Carpinteria Sanitary District in the City of Carpinteria, County of Santa Barbara, and State of California.

The Governing Board of the Carpinteria Sanitary District held a regular meeting on **January 20, 2009**, at 5:30 p.m. at its District administrative office located at 5300 Sixth Street, Carpinteria, California.

Directors Present: Michael Damron– President
Lin Graf – President Pro-Tem
Jeff Moorhouse – Secretary
Pat Horwitz – Secretary Pro-Tem
Doug Treloar – Treasurer

Staff Present: Craig Murray – General Manager
Judy Kirkman – Board Secretary
Hamid Hosseini – Finance Director

Legal Counsel
Present: Anthony Trembley

President Damron called the meeting to order, and Director Horwitz led the Board, staff and public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Damron asked if there were any modifications and/or changes to the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda stood as submitted.

Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of January 6, 2009 – A correction was made on page 6 of the minutes to reflect President **Damron** adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m., instead of President **Graf**. Director Treloar made a motion that the Board approve the January 6, 2009 Minutes as modified; Director Graf seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Public Forum. None

General Manager's Status Report – CWEA Awards Banquet – General Manager said he was pleased to report that on Friday evening the District was awarded the Tri-Counties CWEA Section Plant of the Year Award. General Manager passed around a plaque that the District received at the award ceremony. General Manager said the District also received a trophy, and he thought our plant was very deserving of the award. The plant looks great and the guys have everything at the plant clicking, so a well-deserved award. General Manager said our application had already been advanced to the State CWEA, and in April would be in contention for the State Plant of the Year award. Director Graf asked if this was the first time our plant had received this award. General Manager said yes. Director Moorhouse attended

the awards ceremony and said he was really proud of the staff that attended from the plant;

Class Action Lawsuit – Alliant Insurance – General Manager said this item was a report on a class action lawsuit that included the District as a member of the class. General Manager said the County of Santa Clara filed a class action lawsuit against Alliant Insurance, the company that is the District's JPA administrator and purchases insurance on our behalf as a member of the CSRMA pool. The outcome of the case has not been determined, but there will be a settlement, and the District may get a small rebate or refund from Alliant as a result of this settlement;

Lagunitas Annexation – Santa Barbara LAFCO will consider the Lagunitas Annexation to the Carpinteria Sanitary District at their February 5, 2009 hearing in Santa Maria. General Manager said this project was a 25-acre parcel proposed as a mixed use development for single family residences and office or commercial use;

Operations Update – The treatment plant is operating in compliance with our permit. The scrubber media was changed out in odor control unit #3 and went very smoothly. A scheduled power outage was performed by Edison for maintenance of their distribution system. The District coordinated with Edison, setting up our generator and running it all night, so we did not incur any problems. The Collection system is operating fine. General Manager said there was an overflow from a property line cleanout on Cambridge Lane, and staff was still investigating the reason for the blockage, but there was root intrusion into the lower lateral. General Manager said the incident was reported via the CIWQS online reporting system. General Manager said this was another incidence where the pros and cons of owning those lower laterals could be weighed. General Manager said this was a reportable spill from our infrastructure, but the majority of the other agencies in our area don't own those lower laterals, and if this had happened in the Montecito Sanitary District, they would not report it as a spill from their collection system. Director Treloar said because this was in a neighborhood, if there is root intrusion in one lateral, the odds are there might be roots in others, and asked if staff was investigating others. General Manager said this was fairly new construction on Cambridge Lane using PVC pipe, and it was strange to get this type of intrusion, so it would probably be more of an installation defect. General Manager said he would report back to the Board after the investigation. General Manager said the District's Annual report on biosolids was submitted to the EPA. Annual reports were also prepared and submitted to the Santa Barbara APCD for permitted facilities and equipment. The City of Carpinteria inquired about using the District's Boardroom for a series of CERT trainings (local disaster preparedness training for members of the community). Director Moorhouse said he had completed this training, and it was a very good training. General Manager reported another item that happened after the agenda was published and that was an overflow on Friday from a private collection system that serves the San Roque Mobile Home Park. General Manager said it was a significant overflow and there was response from the Fire Department and the City of Carpinteria. General Manager said our staff responded and took some remedial action. The Regional Water Board, the Housing and Urban Development Department of the State, and Environment Health were all notified. General Manager said he thought there would be some follow up and coordination with the City. General Manager said the mobile home park's collection system was not built to the District's standards, and after thirty years was starting to show its age.

Contract Document Acceptance and Authorization to Solicit Bids – Lift Station Nos. 1 and 2 Pump replacement Project – General Manager said the District was ready to bid this project for replacement of the pumps at Lift Station Nos. 1 and 2. General Manager said this was a Capital Improvement Project, previously approved by the Board. Lift Station No. 1 is located adjacent to the Carpinteria State Beach, and Lift Station No. 2 is located adjacent to Aliso School. General Manager said improvements, as they have been designed, would incorporate a standard pump that has been used in the influent pump station, which

has improved the operations and performance at that pump station. General Manager said the design of Lift Station No. 1 revealed some design and space limitations and the scope was greater than anticipated. General Manager said bid costs would likely exceed the currently authorized budget, but a budget augmentation, if necessary, would be brought back to the Board for consideration prior to awarding a construction contract. General Manager said it was staff's recommendation that the Board approve the 100% complete Contract Documents for the Lift Station Nos. 1 and 2 Pump Replacement Project and authorization be given to advertise and solicit bids for construction.

Director Horwitz asked when soliciting bids as one project, would the two lift stations be divided and separate. General Manager said the bid items were not separated by Lift Station No. 1 price and Lift Station No. 2 price. General Manager said staff would be able to ascertain the relative costs by the way the bids had been structured.

Director Treloar asked if replacing the pumps would take the District quite a few years into the future. General Manager said the last time the pump was replaced at Lift Station No. 1 was in 1995, and typically you get in the range of fifteen years of service. General Manager said the pumps the District is currently using are still functional, but the driving force behind replacement of the pumps was that our operators are going down into the wells sometimes three times a week to take the pumps apart and derag, clean and put back together, and they will not have to do this with the proposed new pumps. General Manager said the pump at Lift Station No. 2 was also maintenance intensive, and in installing the new pumps some hydraulic capacity was also being added. General Manager said both pumps should be long-lasting and high quality pieces of equipment.

Director Treloar made a motion that the Board accept the Contract Documents for the Lift Station Nos. 1 and 2 Pump Replacement Project and authorize advertising and soliciting bids for construction; Director Horwitz seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Report on Status of Sewer Connections – Serena Park Area (Assessment District 1987-1) – A map of the Serena Park area showing the District's pipelines and those parcels connected to the District was passed out to the Board. General Manager said he would go over the Staff Report, but the District's Engineering Technician was present, and he was the one that had done all the work and could answer any questions. General Manager said going back to 1987 the District formed an assessment district to serve the Serena Park community. General Manager said the map included the more recent development of Serena Park, but also those properties on Toro Canyon Road and some on Via Real between Via Real and the freeway that are older construction. General Manager said there were 140 parcels in 1987 that were included in the assessment district that CSD formed. Assessment District 1987-1 provided the funding mechanism for the sewer system to serve these areas, and the per parcel assessment was around \$8,000. General Manager said the assessment bonds were 15 or 16 year bonds, and they were fully paid off in 2003, so the assessments were no longer being collected from these parcels. General Manager said included in the \$8,000 assessment was a connection fee, so property owner's paid a \$1,250 fee in that \$8,000 assessment for a connection, whether they connected at that time or not. General Manager said based on what our records show the majority of the parcels did make a connection at the time that the main sewers were constructed. A number of the property owners chose not to connect, and it's unclear how or why they opted out of the connection process. In conducting a preliminary investigation into the current status of the parcels that were not connected, we found a number that were not paying sewer service charges within this area. General Manager said there were no records found that suggested there was a timeline or grace period established for subsequent connection. Currently, there are 23 parcels that are not paying sewer service charges that fall into the following four discrete categories: 1) not

connected to sewer and still using onsite septic system; 2) permitted connection to sewer, but due to administrative oversight the District is not charging. At this time there may be two in this category; 3) unpermitted connection to sewer. We have the TV video from 1995 that show three connected without a permit and not paying sewer service charges, but there may be others. General Manager said there was one parcel that instead of connecting at the Y connection went ahead and cored into our sewer pipe and made a saddle-type connection; 4) status of the connection is undetermined and additional investigation is necessary. General Manager said staff did not have recent video inspection tape to review, so the follow up will include CCTV video inspection.

General Manager said a table was included in the Staff Report that provided additional detail regarding the connection status. General Manager said staff reviewed asbuilt drawings, District permit records, CCTV inspection records, and records from the County building department. General Manager said staff also requested review of the septic tank pumping/abandonment records from the County Environmental Health Department, but they did not have very much information for this area. General Manager said, in addition to CCTV inspections, staff may consider smoke testing and dye testing. General Manager said once the information is verified to the greatest practical extent, staff would move forward to remedy the unauthorized connections. General Manager said the District would take the same approach as taken on Padaro Lane by sending the owners a non-threatening letter presenting our findings and directing them to pay back charges of three years of sewer service charges, and going forward the charges would appear on their tax bill. General Manager said if an owner refused to pay, we would have the same enforcement remedies as Padaro Lane.

General Manager said it was the District's intent to let the property owners in this area that are still on septic what the proper procedures are to connect when they elect to connect.

General Manager said in some of the investigations there were a few people in this neighborhood who have permitted second dwelling units, and they're only being charged from our agency for a single dwelling unit. General Manager said staff has dwelt with this issue in the past, and we will inform those users and request an inspection.

Director Treloar asked how old the map was that was passed out to the Board showing the connections. General Manager said it was from July, 2008, so fairly recent.

Director Damron asked staff to check 137 on the tabular report because he thought it was a vacant lot. Director Damron thanked staff for the report.

CLOSED SESSION – District Legal Counsel reported the Board would go into Closed Session at 6:00 p.m. regarding the following item:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(c): 1 case

President Damron reported the Board coming out of Closed Session at 6:37 p.m. and did not have any action to report. Regular Session reconvened.

Board Committee Reports

Finance Committee – Chairperson Treloar reported the Finance Committee met on January 15th and went over the monthly budget report, quarterly reports, and received a bond market update. General Manager said the bond market report showed a trend downward in interest rates, so the market was beginning to look more positive.

Personnel Committee – did not meet.

Public Relations Committee – did not meet.

Board General Items

CASA Legislative Committee Report – Director Moorhouse said he has a meeting on Friday with the State Legislative Committee and would report at the next Board Meeting.

Future Agenda Items – None

Adjournment. There being no further items to discuss, President Damron adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Michael Damron
President

Pat Horwitz
Secretary Pro-Tem

Lin Graf
President Pro-Tem

Doug Treloar
Treasurer

Jeff Moorhouse
Secretary