

April 26, 2008- Meeting Minutes for Golden West Community Services District
Special Meeting, Held at Logtown Fire Station

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Directors present were Chuck Roati, Barbara Lea, Ken Beam and Ed White. General Manager Sanford was also present.

1. Propose 5 Year Plan

Beam made a presentation about District finances. He showed a spreadsheet that showed income and expenses since 1994. It included information from past audits. Past income included funds from Caltrans and FEMA as well as yearly assessments and ad valorem taxes. There has been no increase in assessments since 80s, while costs have greatly increased. We now have to wait several years to save money to do work. Judy Malm asked what the expenditures include. They include insurance, other expenses from the county. The county gives copies of reports, public can view them. The District has gotten advances from the county in the past. The District will have to scale way back on work in the future to stay within our funding.

Roati reviewed District history over last 6 years. Grand Jury found that the District was under funded in 2002, and costs have risen since then. He described the road work done over last 6 years.

The current proposal is to increase the annual assessment to \$300. Without more funding the risk is that roads will return to gravel. A Crystal resident asked about the county taking over maintenance. Roati explains why they will not. The cost to bring roads to up to county standards is about \$1million per mile. Another option is to create a Zone of Benefit, but District must be out of debt before that can be considered. A show of hands by those supporting a fee increase was asked for, but attendees felt they didn't have enough information. An attendee asked for more information about where money has been spent. White suggested that people should come to meetings and participate. He reiterated underfunding, and listed required costs including storage fees, hall rental, insurance, newsletters (done by volunteers), the P.O. Box, and road signs required for safety purposes. Weed spraying had to be dropped due to lack of money.

Beam mentioned that web page domain is coming up for renewal if someone wants to take it over.

White proposed increasing the email list to keep residents up to date that way. Email addresses need to be updated every January. The newsletter, minutes, and notices can be emailed. A signup sheet for email addresses was circulated.

A meeting attendee asked about the 5 year plan from the agenda. White explained that the plan will be maintenance only due to level of funds, and is also affected by current lawsuit. After the lawsuit is settled, whatever roadwork is possible will be done, but may be very minimal. Carlson stated that two attempts to increase fees have failed. People must talk to their neighbors and tell them why the increase is needed. The board can't do it alone, only with community support. All need to contribute to sell the yes votes. Beam asked for a show of hands again [no record of a count]. Putting out a ballot costs \$1800. Carlson asks for volunteers for teams to canvass area, with information for teams to take with them supplied by the directors.

Lea moved to ask for a fee increase to \$300 annually on a ballot. Beam seconded the motion, and it was approved by a vote of 4-0.

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2. Status of Lawsuit with Delta Construction

The lawsuit by Delta Construction is still in progress and the directors can't talk about it, per legal advice. The effect of this type of litigation is usually District wide; it is up to the judge. A copy of the summons was available for viewing.

3. Fill Board Member Vacancy

Roati asked for letters of interest from anyone who would like to serve on the Board. A candidate must be a registered voter who lives in the District. Letters should be sent to the District post office box.

4. With Community Support Enact Road Fee Increase

Addressed along with item 1.

5. Update on County Audits

All final paperwork for the County audit has been turned in by Lea. The audit should be completed by the end of April.

6. Community Comments

Roati asked for volunteers to canvass the neighborhood.

Eric Peterson commented on the small attendance at the meeting. A new 100' cell tower has been approved in the area. Construction may begin in August. Fire hydrants have been tested.

Ken Hasse brought copies of the Fire Safe Council newsletter. Chippers are in the area. Green waste dumpsters will be available this summer. He wants residents to clean up the roadsides.

Tuesday at Union Mine High School there will be a meeting about moving the new landfill transfer to a new site.

Jeff Malm, Lollipop Lane, asked who the board members were at the time the contract was signed. They were listed. He had a letter about funding from April 19. He would like a copy of the April 19 regular meeting minutes. Delta was doing work on April 18- he asked why the contract signed when the Board knew that the district was unlikely to get the funds from FEMA. They missed the opportunity to stop work with a penalty. He understands that the directors can't answer his questions due the attorney's advice.

Linda Maxwell, Crystal Blvd., asked if Delta has the legal right to put a lien on private property. Carlson responds that no one knows until the lawsuit is decided. Attendees were concerned about directors' actions leading up to signing the contract.

Mark Regelbrugge, Mica Road, said that the community must realize that if there is no money, there will be no work. The Board should not try to do what can't be paid for.

The grant was represented to him as a definite thing. Mistakes were made with no understanding of the potential consequences.

A Mica resident had no knowledge of upcoming construction and decided not to sell their home because of possibility of a lien.

Beam says the most positive thing is that residents have become aware and involved. He hopes that neighbors will stay involved. Carlson concurred.

Walt Dalbeck, Galena, also concurred. Comment about lack of attendance at the meeting and residents' complacency.

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Resident asks about to get a newsletter. She did receive a notice about the meeting. Beam discussed the old sign that used to announce the meeting dates.

Lea suggested that residents could put up a section of 2" VC pipe for newsletters and asked that residents consider it. She thinks it would encourage contact between the Board and residents.

White noted that there are 719 registered voters, but only 252 votes cast in the last election. He reiterated the need for involvement.

[Please note- these minutes were transcribed from a CD and not all public comments were understandable on the recording.]

7. The meeting was adjourned at 10:40.

2008 Regular Meeting Schedule

June 26

July 24

August 21

September 18

October 30

November 13

December 11