

# Pixley Public Utility District

## Board of Directors Board Meeting

Date: October 7, 2024

Time: 6:30 P.M.

Place: 232 East Davis Pixley CA 93256

Contact: (559)757-3878

### Agenda:

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Minutes**

**3. Bills to be Paid**

**4. Public Comments**

- Members of the public may address the Board during public comments regarding any matter which is under the jurisdiction of the Board. Comments shall be limited to three minutes per person with thirty minutes overall for the entire comments period, unless otherwise indicated by the Board President.

**5. Rosendo Rodarte**

- Discuss monthly billing for 187 S Pine

**6. Kirk Masters – Pixley Irrigation**

- Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)

**7. Erika Andaluz (Orneles)**

- 270 W Court Sewer connection request

**8. Provost & Pritchard**

1) Development Update and Report on Active Items

a) Available Water Units **116**

- Will Service Letters
  - Mercado – Walnut (11/19, 11/22, 3/24) **1**
  - Orneles – 270 Court (12/19, 2/23, 3/24) **3**
  - *N&S Truck Stop (11/21)* **22**
  - *Palma-Quiroz – 888 Walnut (7/22)* **1**
  - Thandi/Singh – 174 Court (12/22, 1/24) **24**
  - *Correa – Tr. 7445 (4/23)* **18**
  - *Robles – 339 Walnut (6/23)* **2**
  - Terrel – 1424 Terra Bella (12/23) **1**
  - Palma – 772 Main Street (1/24) **1**
  - Ayon – 585 ½ Walnut Avenue (1/24) **1**
  - Jacobo – 156 Pine (3/24) **1**
  - Valdovinos – 1086 Market (7/24) **1**

- Remaining Available Water Units
  - Projects in *italics* have expired. Recommend sending notification letters indicating that extension requests are necessary. Projects in ***bold italics*** have applied for extensions. Projects in **bold** are new projects. Projects ~~struck out~~ have been constructed.
- b) Pixley Elementary School
- PPUD received communication from Pixley Elementary School requesting information associated with potential annexation of the school to the PPUD. Communications have been initiated. Tulare County LAFCo has responded with some suggestions on how to proceed. A task checklist and budget has been routed to the school to review and initiate the process. Correspondence with the school and LAFCo is ongoing.
- c) Park Village
- PPUD received a request from Park Village to evaluate whether two (2) tiny homes could be placed on each mobile home lot that Park Village would like to develop. A draft response was provided on September 17, 2024, which includes a request for additional information from the owner.
- 2) Infrastructure Planning
- a) Well and Waterline Replacement Project
- Near-term activity for the month:
  - Well 5: Well 5 is now producing compliant water. Programming and sound enclosure are complete. Potential for some additional adjustments to the programming to allow for no bypass to waste if the pump has run within a few hours.
  - The financial hardship memorandum associated with Proposition 84 funds was approved at the October Board meeting and was sent. Michael and Ronnie met with State grant staff, who acknowledged the hardship and are reviewing the information to determine any potential compensatory payment to PPUD. The State communicated on September 23, 2024 that a Contract Amendment was being processed to allow for reimbursement of accrued interest costs.
  - Recommended Action: Board's Pleasure
- 3) Funding Assistance Applications
- a) Interim Emergency Drinking Water and Drought Related Drinking Water Funding
- The fill station passed water tests and is in service. The state is issuing an extension to the contract. PPUD received the State license through the California Dept. of Public Health. Mark Magtoto, the representative from SWRCB, visited the site March 27, 2024 and was positive and helpful in his assessment. The filter is installed, and we have received a "non-detect" test results for 1,2,3-TCP. Final maintenance items have been addressed. P&P

staff completed the final report and the final reimbursement request has been submitted.

- Recommended Action: Board’s Pleasure
- b) Drought Relief Grant Applications to the Department of Water Resources- Well 4A
  - The State added funds to the project, which allowed for award. The Notice of Award, Contract, and related items have been received from the Contractor.
  - Establishment of a date to begin construction is pending. P&P staff has prepared a draft Change Order to remove the Sea Train at the PPUD office, which has been acknowledged by the Contractor.
  - Recommended Action: Board’s Pleasure
- c) TCP Planning Grant from the State Water Resources Control Board – Well 5, Well 3A, 4, & 6
  - The State has authorized Self Help Enterprises with a Technical Assistance Grant for the project.
  - Design and environmental work proceed. Environmental documents were adopted in September 2024.
  - Recommended Action: Board’s Pleasure
- d) TCP Construction Grant Applications to the State Water Resources Control Board – Well 5, Well 3A, 4, and 6
  - The State has assigned a Project Manager for the Construction Grant Application. Information has been requested by the State to continue to process the application.
  - A progress meeting with the State was held August 12, 2024. Project progressing.
  - Recommended Action: Board’s Pleasure
- 4) County Road Projects
  - County Staff approached the PUD concerning two additional roadway projects. Including the Court Street project, the locations include:

<b>Location</b>	<b>Water Valves</b>	<b>Sewer Manholes</b>	<b>Projected Cost</b>	<b>Projected Date</b>
Court St. Park St. to School St.	33	13	\$63,350	Spring 2024
Terra Bella Ave. Rd. 96 to Cedar St.	7	1	\$16,000	Summer 2024
Terra Bella Ave. SR 99 to School St.	TBD	TBD	TBD	Summer 2025

- County Staff has reached out concerning Terra Bella payment for utility work. Board directed P&P staff to work with County Staff to draft a new loan agreement for the work at the June meeting.
  - The County has indicated that excess funds from the ARPA project in Pixley might be eligible for use to pay down a portion of the Court Street loan, associated with water system improvements. A request for additional information has been sent to the County. The excess funds amount to \$32,209. County Staff submitted a payment schedule for Court St. The County of Tulare has routed the First Amendment to Tulare County Agreement No. 31305 for PPUD consideration and approval.
  - County Staff sent a draft agreement for the Terra Bella (Rd 96 to Cedar St.) for approval.
  - Recommended Action: Review, discuss, and approve the First Amendment to Tulare County Agreement No. 31305
- 5) On-Going Consultant Service Agreement
- The Consultant Service Agreement (CSA) between Pixley PUD & Provost & Pritchard has not been formally renewed since 2016. An updated CSA has been submitted for review and approval for the 2024/2025 fiscal year. In September, the Board approved the CSA, pending modifications requested by Chad Lew. The modified CSA has been submitted for final review.
  - Recommended Action: Board's Pleasure
- 6) Thriving Communities
- Self-help Enterprises and County of Tulare staff reached out concerning an FHWA grant. A meeting was held on June 18 to discuss. Potential uses for the award include feasibility studies, public outreach efforts, or specific projects. One such project includes funding for the utility adjustments within County Road projects (Court Street and Terra Bella Avenue).
  - Recommended Action: Board's Pleasure
- 7) Lead Service Line Inventory
- P&P staff is proceeding in accordance with the approved Task Order. A draft workplan has been submitted to the State for preliminary comments. A final workplan would be submitted once preliminary comments have been received. The Lead Service Line Inventory is due to the State in October 2024.
  - P&P staff is proceeding to complete the inventory in early October.
  - Recommended Action: Board's Please
- 8) SSMP update
- Pixley PUD has received a Notice of Applicability for the Sanitary Sewer Management Plan. The State has several requirements associated with updating the existing plan to comply with the new Geneal Order.

- P&P staff is proceeding to complete the update to the SSMP in accordance with the authorized Task Order.
  - Recommended Action: Board's Pleasure
- 9) Technical Assistance Grant Applications
- Funding applications have been submitted for the following projects:
    - ❖ Sewer relocation from behind homes to adjacent roadways
    - ❖ Wastewater treatment plant improvements including groundwater monitoring wells, lift station self-cleaning screen, and grit removal
    - ❖ Replace water mains that are 4" diameter and smaller
  - Recommended Action: Board's Pleasure

## **9. Tools & Maintenance**

### **10. Other Matters**

- 1) Self Help Enterprises
  - Technical Training Candidates/Water Operator Mentors
  - Recommended Action: Discuss and potentially approve PPUD staff to Mentor a Training Candidate
- 2) Pixley Union School District
  - Trunk or Treat
  - Recommended Action: Discuss and potentially approve for PPUD to have a Trunk or Treat Booth or donate candy to Pixley Union School District at a value not to exceed \$100
- 3) Lincoln Financial Group
  - Interim Amendment applicable to 457(b) Government Retirement Plan reflecting the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020 and the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement (SECURE) Act of 2019.
  - Recommended Action: Review, discuss, and potentially approve to execute the CARES/SECURE Amendment Form
- 4) PFAS (PER – and POLYFLUOROALKL) Settlement
  - Public Water Systems against BASF Corporation deadline of October 15, 2024. Visit date scheduled for January 1, 2026 with OWP (Office of Water Programs)
  - Recommended Action: Discuss options and potentially act on submitting claim (if eligible) or opt out and how to proceed with PFAS

Convene to closed session

**11. Public employee performance evaluation (Government code section 54957(b)(1) Title: Operator in Training – Received Backflow Certification**

**12. Public employee performance evaluation (Government code section 54957(b)(1) Title: Office Manager**

Convene to open session

**13. Discussion, consideration, and potential action to increase compensation of Operator in Training in an amount not to exceed \$24.85, per hour, effective October 1, 2024**

**14. Discussion, consideration, and potential action to increase compensation of Office Manager in an amount not to exceed \$33.00, per hour, effective October 1, 2024**

**15. Board Member Communications**

**16. Adjournment**

Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the legislative body after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the Pixley Public Utility District, 232 East Davis Pixley, during normal business hours. *“This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Waste/Water Services are provided on an Equal Opportunity basis. Reasonable accommodation for alternative means of communication or access for individuals with disabilities will be made upon request. Call: (559)757-3878 to request accommodation.*