

Pixley Public Utility District

Board of Directors Regular Meeting

Date: May 1, 2023

Time: 6:30 P.M.

Place: 232 East Davis Pixley CA 93256

Contact: (559)757-3878

NOTE: THE BOARD VOTED LAST MONTH TO NO LONGER USE THE CONFERENCE CALL FOR BOARD MEETINGS

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. **Susie Boutonnet & Rebecca Brown/Park Village RV Resort**

CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION

- Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Government Code Section 54957(b)(1))Title: Operator in Training
- Conference with Labor Negotiators (Government Code Section 54957.6) Unrepresented Employee: Operator in Training

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

6. **Update/Tait Property**
7. **Update/T-Mobile**
 - Discussion, consideration and possible action on T-Mobile placing equipment on Water Tower
8. **Provost & Pritchard**
 - 1) DEVELOPMENT UPDATE AND REPORT ACTIVE ITEMS
 - a) Remaining Available Water Units (January 2023) **125 units**
 - Will Serve Letters
 - Mercado – Walnut (11-19-19/11-7-22) **1**
 - Orneles – 270 W. Court Ave. (12-20-19) **3**
 - **Campos – Pine St** **2**
 - N&S Truck Stop (11-2-21) **22**

- Palma-Quiroz (7-11-22) 1
- Correa (7-11-22) 1
- Camp (8-1-22) 1
- Correa (12-5-22) 1
- Thandi/Singh (12-5-22) 24
- Correa – 451 Market Street (1-9-23) 3
- Pixley Park 2
- Correa – Pine Street 18
- Remaining Available Water Units 46 units
- Note: Properties in red were sent will-serve extension letters as directed at the January Board meeting and who have not responded.

- b) Other – It is understood that the developer of the travel center north of Howard Avenue near Park Drive may be constructing the water line from Howard Avenue north to our water main extension project in the spring of 2023. A formal Agreement between the property owner and the Pixley PUD will be required for the reimbursement of costs expended by the Pixley PUD construction of the water line across a portion of the proposed development frontage. P&P staff are coordinating with the developer’s engineer to finalize an agreement for Board consideration.
- c) Miscellaneous - It is noted that a couple of developers have approached the District with questions regarding water and sewer capacity to support additional development. General information has been provided. It is recommended that developers be required to submit written requests to the District to determine what level of effort is appropriate and what costs the developers would be required to cover.

2) INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING

- Well and Waterline Replacement Project
- Near term activity for the month:
- Well 5: Bakersfield Well and Pump successfully removed the pump and recorded video. There was some damage to the well casing. We are working on a meeting to determine the pump size and path forward.
- Well 6: Work is proceeding on the final punch list. Painting and electrical work was complete, and record drawings and O&M manual were provided. The punch list now consists of the alarm system, generator keys, return of pump from Well 2A and re-activation of Well 5. Expecting closure shortly but we suggest holding back a portion of the retention or bond for remainder.
- Recommended Action: Board’s pleasure

3) FUNDING ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS

- a) Planning Grant and Construction Grant Applications to the State
- The Planning Grant Application has been finalized and submitted to the State for consideration. The improvements would include the following:
 - Relocation of wastewater collection system improvements in the vicinity of Court and Main Streets
 - Construction of a self-cleaning screen prior to the influent lift station at the WWTF

- Construction on pumps in the aeration tanks to allow for dewatering of the aeration tanks when maintenance is required
 - Groundwater Monitoring Wells at the WWTF
 - Grit removal equipment at the WWTF
 - Sludge Drying Bed improvements at the WWTF
 - The State has assigned a Project Manager to the project application.
 - The State has responded that the information submitted appeared to be complete and that Pixley PUD may expect an executed agreement in 9 to 12 months from December 2022. Updated forms are attached for review and adoption.
 - Recommended Action: Review and adopt revised Resolution No. 2023-01 and execute updated application and certification forms.
- b) Interim Emergency Drinking Water and Drought Related Drinking Water Funding
- The Project received the final Grant Contract from the State. A kickoff meeting with the State was conducted and a task order was authorized for Provost & Pritchard to perform the design. Design has been initiated and fill station has been ordered. The contractor is coordinating site work. Shade structure is under fabrication; potential installation within a month or two.
 - Recommended Action: Board's pleasure
- c) Drought Relief Grant Applications to the Department of Water Resources
- A Contract for the funding is expected from the Department of Water Resources has been received.
 - Well 4 Rehabilitation
 - This project would rehabilitate the Well 4 well casing in a manner similar to the work performed on Well 3A. An initial site visit may offer an option of a new well on the site as the rehabilitation effort rather than pulling the existing pump – due the recent experience of Well 2A. Communications with DWR and DDW will be initiated soon. The project would include a standby generator for Well 4. Funding has been approved for this project by DWR. Communications with DWR and DDW have been initiated and we are awaiting conceptual approval from DDW. Board directed engineering staff to plan for building demolition.
 - Addendum to the Water Supply and Distribution Improvement Project, Mitigated Negative Declaration was approved at the December Board meeting. Design has begun.
 - Water main in Elm and loops to School Street
 - This project would provide a 10 inch main extension in Elm from Joanne to Ellsworth. In addition, this project would loop the waterlines in Carol, Holste, Sarah, and Diane to School Street. Funding has been approved for this project by DWR. Construction Documents have been started. Project awarded to Specialty Construction.
 - Construction initiated, but discovery of unmarked utilities has brought some delay. School Street tie-ins are complete. Some adjustments needed on Elm Street to adjust conflicts. Crews have moved to Park Drive while conflicts were addressed. Expected to return and finish in June.
 - Recommended Action: Board's pleasure

- d) TCP PLANNING GRANT APPLICATIONS TO THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD – WELL 5, WELL 3A, AND 4
 - The State has authorized Self Help Enterprises with a Technical Assistance Grant for the project.
 - Design and environmental work have begun. The work now includes mitigation measures for Well 6.
 - Recommended Action: Board’s pleasure
- e) IRWM GRANT TO EVALUATE IMPROVING THE WATER LINE NORTH OF COURT ALONG PARK. (\$2,000,000 grant)
 - Water Main Loop Across State Route 99
 - This project would provide for a 12-inch main across State Route 99 north of Howard. The project would extend a 12-inch main north in Park Drive. The water main would loop from Main to Howard. Funding has been received from the County of Tulare for this project.
 - The property owner east of Park Drive and south of the Memorial Building will construct the water main across its frontage.
 - Several easements have been offered to the PPUD for the water main extension project.
 - Project awarded to Specialty Construction. Completion expected by the end of April.
 - Recommended Action: Board’s pleasure
- 4) TULE BASIN WATER QUALITY COALITION – WATER FILL STATION
 - The Tule Basin Water Quality Coalition is requesting to enter into an agreement with the Pixley PUD for the installation and operation of a water fill station. The proposed location is the southeast corner of the tank site on School Street north of Terra Bella.
 - Updated information has been received and reviewed. Comments have been returned to the applicant. Draft contract was approved at the December Board meeting. The draft Memorandum of Understanding was submitted by Tule Basin for Board review but rejected by the Board in April.
 - Recommended Action: Board’s pleasure
- 5) CALTRANS PROPOSED POSITIVE LOCATION AGREEMENT
 - Caltrans contacted the Pixley PUD on December 5, 2022 with the following request:
 - Caltrans is preparing projects where a positive location or “potholing” of Pixley Public Utility District facilities within the highway right of way is required. Caltrans is requesting a Positive Location Agreement (Pos-Loc Agreement) executed from Pixley Public Utility District. This agreement will permit Caltrans to perform non-destructive vacuum extraction and electronic detection to determine the exact facility location and elevation at no expense to the utility owner. Further, Caltrans will indemnify Pixley Public Utility District of all liability with the testing procedures.
 - A copy of the proposed agreement was included at the meeting of December 19 and is attached.

- The utility of interest to Caltrans in the immediate term is to pothole the sewer line crossing State Route 99 and water lines in the vicinity of Davis and in the vicinity of Court.
 - At the February Board Meeting, the agreement was approved pending Legal Counsel review, who is coordinating with Caltrans staff on the verbiage.
 - Recommended Action: Board's pleasure
- 6) COUNTY OF TULARE – COURT AVENUE PROJECT
- The County of Tulare has contacted the Pixley PUD regarding a road project in Court Avenue between Main Street and School Street.
 - The County is planning to resurface the roadway, which will impact the existing water valves and sewer manholes owned by the Pixley PUD. The County is requiring that the Pixley PUD pay for raising the valve boxes and manholes. The Work cannot be performed until the resurfacing work is completed. It is recommended that the Pixley PUD request that the County of Tulare cover the cost for raising the valve vaults and manholes. If the County of Tulare will not cover the cost, it is recommended that the Pixley PUD request that the County include bid items in their construction contract for raising the valve vaults and manholes. The County of Tulare and Pixley PUD could enter into an agreement that would make provisions for Pixley PUD to reimburse the cost of the work associated with the valve vaults and manholes. It is not recommended that the Pixley PUD enter into a separate contract for the work after the resurfacing is completed as it is expected that such an effort would be more costly than performing the work when the resurfacing is performed.
 - Awaiting response from County of Tulare staff concerning additional funding sources and/or payment installment options.
 - Recommended Action: Board's pleasure
- 7) LOWER TULE RIVER IRRIGATION DISTRICT REQUEST
- Lower Tule reached out to the PUD with its intent to gather additional information concerning groundwater levels by installing and operating, at Lower Tule's expense, a transducer in Pixley wells. A draft agreement was provided to the PUD. P&P staff connected with Irrigation District staff and is awaiting further information.
 - Recommended Action: Board's pleasure

9. Tools & Maintenance

- 1) Pixley Place Fence/Update
 - Discussion, consideration and possible action on Pixley Place Fence
- 2) Quinn Power Systems CVA Proposal
 - Discussion, consideration and possible action on yearly Maintenance Agreement for 3 backup generators.
- 3) District Office Sewer Line/Proposal - \$5,800.00
 - Discussion, consideration and possible action on District Office Sewer Line repair
- 4) Blain Shelton/Update

10. Other Matters

- 1) Resignation of Board Member; Alton Blair
- 2) Zeronox/Electric Vehicle/Update
- 3) Update/District Office Manager

11. Board Member Communications

12. 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 Pixley Public Utility District, 232 East Davis Avenue Pixley, during normal business hours. *“This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Communication for Hearing Impaired: the TTY/TDD number is: (800)654-5984, voice only: (800)654-5988. Waste Water Services are provided on an Equal Opportunity basis. Reasonable accommodations for alternative means of communications or access of individuals with disabilities will be made upon request. Call: (559)757-3878 to request accommodation.”*