

ALMONTE SANITARY DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 698, MILL VALLEY, CALIFORNIA 94942-0689 (415) 388-8775

DIRECTORS

Lew Kiou, Chair
Anne Lahaderne, Secretary-Treasurer
Linda Rames
Robert Cox

DISTRICT MANAGER

Shonn Dougherty

Minutes from September 28, 2020

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
at Sewerage Agency of Southern Marin
450 Sycamore Avenue, Mill Valley

1. Call to Order: Chair Kiou called the meeting to order at 5:09 P.M. Present: (Via Zoom Video Platform) Lew Kiou, Anne Lahaderne, Linda Rames , Robert Cox , Dave Haflich, Shonn Dougherty (District Manager).
2. Approval of Minutes for August 24, 2020 Meeting. Motion to Approve by Linda, seconded by Anne. Approved 4-0.
3. Public Open Time: No Public.
4. 2020-2021 Mill Valley Refuse Rate Application: Jim Iavarone (MVRS Managing Director) in attendance via Zoom. Mill Valley Refuse is required to present rate increase on April 1st, 2020. It will be voted on in June and go into effect on July 1st, MVRS start of rate year. Jim presented to the Board the factors for the rate increase. This included standard business operations (employees, new trucks), liability insurance, and union contract. Almonte and Alto have the lowest rates. Almonte's rate increase would be 5.5%. Moving forward Mill Valley Districts agreed to spend time reviewing MVRS rates in advance to coordinate responses in future meetings. Linda commented on the timing of the current rate increase. She feels it is poor planning in this economic climate to increase rates. Jim explained that expenses for MVRS did not get any financial breaks during Covid times. Lew pointed out that Almonte and Alto have the lowest rate increases in County. Jim agreed to a discussion with the Almonte Board to get a better understanding of the rate increase process before next April. Motion to Approve Rate Increase made by Anne, Seconded by Lew. Approved 3-1.
5. Secretary-Treasurer's Report: Anne reported as of this warrant cycle in fiscal 2020-2021, we have spent, \$29,985.61 which is 2.7% of the annual budget. This period equates to 25% of the 2020-2021 annual budget. We have \$937,767.02 remaining in reserves. Motion to approve Warrant List and payroll made by Robert, Linda seconded. Approved 4-0.

6. Reports by Representatives to Other Meetings: SASM Board Meeting: SASM approved 2020-2021 Financial Plan. Lew attended the Alto Sanitary District Board Meeting. Lew reported a long meeting with MVRS Rate Application on the Agenda. The Alto Board approved proposed rate increase with a 4-1 vote.

7. Manager's Report: A comprehensive Manager's report was included in the Board Packet.

8. New Business: Response to the Civil Grand Jury report about the Almonte Sanitary District's website. Lew reported that he has met with members of the Jury, talked on phone, and partaken in many discussions regarding the transparency of Almonte's staff payments posted on the website. Lew presented Board with Grand Jury's findings and for the Board's approval with a response sheet. Motion to approve response sheet made by Linda, seconded by Anne. Approved 4-0.

9. Old Business: New Auditor for 2019-2020 FY. Shonn informed Board we did not receive a response from the RFP's sent out to firms. Lew suggested Shonn contact CDSA and Alyssa Schiffmann for any recommendations for an Auditor.

Almonte Website RFP responses. The Board reviewed three responses for remodeling and maintaining the website. Motion to Approve Streamline as the awarded firm made by Linda, seconded by Anne. Approved 3-1 (Abstention)

10. Board Directors Members Open Time:

11. Next Meeting Date: October 26, 2020 @ 5pm.

12. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:10pm. Motion to adjourn made by Robert, Seconded by Linda. Approved 4-0.

