

MINUTES OF THE  
COLONIAL PINE HILLS SANITARY DISTRICT  
March 19, 2019

The Board of Trustees of the Colonial Pine Hills Sanitary District met on March 19, 2019 at the Whispering Pines Fire Hall. President Mills called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. All Trustees were present to include Edward Mills, President; Donald Nolting, Vice-President, Gerald Burdick, Trustee; Peter Rausch, Trustee; and LeRoy Draine, Trustee. Present also were Jim Martin, Manager; Talbot Wieczorek, Legal Counsel; Michael Riker, System Operator; and Steve Burgad, Maintenance. The Audience consisted of Jeanette Mills and Justin Huntley.

AGENDA:

Nolting made motion to approve the Agenda as written, seconded by Draine. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

MINUTES:

Rausch made motion, seconded by Draine to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2019 minutes with a change. The change in the handbook was for the complete removal of the "Handguns in the Workplace" section. Motion passed with unanimous voice vote.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Financial Report for February was presented. There were no questions or comments. Rausch made motion to approve the financial report, seconded by Draine. It passed by unanimous voice vote.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

The Manager's report for the month of February was presented. Martin reported the pieces-parts for the valve installation project have been delivered and are stored in the Croyle II Well yard. Steve is still making repairs to the various well houses between removing snow and other projects. The remainder of the report will be discussed in the individual items in both Old and New Business. Draine asked about the property tax opt out and if the County uses the assessed values or the last sale of a home. They use the assessed value. Our current opt out was for 10 years but the loan it covers is for 20 years, therefore we will be required to renew the opt out in 2021. There being no further discussion Rausch made a motion, seconded by Draine, to approve the report. The motion passed by voice vote.

OPERATOR'S REPORT:

Mike Riker made the Operator's Report. He stated the well production for the month of February and the first thirteen days of March. All the wells are running normally. He reported he will not be available March 28 thru April 2. There being no questions Nolting made motion, seconded by Rausch to accept the Operator's report. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Isolation Valve Plan Update: Riker stated that RCS Construction has had the utilities located at all intersections. They will be out on Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> to do a test excavation to check on the frost line. If it is thought to be satisfactory for major excavation they would then begin on Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup>. All parts are on hand. Letters have been sent to each home affected by the water outages and an alert will be sent thru our website once specific times for outages are known.
2. City Sewer Agreement: Attorney Wieczorek stated that he and the City attorney have swapped another set of agreement updates with proposed changes. The District has two primary concerns: 1) The City wants to have approval authority on all property annexations by the District, even if the property is not affected by the City, and 2) the City wants to regain control over the septic system inspection and permitting program. Both of these items are considered to be deal breakers by the District Board. Our Attorney is going to try to set up a meeting with the City to discuss the proposal face-to-face.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Kamstrup Metering System: Martin reported he had a meeting with Tyler Smith from Dakota Supply Group (DSG) on February 21<sup>st</sup>. Smith is the vendor for the Kamstrup metering system. Also in attendance was Marilee Sage of Sage Waterworks, a local system operator that uses the Kamstrup meter. At this meeting Smith presented the Kamstrup Radio Meter and associated equipment. The only thing installed in a home is the meter and perhaps an antenna for better coverage. Currently, we have a meter, a remote touchpad on the outside of the home and several feet of wiring. Meters are read thru a converter (radio receiver) into a android phone or tablet. Currently we have a meter reading gun for the touch pay and a hand-held device that records the readings. With the Kamstrup system once the meters are read the operator touches a send/receive icon and the read information is sent to the PC for uploading into the billing software. Our current system is much more complex. On Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, I went with Marilee Sage to read 24 meters in the Sheridan Lake Highlands subdivision. Upon turning into the division she touched the send/receive icon on her tablet and loaded all the meters to be read. She could look at a list by address or by orange circles on Google Maps. She then turned on the receiver and it began to read meters. As a meter was read the orange circle disappeared and only the meters remaining to be read were on-screen. By the time we had gone ¼ mile we had read all but 3 meters and then were on a hill within lots of trees. She drove up the hill and these meters were read. When finished she touched the send/receive icon again and the readings were transferred to her home computer in Piedmont so she was ready to bill. The entire reading of the 24 meters took some 10 minutes.

Tonight Martin presented a show and tell about the current reading system and the Kamstrup system and passed out some literature on the meters themselves. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed to have the representative from DSG come out and give a demonstration to any Board member who wishes to attend. Martin will set up that meeting. It would appear that the Board is interested in moving toward radio read meters as the financial funding comes available.

Currently we are using Sensus meters. There are approximately 380 homes that have the SRII meter installed. This meter is made of brass but has some lead within that brass. The EPA has condemned this meter but has grandfathered the replacement of the meter until the meter fails since the cost of replacement is so high. The new meter

we are using (some 50 installations now) is a Sensus iPerl. This meter is made of a composite material and there are no moving parts. There is a twenty-year battery life from the date of manufacture. This meter is also capable of being read remotely but requires a SmartPoint box to be installed on the outside of the home on top of the present touchpad. The iPerl meter cost is approximately \$165 each and the SmartPoint box is approximately \$130 each. This would be the cost per home replacing the SRII. The basic ¾ inch Kamstrup meter cost is approximately \$265 so there is a \$25 savings per home. There is also an initial upfront cost of \$5600 that includes the first year service agreement, the converter box (receiver), the software, 10 antennas and training. After the first year there is an annual service agreement costing \$953.

There would be some savings in that we can salvage the old brass meters, save on meter reading costs when fully implemented, a considerable labor savings when working with the remote touch pad, more consistent meter reading during the winter and the ability to use the data recorded on the first day of the month making our billing cycles consistent.

2. Audience Comments: There were none.
3. Executive Session (Employee/Legal Matters):

There being on further business Rausch, at 8:32 pm, made motion, seconded by Draine to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully,

Jim Martin  
Manager/Clerk