

MENDOCINO CITY COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
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Minutes of June 22, 2017

Special Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Art Room at the Community Center in Mendocino. Present were Directors Schwartz, Kerstein, Hauck, and Stubbs. Also present were District Superintendent Mike Kelley and Secretary Jodi Mitchell.

President Schwartz thanked the community for attending the meeting, which was scheduled so SHN Engineers could present the proposed project and answer any questions, concerns or alleviate any misconceptions the community may have heard about the project.

Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Wastewater Treatment Facilities Improvements and Recycled Water System Expansion Project

Superintendent Kelley explained the District was in the process of submitting a USDA loan/grant application for Wastewater Treatment Facilities Improvements and Recycled Water System Expansion at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. There were 5 segments of the proposed system improvements: 1) Disinfection System Upgrades, 2) Recycled Water Distribution System Expansion, 3) Equalization Pond Liner Replacement, 4) Backwash Programmable Logic Control Replacement, and 5) Sludge Drying Bed Rehabilitation. He explained that the sludge drying bed rehabilitation component of the project would provide a redundant sludge handling system if there was a sludge processing equipment breakdown. Several neighbors attended the May 8th meeting to voice concerns about the upgrade of the drying beds. Mike Kelley explained the beds were part of the original design of the sewer system constructed in 1975. The District's belt process/dryer sludge processing equipment was now the primary sludge processing system. The drying beds served as the redundant sludge handling system, however they had only been used occasionally over the last 27 years, since the belt press and dryer were installed. Sludge was dried in the overflow pond for a period of six months during construction of the dryer building. That was no longer an option because in 2013 the overflow pond was lined. The upgrade to the drying beds was necessary to allow mechanical cleaning of sludge from the beds, and to line the beds to protect groundwater from any infiltration of water that was removed from the sludge during the drying process. The beds would only be used during a breakdown or long term scheduled maintenance of the primary equipment.

Tom Herman, Project Manager, Tom Hunt and Mike Veach, Engineers, with SHN presented an overview of possible alternative sludge handling systems. Mr. Herman explained that the purpose of rehabilitating the existing sludge drying beds would be for an emergency backup for the existing belt press and sludge dryer in the case of equipment failure. The beds would be lined with concrete, with a new sludge distributions system, central drainage trench and access for a small bobcat to remove dried material.

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The community and the MCCSD Board expressed concerns about the activity in the drying beds, potential odors and impacts to the private view sheds. Drying beds alternatives and costs were considered: (1a) redundant dryer with belt press, \$2.0 M, (1b) redundant dryer with centrifuge \$2.1M, (2) redundant solar dryer \$1.0M, (3) rehabilitate drying beds and replace belt press with centrifuge \$1.0M, (4) rehabilitate drying beds and install dewatering tubes \$.4 M, and (5) rehabilitate drying beds and install fence \$.4M. The concept of reed beds was also considered during the alternatives evaluation, however that alternative was eliminated from further investigation due to the fact that reed

beds require a constant feed of sludge, and the sludge drying beds were only being explored as a backup redundant system to the belt press and dryer.

Mr. Herman noted that the Application was completed and ready to be sent to the USDA. The MCCSD must qualify for the entire project without the grant, and there may be a potential grant of up to 35%.

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Mike Kelley and the SHN Engineers answered questions from the public and attempted to alleviate some of their concerns.

Ginger Kraynek noted that Sam had to resign from the Board because of this issue. They appreciated the alternatives presented, and thought the fence might alleviate some of their concerns, since the beds would only be used when there was an emergency primary system breakdown.

Consensus of the Board was to go forward with the funding for the 5 segments of the proposed system improvements, as decided at the May 8th special meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:58

Respectfully submitted,


Jodi Mitchell, Secretary