

**Minutes for Wild Wings County Service Area Advisory Committee and Golf Sub-Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday April 4, 6:30 PM**  
**Wild Wings Nest**

The meeting was called to order by Scott Picanso. Committee members present were Doug Williams, Mark Ullrich, Dan Rott and Lachi Richards. Also present was Beth Gabor from the CSA Administrative Support Team, and Supervisor Matt Rexroad.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Members of the community commented on the problems of the Wild Wings sewer and water maintenance and who should be considered at fault.

**UPDATE FROM THE OFFICE OF SUPERVISOR REXROAD:**

Summary of problems with wastewater treatment system:  
Status update handout, see below.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** February 7, 2018, Approved.

**Discussion and Action Items**

**A. Update on water and wastewater system operators**

National O&M is no longer the operator; interim operator is SUSP (Specialized Utility Services Program). The County is going out for bid for new longer term operator.

**B. Status of Water & Waste Water Treatment System.**

Lachi: Water: Pintail well was fixed in December 2017 and is running smoothly. The Canvas Back tank interior paint was corroded and will be fixed this summer.

Engineers report: (Luhdorff & Scalmanini) Efficiency of Pintail well pump is reduced and their report will make recommendations for work that needs to be done both at Pintail and at the Canvas Back Wells.

Arsenic levels are near the limit of 10 ppb at Canvas Back well. A treatment system for arsenic is being evaluated which will treat a portion of Canvas Back water to under 10 ppb, and blend with other water that is under limit, so that the mixture is under limit.

Lachi gave explanation of arsenic situation, that Pintail well is currently ok. The limit for arsenic when the community was built was 50 ppb and the limit that went into effect a couple of years later was 10 ppb. However, the original designers took the 10 ppb into account during the design process. Canvas Back well was over 10 ppb in 2009, so that it could not be used for potable water any longer. Pintail well is the only water that is available for potable water use, at this time. Canvas Back well is being used to supplement the irrigation needs at the golf course.

Sewer situation: there was a major upset with the sand filter and aeration; repairs are underway. Work is continuing on the large reservoir (recycled water pond) which was contaminated. It is estimated to contain about 8 million gallons; since the last meeting evaporation has reduced that level, a bit. It is necessary to recycle the contaminated water back through the plant to clean it up, which will take a number of months to accomplish.

The contractor rebuilt the tertiary filter and it is working fine. In a redundant system there should be 2 filters or a large pond where the effluent could be diverted to while repair work takes place.

Beth stated that there was a notice of violation from the state for non-tertiary treated water

discharge into the reservoir. There is continued work to get the system operational and no indication of fines as long as work is in progress to correct the problems

Community member comments on past history of problems with county/wild wings, things are better now. Scott said not having a redundant system is a big problem.

Beth said a redundant system should have been available to make repairs when things break down. Lachi said the engineer/developer originally told the state that there would be redundancy, but the developer did not actually build a redundant plant. Scott – It came to light that this was the case only 2-3 months ago. Original developer still viable and possibly liable.

### **C. Engineers fee report Update:**

The current fee for the wastewater system is not adequate; however, the water system fee is OK. There was a fee increase in 2014 for water and sewer, but not enough to catch up with the actual costs. There should have been an engineer's fee report updated @ 10 years, but at the time it was decided to not proceed with the report in order to save the cost of the consultant fees. Community member commented that requests were made for updated reports at the time of the last fee increase, but that it was not done. The County recently hired Ponticello Engineering to update the engineer's fee report. The completed report is not yet available but Beth gave highlights. (Engineer's Fee Report now available on [www.YoloCounty.org/Wild-Wings-CSA](http://www.YoloCounty.org/Wild-Wings-CSA)).

Engineer's fee report said the water fee is adequate; \$1202/household last year, next year the fee will be \$1184 which includes arsenic remediation (\$241). Have collected over \$400,000 for arsenic remediation; based on a recent study the cost may be \$950,000. It will take several more years of collecting the \$241 portion of the fee to pay for the arsenic treatment system. Once the treatment system is paid for then the \$241 fee will be removed from the assessment.

Engineer's fee report said that sewer fee is inadequate; last year was \$1,385/household and \$2,645 will be new fee. Sewer fund has been used up this year repairing the outstanding problems but is possible to borrow from the water fund to help pay for the sewer. When questioned about the interest charge of 1.5%, Beth said that it is not required but it is recommended to pay it as the water fund would be losing the interest during the time of the loan.

A settlement was made with previous operator to severe ties. A community member questioned not going after the operator for their negligence. There was a member comment on possible state negligence on signing off on sewer system. A community member commented on past problems that were taken care of, but more recently the plant went downhill with National operator. Lachi commented that although there were problems in the past, since the CSA is under new management the County has been responsive and is working hard to take care of the problems as they come to light. Yolo County is putting up some of their money to fix the problems, not just the Wild Wings community.

Beth said we do need to have a redundant system in place or we need to pump the sewage to another entity that can treat it for us. One alternative would be to connect with and send sewage to the Woodland treatment plant; it would be necessary to collect the sewage and pump it to Woodland treatment plant. Supervisor Rexroad said that a study was done previously to connect to Woodland; the sewer line is easier than the water system. There needs to be a plan for this over a number of years. The study was for a large regional system including other communities such as Esparto, Madison, Knights Landing, etc. Lachi said the current plan is to run the sewage system in compliance with the permit for about 5 more years. That should give us enough time to study the alternatives, devise a plan, obtain funding, and design and construct a solution. A community member said LAFCO was against connecting Wild Wings to

other entities. Beth said the County will fund the study to see what the redundant system will cost and to determine the feasibility of connecting to the City of Woodland.

Beth explained the need for a joint Sub-Golf Advisory Committee and CSA Advisory Committee meeting re water and sewer utility cost increases and the need to charge the full \$1700 of the Golf Course charge and modify operations to increase revenue and reduce expenditures at the golf course. Mark commented that they were working on a plan to conserve water at the Golf course.

There was a comment about going after errors and emissions insurance for National.

Beth said we will be getting a new operator and that the County has a team helping to evaluate proposals.

#### **D. 2018-19 Budgets for golf sewer and water funds**

Beth handed out budget spreadsheets (found on [www.YoloCounty.org/Wild-Wings-CSA](http://www.YoloCounty.org/Wild-Wings-CSA)).

Will initiate Prop 218 at next Board of Supervisors meeting; protest ballots of more than 50% will prevent the fee increase. Community member said that education will have to take place with community. Beth said we may need another meeting before the regular next meeting in June.

At end of 2017-18, sewer will be about \$450,000 in the red; amount to repay a \$450,000 loan to be determined. Also need to have reserves built up. Scott said if we only have to operate the plant for 5-years before hooking up to Woodland, we may not need as much in reserves.

Beth: revenue is shown without fee increase; budget contingent upon the fee increase. Operator fee is higher for 2018-19 than previously. Board meeting April 24<sup>th</sup>, to initiate Prop 218. County will then send out letter explaining the fee increase, and public hearing will be on June 26, 2018. Discussed repaying loan from water fund over 5 years, versus doing it all in one year.

#### **E. Call for future agenda items**

##### **Adjournment**

**Next Meeting: June 6, 2018, 6:30 p.m.**

**Minutes Submitted by Doug Williams**