

**DRAFT Minutes for Wild Wings County Service Area Advisory Meeting
Wednesday June 6, 6:00 PM
Wild Wings Nest**

The meeting was called to order by Scott Picanso. Committee members present were Doug Williams and Lachi Richards. Also present was Beth Gabor from the CSA Administrative Support Team, and members of the community.

Introduction: Fernando Saenz from SUSP, new water and sewer systems operator.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Several residents commented on the Prop 218 proceedings. A resident commented on the Luhdorff & Scalmanini report re maintenance and operation of the water system. The Advisory Committee and staff noted Luhdorff and Scalmanini's work was for the water system, the sewer fund was used to fix things at the sewage treatment plant and has to be replenished and that the water fund does have adequate reserves to take care of the water system and incur a temporary inter-fund transfer to help with the sewer problems. Other residents asked about information online related to tying into city sewer system (feasibility study is posted) and the \$1,700 special tax to pay golf course costs. The Advisory Committee noted another Measure O election would be needed to change the golf course fee. The Advisory Committee also noted that the golf course acts as a treated wastewater disposal field, accommodating storm water drainage and paying for their share of costs of the water and sewer systems. It was also noted that initial estimates from the developer did not allow enough budget to take care of the wastewater treatment system. Additional resident questions/comments were made re profitability of the golf course, need for more membership and use to get golf course more fully utilized.

UPDATE FROM THE OFFICE OF SUPERVISOR REXROAD: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 4, 2018, Approved.

Discussion and Action Items

A. Report on Sub-Committee of Golf Sub-Advisory Committee meeting with Kemper (Beth Gabor)

Water and sewer costs for golf course will increase from \$120,000 to \$220,000; full \$1,700 will need to be charged to residents. Sub-committee discussed with Kemper streamlining the operation, increasing revenue, deferred maintenance, need to take care of Nest, parking lot lights not working, striping in parking lot recently done. Also discussed whether a restaurant could increase revenue. Residents discussed the possibility of a food truck and past performance of restaurants. Need positive ideas to make a restaurant work and need more community input. There was a general discussion among the Advisory Committee and residents about various ideas to help the golf course be more profitable. Suggestions included a snack bar in the morning, possibility of sharing equipment with the Fliers Club, may need to approach them re sharing (this is already being done to some extent), possibility of a 27-hole course, relationship with Kemper, questions as to how the \$1,700 is broken down, golf course in Sacramento that has also looked at alternative operators, marketing of golf course – there needs to be more publicity in Woodland, and other local towns, need to have marketing report from Kemper. Comment re there needs to be goals from Kemper to do better than they have been doing. Kemper does post their financial information. Comment on family membership, should be discounted for more members, cart should

not be charged if not used. Beth needs more community input for golf course and will bring it up at next meeting of golf course committee.

B. Update on Water & Wastewater Systems Operators (Beth Gabor)

Have new operators, SUSP, for water and sewer via competitive bid process which selected SUSP as long-term operators. Costs are similar to Cal Am, more than National. Proposal was very comprehensive and they have been doing a very good job. Question about responsibilities of National. They were paid 2/3rds of what was owed to them as part of agreement to end the contract. Question about \$750,000 extra costs of sewer plant, was National liable for this extra cost? Beth commented that original developers built the plant without redundancy, one train versus 2-train system. The Advisory Committee discussed that failures were primarily at back end of plant. Comment, can county take some responsibility for the problems with the sewer plant? Beth said that county is paying for a study for 4 alternative sewer solutions at a cost of \$50,000. Protest vote would not solve the problem and could lead to not having services for community. A wastewater treatment plant is not a facility that can be run intermittently. Beth has hired original installers to repair the plant and remediate ponds associated with the plant.

C. Status of Water & Wastewater Systems (SUSP)

Report from Fernando (SUSP) and Lachi, explained the sewer system needs some repairs to lift station and radios for the SCADA system. Some equipment has worn out because of age of equipment, ~15 years. Various pumps have failed and have been replaced. Aeration system, was failing when National took it over and they did not adequately repair the system and inadequately treated wastewater was discharged to recycled water pond. They explained the various repairs that were done and the costs of these repairs. The remaining problem is the contaminated recycled water pond in which the water and sludge at the bottom must be run through sewer plant again, ~8 million gallons, pumping it back through the sand filter then onto golf course. One pump is being used, now down to 7.3 million gallons. Comment that National was not properly vetted when they were hired. Beth said that SUSP was comprehensively vetted. County paid \$20,000 for assessment of facilities and National, and is paying \$50,000 for study of options to make system redundant or to connect to the City of Woodland. Question about performance bond, no there was not one for National. More comments about how National was not making improvements and was not paying vendors. It was discussed that the community could voice their various opinions for and against at the County Board of Supervisors June 26 Prop 218 hearing.

Fernando (SUSP) commented that there were no existing manuals or maintenance logs. They have instituted these things – replacing equipment, annual water report and have 2 full time employees 5 days per week, and one during weekend. Recordkeeping is being done now. Beth described SUSP as being a subsidiary of California Rural Water Association, a non-profit that specializes in providing technical assistance to smaller communities and training operators. SUSP has an apprentice program that results in reduced costs and trained qualified operators.

D. Status of Water Levels & Sustainable Groundwater Management Efforts (Richards)

Lachi made presentation about levels of water in the wells being about the same place as last year. Water levels have declined about 60 feet since Wild Wings first began using the wells in 2004. The bowls in the Pintail well will probably need to be lowered to be able to continue to draw water from the well in the next couple of years. There is also

the need to look at recharge of ground water as well as conservation. Canvasback is doing OK running at night. During the drought in 2016 the well depth was pulled down such that the pump would stop operating. Then in 2017 the levels went up due to rains. Canvasback produces more water, but Pintail has better water (less arsenic). Question about cost of arsenic treatment vs going to deeper well to get out of arsenic? There is no guarantee of being able to get a well without arsenic levels below the drinking water limit. Arsenic is pervasive in the wells in this region. Groundwater management plan is ongoing in Yolo County, a plan for monitoring of the groundwater levels and whether there is adequate recharge is about to begin. In general, the County as a whole is doing fine but at Wild Wings we are drawing so much water that we are in a downward trend. Comments on the status of groundwater storage, seawater intrusion, land subsidence, and water quality, depletion of interconnected water storages. How do we replenish, we may be able to obtain surface water for the golf course, not wells? Almonds near us have put in wells and are using same groundwater.

E. Next Steps Wastewater System (Beth Gabor)

Study to determine sewer alternatives will be carried out and get results at first of year. Earlier study said \$4.2 million to connect pipeline to Woodland, cost would be \$95/month.

F. Proposed Fee Changes and Proposition 218 Proceedings (Beth Gabor)

Proposed fee changes were mailed to residents. Water fee going down by \$18. Sewer fee is going up considerably, from \$1,385 to \$2,936 for 5 years, then a reduction to \$2,645 with elimination of water inter-fund transfer repayment. Cost could be restructured if Wild Wings hooks into Woodland sewer, pipeline costs versus lower maintenance. Question re if vote goes "no" what happens. If services are not paid for, they will not be provided. Residents suggested that educational effort be done to show the consequences if the protest vote succeeds.

G. Call for Future Agenda Items

Same agenda, especially golf situation.

Adjournment

Next Meeting: August 1, 2018, 6:30 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by Doug Williams