

**Bolinas Community Public Utility District**  
**A Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Directors**  
**February 15, 2017 270 Elm Road, Bolinas**

**1. Call to Order.**

7:32 p.m.

**2. Roll.**

Directors Amoroso, Comstock, Godino, Siedman and Smith present; director Siedman presiding.

**3. Manager's Report.**

*-- Update on the BCPUD Chlorine Disinfection Byproduct Reduction Project.*

The district has received permission from the State Water Resources Control Board ("SWRCB") to begin running the inline coagulation treatment process, which staff will do immediately on Woodrat reservoir water. That raw water line has been fully tested and is operational, whereas the Arroyo Hondo raw water is not; the district has not been able to draw on that water source because the upper catchment is silted in and the lower dam is currently raised due to ongoing storm conditions. The SWRCB permission was unexpected but welcome news; district staff had thought an inspection would be required before permission would be granted, but the SWRCB is allowing the operation to begin, subject to routine monthly reporting and training of all shift operators on the new treatment process.

The district's consultant, Jonathan Van Bourg, provided the Board with a detailed powerpoint presentation on the shift operator training program, which will be conducted tomorrow at the Woodrat Water Treatment Plant. The presentation covered training to be provided on maintaining the two pre-filters on the raw water lines, the new flow meters, the chemical feed pump and static mixers, the chemistry of flocculation resulting from ACH coagulation (noting that aluminum is the third most common element on earth, used for thousands of years, including in the mummification process), and how to test for any residual aluminum on the water, as well as color. Jonathan estimated that the new operating procedures for the inline coagulation project will require approximately 1 additional hour of operator time each day.

*-- Update on the East Tank Rehabilitation Project.*

Nothing to report at this time.

*-- Update on BCPUD/BFPD Survey of Obstructions and Encroachments in the Public Rights-of-Way on the Bolinas Mesa.*

Nothing to report at this time, but staff anticipates progress on this project soon if the Board approves the recommended new part-time hire (see item #10, below, on the agenda).

As for rainfall, the district has received 36.4 inches of rain so far this rain year (as of today). This compares with 22.25 inches of rain through all of February 2016; as such, the district has received nearly 50% more rainfall this year than last year at this time. While the rains are welcome from a water source point of view, they have contributed to many problems throughout West Marin (roads, slides, flooding) and in Bolinas in particular – operational challenges at the treatment plant (as a result of the need to maintain an appropriate chlorine residual), bluff erosion events and sewer infiltration and inflow. Bluff erosion is threatening the district's infrastructure: ongoing inspections indicate the district may need to pull back its infrastructure from Mistle, Maple, Juniper and/or Evergreen Roads on the Bolinas Mesa and certain areas of the Little Mesa.

Water consumption in December 2016 and January 2017 were below levels as compared to the same time during the prior year; the Board reviewed the most recent consumption data in the binders. Back flow inspections are underway, as required each year. Staff still needs to complete its assesment of the cross-connection control survey responses obtained last Fall to determine whether the district needs to expand the number of customers required to have backflow (cross connection prevention) devices.

On the wastewater side of operations, staff is keeping a close watch on the lift station while flows into the collection system continue to be high, as well as the levels in the treatment ponds. Staff made the decision last Friday to discharge out-of-season to ensure there is sufficient capacity in the ponds if the rains continue and notified the Regional Water Quality Control Board. The discharge began on Friday and will continue during this window of clear weather, likely until tomorrow. The current weather forecast is for rain commencing after that and the district is not intending to spray during rain events. During the period of out-of-season discharge, district staff will sample daily for nitrate and coliform.

The Board reviewed correspondence sent and received since the last Board meeting, including a determination from the district's insurer, ACWA/JPIA, that the failure of the lift station pumps is not covered by the district's property insurance and a notification from the Marin County Elections department about a new law effective January 1, 2018 prohibiting local districts from holding their elections in years other than statewide elections, except under certain circumstances. After a brief discussion, the Board directed staff to schedule a special meeting for the Board to consider how to respond to the new state law requirements given an early March deadline for action noted in the County's correspondence.

Staff reported that Supervisor Rodini will be in Bolinas on Friday to meet with various individuals/groups in town about issues of concern to the community. Also, a "community forum" will be held in Point Reyes Station with state Senator McGuire and other panelists on February 23, 2017 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. to discuss issues of common concern to coastal communities posed by the impact of greatly increased tourism in West Marin.

Staff met with a representative of Redwood Empire Disposal about the reported sale of the company. The company plans, per the franchise agreement, to request BCPUD to consent to the transfer of the franchise agreement to Recology (the buyer of the company), as the district did in 2007 when Redwood Empire Disposal purchased the assets of Empire Waste Management. Recology evidently is a well-established solid waste disposal company based in San Francisco with state-of-the art recycling facilities.

Staff reminded the Board to file their Form 700's on or before the April 3, 2017 deadline and provide a copy to the office.

-- *Drainage Project Manager's Report.*

Nothing to report.

#### **4. Community Expression.**

None.

#### **5. Expanded Water Use Permit Application – 35 Maple Road, APN# 1931-281-24: kitchen remodel of existing single-family residence (B. Deventhal).**

The Board reviewed the permit application submitted by the homeowner which states that the project is limited to a remodel of the existing kitchen, with no additional square footage and with the installation of water-efficient appliances.

L. Comstock/V. Amoroso      all in favor      to approve an unconditional expanded water use permit for 35 Maple Road.

#### **6. Highway 1 Flooding Near Audubon Canyon Ranch: *Coordination of Local Efforts to Request CalTrans Repair.***

Staff reported that this item is on the meeting agenda to raise awareness in the community about the need to coordinate efforts among local agencies and entities to persuade CalTrans to address the chronic flooding across Highway 1. Staff is in contact with representatives from the Marin County Parks & Open Space District, the Bolinas Fire Protection District and Audubon Canyon Ranch on this topic. The Open Space District is recommending that residents take photos and log dates when the highway is flooded and hazardous and the Board reviewed photos already submitted. Discussion ensued with all Board members affirming their support for this effort, particularly given the regular road closures throughout West Marin this winter. Director Godino suggested that the Bolinas-Stinson Union School District also be approached to participate given the risks posed by the flooding to the school buses regularly driving between Stinson Beach and Bolinas. Director Comstock urged staff to properly frame this issue as one requiring an emergency declaration/repair given the clear risks to public health and safety.

#### **7. Marin Local Agency Formation Commission: *Call for Nominations for Interested Special District Members to Serve on Marin LAFCO.***

Staff apologized that the agenda item is inaccurate. It should have read: "Alternate Public Member Call for Applicants to Serve on Marin LAFCO." After a brief discussion, the Board directed staff to publish a notice in the Hearsay and on NextDoor to inform community residents about this opportunity.

#### **8. Water Supply Update.**

Nothing to report.

#### **9. Volunteer Committee Reports.**

-- *Bolinas Lagoon Advisory Committee*: Director Amoroso reported that a scheduled meeting of the committee was cancelled due to winter storms.

-- *Downtown Parking & Traffic Committee: Request for Appointment of New Members to Serve on the Committee*. This item was deferred as the committee has not yet formally submitted the names of new members to serve on the committee.

-- *Resource Recovery*: The Board reviewed correspondence from the Marin County Environmental Health Department indicating that the County’s Stormwater Pollution Protection Program and/or the Community Development Agency’s Environmental Review section will oversee “mitigation monitoring” at the Resource Recovery Project, meaning the enforcement of the current setbacks required from the drainage ditch at the perimeter of the site.

-- *West Marin Mosquito Control Coordinating Council*: Nothing to report.

-- *Land Stewardship Committee*: Director Siedman reported that a “broom pull” was held on Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 1 pm. Volunteers removed invasive non-native broom using hand tools. The committee is next scheduled to meet on February 24, 2017.

-- *Internet Access Committee*: Director Comstock reported that three potential internet service providers, along with the County’s consultant Peter Pratt and the Bolinas Fire Protection District’s Ian Johnson, all attended the most recent committee meeting. All three providers are interested in participating in the effort to improve broadband in Bolinas and the County is promoting the effort, as well. It appears that it is financially viable to have better internet access in Bolinas, but grant funding will be important – there is a possibility of grant funding from the California Public Utilities Commission, as Nicasio has done. Bolinas residents also will need to contribute financially, which then raises the question of whether the infrastructure installed to improve broadband should be publically-owned and open-access (vs. provider-owned and closed-access). As a public utility, the BCPUD is the logical entity to take on the role of public owner. Discussion ensued and the Board ultimately said the committee should evaluate the options re: ownership and access as part of its work, and make a recommendation to the Board for consideration.

**10. Other Business.**

a. Board Committee Reports.

-- *Finance: Q2 Financial Statements; Report on FY 2017-18 Draft Budget*. Staff said that the Q2 Financial Statements are not quite finalized, but the Finance Committee had its first substantive meeting to work on the FY 2017-18 draft budget and will be meeting again on February 28, 2017.

-- *Legal*: Director Siedman said several people have approached him about whether Bolinas could be a “sanctuary city” and he asked staff to pursue the topic with Supervisor Rodoni as perhaps the entire unincorporated area of Marin could be so designated.

-- *Mesa Septic, Flood Control and Roads*: Nothing to report.

-- *Operations*: Nothing to report

-- *Park and Recreation*: Nothing to report

-- *Personnel: Hiring of Shift Operator; Proposal for Temporary Part-Time Position*. Staff reported that Andrew Spalding has been hired as a new shift operator for the district. Staff requested Board approval for a temporary part-time position to assist the crew with water operations and septic/drainage work, with the cost to be funded by water revenues and septic/drainage reserves on an hours-worked basis. Staff also recommended that the district pay for this position to attain water treatment and distribution certification.

V. Amosoro/G. Godino      all in favor      to approve the temporary part-time position on an at-will basis.

-- *Sewer*: Nothing further to report.

b. Minutes of the January 18, 2017 regular Board meeting.

Director Comstock offered a clarifying correction to the draft minutes of the January 18, 2017 regular Board meeting.

L. Comstock/D. Smith      all in favor      to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2017 regular Board meeting, as amended.

c. Warrants.

D. Smith/L. Comstock                      all in favor                      to approve the warrant list.

d. Scheduling of Next Meeting(s):

March 15, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

The Board will also hold a special meeting on a date to be determined to consider whether to request to consolidate the district elections with the statewide elections (i.e., move from odd-numbered to even-numbered election year cycles).

**11. Adjournment.**

9:48 p.m.