

Chester Public Utility District  
PO Box 503  
251 Chester Airport Rd.  
Chester, Ca. 96020  
530-258-2171

**Minutes of Regular Meeting:** October 20, 2020 at 3:00pm. Located in the Chester Public Utility District conference room: 251 Chester Airport Road.

**Directors Present:** Steve Trotter, Royce Raker, Steve Voboril, and Steve Graffweg.

**Directors Absent:** Joe Waterman

**Guests Present:** none

**Staff Present:** 5 CPUD/CFD employees and volunteers.

1. **Call to Order:** Director Trotter called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.
  - a. Pledge led by Director Trotter
  - b. Agenda approval: Director Voboril made a motion to accept the agenda with no changes. Director Trotter seconded the motion. All in favor, agenda approved.
  
2. **Closed Session: Conference with Legal Counsel-Existing Litigation Gov. Code Section 54956.9d1:** 3:05pm.
  1. Chadwick Walker v. Chester Public Utility District
  2. Anthony Balbiani v. Chester Public Utility District
  
3. **Reconvene:** 3:14pm.
  
4. **Report on Closed Session:** Director Trotter stated that there was direction given for Chief Layne to work with legal counsel regarding submitting Public Record Requests to Chadwick Walker and Anthony Balbiani.
  
5. **Consent Calendar:** September 15, 2020 Minutes, September 2020 Financials, GM/Chief Report and Lead Supervisors report: Director Voboril asked that Financials be pulled from Consent Calendar for discussion. Director Voboril made a motion to accept all others listed. Director Graffweg seconded the motion. All ayes, consent calendar remaining items approved.  
September 2020 Financials: Director Voboril pointed out that Revenue for Fire for 606K for the year was incorrect. (page 6). Director Trotter and Chief Layne would like to see a "Reimbursable Overtime" General Ledger Line added to the financials and the budget. Director Voboril stated that Retiree Health within the Budget in the 600 account needs to be adjusted to recognize a medic that retired. Cheryl stated that she would get with CPA Mary Check regarding the GL and the 606K. Director Voboril made a motion to table the Financials until next meeting allowing time for the clarifications and amendments. Director Raker seconded the motion. All in favor, so tabled.
  
6. **Public Comment non-agenda items:** none.
  
7. **Public Comment agenda items:** none
  
8. **Finance Committee Update:** Director Voboril stated that they have not gotten a chance to go over quarterlies as of yet. Chief Layne stated that the delay in payments from the USFS and OES are due to a large and very busy fire season. Director Trotter recommended that Cheryl meet with

the Finance Committee and then get a recommendation from the committee at the next meeting, which is the special meeting to be scheduled for Monday at 1:00pm.

9. **Personnel Committee Update:** Director Trotter stated that at the special meeting/workshop this Monday, the GM job description, goals and objective and Board goals and objectives can be added to the policy list at that point. He would also like to dial in the Timeline and Hiring Process for the GM Position on that day as well.
10. **198 Main St. Lease Ad Hoc Committee Update:** Chief Layne stated that a letter was sent to the tenant as Certified, Return Receipt Requested. The tenant has 10 days left to respond. In the letter it stated that November 1 the rent will be \$700.00 per month through June 2021. The letter also referenced that firearms, alcohol, drugs nor cannabis will be tolerated on that property as part of the new lease agreement.
11. **Clean Water State Revolving Fund Waste Water Resolution #417.:** Paul from Pace Engineering was on the phone. He explained that this process keeps CPUD ahead of another cease and desist order from the regional board. This resolution states who can represent and act on behalf of the district during the Planning Grant Process. After a brief discussion, Director Voboril made a motion for Lead Supervisor, Allan Homme to be that representative and to approve Res. #417. Director Graffweg seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
12. **Streetlight Funding:** Chief Layne explained his idea for “Adopt a Streetlight”. He will get with district council and organize a package and check on legalities. Director Trotter suggested this topic be apart of the Workshop on Monday.
13. **CD Maturing October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020.:** Director Voboril stated that a .02% 6-Month term rollover is available through Plumas Bank. After a brief discussion, is was suggested that this topic be tabled and discussed at the Special Meeting Monday. Director Voboril made a motion to table any decisions regarding the CD. Director Graffweg seconded the motion. All in favor, so tabled.
14. **Correspondence:** The letter if interest for the GM position was requested by Director Trotter to also be discussed further at the Special Meeting Monday.

15. **Comments:**

**DIRECTORS:** Director Voboril stated that the Negotiating Ad Hoc Committee was left off of the agenda. His update is that the Committee wants to send a letter of intent to lay off. Due to a heavy fires season, the communications have been almost nil.

Director Graffweg apologized for his attendance at a previous meeting in his ill status. He is disappointed in the lack of remorse from previous management and BOD in regards to, in his opinion, poor decisions made: Golden Handshake, Creating PIO position, the Survey that was mailed out to the public regarding a potential property tax increase and the CFD Safety negotiations, etc. People need to be held accountable and the mind set of this board and GM needs to change, previously the mind set has been self-serving. He doesn't agree that a residential lot should pay the same in a property special assessment tax as a larger lot with a larger business on it. Etc.

Director Trotter stated that the community needs to do more to help support the Fire Department.

\*\*The meeting was adjourned prematurely at 4:25pm as “staff comments” were not addressed. Director Trotter asked that the meeting continue.

**STAFF:** Ryan Johnson, CFD FF/ EMT expressed that he was offended by the self-serving comment. Director Graffweg assured him it was in regards to previous management and BOD, not at all directed at staff. Director Trotter would like to see a section in the agenda specifically for Staff and their Reps. Johnson also stated that they are still in the organizing

phase with the Union. When there is a commitment with the Union, then negotiations will begin with management, who should be doing the negotiating on behalf of the District. He explained that there were issues with email responses not going through properly and that Joe Waterman was the only email address that worked successfully to the members of the Negotiating Ad Hoc Committee.

16. **Adjournment:** Director Trotter moved to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objections, meeting adjourned at 4:35pm.

Cheryl Johnson, CPUD Clerk to the Board.  
Approval of Minutes 