

Sierra Park Water News and Updates

Phone 209-533-7998

Volume 3.2

October 2015

Board of Directors 2014-2015

President	Kirk Knudsen
Vice President	Philip Barthman
Secretary	Wanda Lenhardt
Treasurer	Bill Ordwein
Human Resources	Heidi Ordwein

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www.sierraparkwater.com

PO Box 424, MiWuk Village, CA 95346

President's Message

Tampering with the water system is a crime

Our water system serves us all, and we all need to protect it. We have spent a significant amount repairing two recent breaks that are suspicious in nature.

Per US Statute 42 U.S.C 300i-1: Any person who tampers or attempts to tamper with a public water system may be imprisoned for 10-20 years, or fined in accordance with 18 U.S.C 3571, or both. The court may impose on such person a civil penalty of not more than \$1,000,000 for such tampering or not more than \$100,000 for such attempt or threat.

If you see or hear of anyone tampering with our water system, **report it immediately to the hotline number** and it will be addressed.

Though this fall weather is beautiful, nights are getting colder—it's time to winterize. To prevent cracked pipes, please take precautions by turning off your water at the main while the house is vacant. This is also the time of the year to check and complete maintenance on your water heater. And finally, if you will be away it's crucial to drain your pipes before going.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Because our communications budget has been constrained by the CPUC, this will be the final copy of the Water News to be sent by mail. Starting in November, a print copy will be posted at the Lodge after each Board meeting, and new documents will be available on our website. If you do not currently receive the newsletters via email but would like to start, please send us your email contact information to begin receiving monthly newsletters electronically. We regret the inconvenience this may cause to our customers, but have no other option open at this time.

Happy Halloween! -- Kirk Knudsen

Next SPWC Board Meeting will start at 8:30 AM on November 7th, 2015.



Water Services Contact Information

For any questions or information about water, please call the Water Company at 209-533-7998, reach us via email through the link on our website or by mail at:

Sierra Park Water Company
PO Box 424
MiWuk Village, CA 95346



Sierra Park Water Company Board of Directors Meeting Minutes for October 3, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 8:45 by President Knudsen.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Kirk Knudsen, Wanda Lenhardt, Heidi Ordwein and Bill Ordwein. Philip Barthman participated by telephone.

SHAREHOLDERS PRESENT: Michael Lechner, Mark Logan and Susie Lechner.

Others Present: None

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING: Heidi Ordwein made a motion to approve the August 1, 2015 Board of Director's meetings minutes. Bill Ordwein seconded the motion, which was then unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- A thank-you card from Gloria Harvey was received thanking the Board for their support during her time of loss.
- Two calls were received reporting water breaks, one of which was on private property.
- One contact regarding water restrictions.
- One contact requesting permission to pressure-wash a cabin in preparation for painting.
- One inquiry request from a realtor.
- Three contacts regarding annual bills.
- Three contacts regarding new owners.
- Several contacts regarding the anti-siphon valves.
- One escrow request was received.

WATER EMPLOYEE REPORT: Heidi Ordwein - John is in the process of getting licensed to drive large equipment. We have a new part-time employee, AJ Foster, who is concentrating on clearing the culverts in advance of winter rains. Another part-time employee was called away to fight wildfires.

DIRECTOR REPORTS:

President - Kirk Knudsen - Our case before the CPUC is ongoing. Tanks were cleaned and inspected; everything is in good shape. There was a water break on Deborah, which has been repaired. Boil Water Notices were issued to the limited number of residents affected, and then cleared by the State Water Resources; the Water Board continues to be supportive of Park operations and is in contact with the CPUC regarding our case.

Vice President - Phil Barthman - Nothing to report.

Secretary - Wanda Lenhardt - Two shares of stock were sold.

Treasurer - Bill Ordwein - The response to annual billing has been very good. Sixty-one properties have payments still outstanding. The CPUC ruling, when final, will have an impact on our budget. Final numbers are not available yet. This month's financial statement was not available at press time.

Human Resources - Heidi Ordwein will continue to track employee effort for both Water and Services Companies, and reconcile cost accrued to each company on a quarterly basis.

Director of Capital Improvements - Bill Ordwein - a Capital Improvements study is on hold, pending the CPUC ruling. The manganese removal plan is also on hold until then.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The Annual Meeting minutes will be finalized.
- The next newsletter will go out in October. This will be a large quarterly mailing that also includes the August board meeting minutes and minutes of the Annual Meeting.
- Financially, the Water Company has been conservative this year. Correspondence costs have been curtailed, capital improvements have been postponed, lease easement payments have been stopped, and we have had fewer water breaks than normal. The company is in good position to meet any potential budget requirements of the CPUC.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The County requires every house to have house numbers clearly displayed. It is important to the water company when water breaks occur, as it is vital that properties be identifiable for notification purposes. Property owners can pick up numbers from the Sheriff's Community Office at The Junction, or can install other numbers at their own expense.
- Tampering with the water system is a crime, and offenders will be held accountable by law. The cost of repairs frequently takes such vandalism into the range of a felony crime. John will photograph each broken line and file a report on conditions observed.
- The CPUC ruling scheduled for October 1st has been postponed again so the judge could make clarifications.
- Once the CPUC rules, the Water Company will be required to file tariff paperwork. Some of this is quite specialized and will require the help of a consultant familiar with the process. Some of it is more standardized and can be completed by the board. Michael Lechner will try to identify a tariffs specialist who can help with the filing.
- The board began preliminary discussion on the design and placement of the manganese removal system. We are communicating with the State Water Board on this.
- Once final tank inspection reports are received they will be filed with the Water Board.
- Hardcopy newsletters can no longer be sent to customers due to budget restrictions. The board will send a postcard to each property owner advising that hard copy communications will no longer be sent by mail. This notification will also be included in this newsletter's President's Message.

Closure: The board moved to Executive Session to discuss financial and legal matters at 10:13.

Executive Session ended 10:31. There was nothing to report.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32.

Water Company is ready for fall - are you?

Our tanks have been cleaned and inspected, and passed with flying colors - no repairs needed. A full report should be received in the next few weeks.

Water usage - average well production over the last 3 months has been 910,000 gallons. This is in line with past years. As the recent fires testify, we are still in a condition of extreme drought. Please continue to conserve and to use water wisely.

The manganese removal project is on hold until our budget is approved by the CPUC. A ruling is expected in December.

And finally, it's time to begin prepping your house for winter. We are all hoping for an early start to the rain and snow!



Sierra Park Water Company Board of Directors Meeting Minutes for August 1, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 8:42 by President Knudsen.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Kirk Knudsen, Philip Barthman, Heidi Ordwein and Bill Ordwein. Wanda Lenhardt participated by telephone.

SHAREHOLDERS PRESENT: Michael Lechner and Craig Wendt. Mark Logan joined the meeting in progress.

Others Present: None

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING: Philip Barthman made a motion to approve the June 6, 2015 Board of Director's meetings minutes. Heidi Ordwein seconded the motion which was then unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Letters - Linda Clark informed the Board that recent work was done well and with minimal disruption to her.
- Three contacts were received regarding billing, one of which included a change of address.
- One request received from a title company regarding an account status for escrow.
- Multiple requests were made for the vacuum breakers.
- One contact regarding a problem with turning on the water.

WATER EMPLOYEE REPORT: Heidi Ordwein - Nothing to report.

DIRECTOR REPORTS:

President - Kirk Knudsen provided an update on the water system. Everything is running smoothly with the California State Water Board. We continue to look into how to address the manganese levels.

Vice President - Phil Barthman - Nothing to report. All is well.

Secretary - Wanda Lenhardt - The newsletters were sent out. Arrangements were made with the bank to make new signature cards showing the current President, Vice President and Treasurer as signers.

Treasurer - Bill Ordwein - Payments for the annual bills are being received. There is nothing else to report at this time.

Human Resources - Heidi Ordwein reported that as of July 1 all employees must receive sick leave. This new law includes part-time employees, who are to receive one hour of sick leave for every 30 hours worked.

Director of Capital Improvement - Bill Ordwein updated the board regarding the need for future improvements. Detailed information will be provided as it becomes available.

OLD BUSINESS: None to discuss

NEW BUSINESS:

- Budget review - The SPWC expenditures and income were reviewed. Payments are late if received after this month.
- Capital Improvement schedule - The water tanks will be inspected this year. The exact date has not been scheduled but once it is residents and property owners will be notified. Nine valves were replaced on the west side of the Park. We have more that need to be replaced in time.
- Goals for the 2015 / 2016 year - Customer Service Committee: This will be discussed in a future meeting.

Closure: The board moved to Executive Session to discuss financial and legal matters at 10:20Z.

Executive Session ended 10:18. There was nothing to report.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:19.