FCMW

FISH CAMP MUTUAL WATER

WATER SYSTEM#: CA2210903

Fish Camp Mutual Water Company

Minutes of Meeting of the
Board of Directors of FCMWC
Held Wednesday, November 13, 2024
At LPL Financial,
465 E Fir Ave, Suite 105,
Fresno, California

The Notice and Agenda for this meeting was sent by email to the Directors on November 12, 2024.

The Notice and Agenda for this meeting was posted to the public on November 9, 2024 at

Fish Camp US Postal Service Office
Fish Camp General Store

by Jim Franklin.
A copy of the Certificate of Posting is included as Attachment A.

Agenda

1. **Administrative Items**

Meeting called to order at 4:05 p.m.

Directors present: Jeff Cerioni, Robert Frediani, Greg Baxter, Jim Franklin, Jim Christian, Wayne Childress
Present via telephone: Paul Sullivan, Mark Spencer
Directors absent: Rick Musto
A Quorum of the Board is present.

Request approval to record the meeting
All present approved the meeting being recorded.

Eligible Persons present: Thorn Hertwig, Co-Watermaster
Present via telephone: Jim Allen, Co-Watermaster

Review of Minutes of previous Board Meetings for revision and approval
2024.05.24 Board Meeting Minutes:
The Minutes were reviewed and approved.
It was noted that at that meeting a decision had been made to disconnect the water connection to the property of Lawrence Lowe due to several years of non-payment of water fees. However, the disconnection had not been delegated for action. Acting upon that oversight, Thorn was assigned to disconnect the Lowe property from the FCMWC system.

2024.05.25 Board Meeting Minutes:
The Minutes were reviewed and approved

2. **Water System Report and Well Status**
Thorn reported:
Well #1 is functioning fine but it is our primary well supplying water to our primary tanks and is running almost constantly.
Well #2 is offline due to iron contamination.
Well #3 is online, running almost full time during the Summer with occasional well-saver offline periods.
Well #4 is offline due to iron contamination

Jim Allen reported:
We are now converted from a Community Water System to a Transient Water System. This change reduces / eliminates many of the mandatory testing requirements, system inventory requirements, communication requirements, etc.

Jim A. noted the potential for features to enable more automated and remote control of water system infrasturcture operations. Jim A. and Thorn will work on the Scope of Work for this project, determing features and benefits, priorities, estimated costs, etc. and then will inform the Board of the Scope of Work.

Jim A. recommended that we participate in Underground Service Alert (aka USA Locates), a service to register our system infrastructure so that any work done, e.g. by contractors, telephone company, sewer system, etc. in our community will have access to information about the location of our wells, pumps, pipes, electrical lines, communications lines, etc. before doing work, the intent being to **not** damage any FCMWC infrastructure. The cost to register is around $300 per year. Thorn and Jim A. will collaborate to activate this service for us by the end of this year.

Jim A. discussed a service with which to send a telephone message to FCMWC Members if there is an issue with the water quality or water system. The discussion included noting that we do **not** have telephone numbers for all Members. Accepting the reality of that gap of contact info, the decision is to implement the service, to the extent that we can.

Jim A.has been sending his bills to Thorn and Thorn then forwards the billing information to Greg (Treasurer).
Jim A. proposed that he send his bills (time, purchases, etc.) directly to Greg. The Board agreed with Jim A.'s proposal.

Jim A. discussed the new Cross-Connection Control Program
The primary issue is certification, done by a specialist, that there are no backflow vulnerabilities in our (any) water system. Jim A. will do more research on this issue.
Compliance with this program is due by July of 2025.

3. **Treasurer's Report**
Greg reported that as of October 31 FCMWC had $200,601.
There will be several charges to be paid between now and the end of 2024.
There are 6 Members who have not yet paid their $1000 Water Fee for 2024.
Paul moved that the FCMWC invest around $150,000 in CDs that generate interest revenue. The motion includes the requirement that the 4 Board Executives (Jeff, Robert, Greg, and Jim F.) be involved in the specific investment decisions.

4. **Proposal to eliminate the special assessment for Vacation Rentals**
Administrative nuisance, small amount of revenue (≈$5,000)
Propose charging all Members equally (part time, full time, vacation rental)
After discussion about the basis for the Vacation Rental charges, the key factor guiding the VR charge is that there are commercial operations in Fish Camp using the FCMWC system. It is commonplace that municipalities charge commercial operations more for community services.

Jim F. moved that the Vacation Rental per bedroom fee be eliminated. The Motion was voted down. The policy remains in place, unchanged.

This will produce around $5,000 revenue from the Vacation Rental Fee in 2025.

5. **Determine Budget for 2025**
Assess current balance, anticipated spending, and prudent reserves in order to set 2025 Annual Member Fee
Current balance is about $190,000
Typical annual spending for expensese: $60,000
Water System Fee - 2023: $900
Water System Fee - 2024: $1000
Around 80 Members

A Motion was made to set the 2025 Water System Fee to $1000. The Motion passed.

At around 80 Members, that will produce around $80,000 revenue in 2025.

Given approximate amounts

Current Balance:	$190,000
Typical Annual Expenses:	-$60,000
2025 Water System Fee Revenue	+$80,000
2025 Vacation Rental Fee Revenue:	+$5,000
Estimated Balance at end of 2025:	=$215,000

It was noted that if / when we develop a new well that we will have expenses of around $200,000 to pay for that project
It was also noted that our Members approved a Motion at the May 25, 2024 Members Meeting authorizing the Board to implement a Special Assessment of up to $2,000 per Member. That would produce revenue of around $160,000.

6. **New Well: status and planning / next steps**
Jim Christian, Thorn Hertwig, and Jim Allen spoke about this topic.
The following Minutes include entries that are briefly stated about assorted topics that came up duing the dialog.
Important to have 2 wells for drinking water and fire suppression.
Jim Christain spoke with Art Baggett (sp?) of the Mariposa Water Board. Jim indicated that Baggett was dismissive about some of the potential solutions that Jim mentioned.
Distance between 2 wells or well and septic system must meet requirements. Details, variances, State vs. County requirements.
Presently we are considering a location that is on land that the FCMWC owns.near the Laurel tanks. That location is **not** at a County approved distance from 1 or more other wells.
Annular seal - possible mitigating element in the well to achieve acceptable distance from other wells or septic systems.
Packer - method for detecting differing water quality at different

depths within a well.
Challenge between trying to improve a problem well vs. drill a new well, feasibility and cost.
At the suggetion of Jim Allen, Jim Christian will apply for a permit to develop a well at the Laurel location. The County may reject this but that would give FCMWC a case to pursue the reasons and to try to negotiate viable options with the County.
Jim Allen, Thorn Hertwig, and Jeff Cerioni offered to work with Jim Christian on the language and details for the County application for a permit.

7. **Any other issues to discuss?**
Thorn asked if he shall continue as a Co-Watermaster.
The Board's response to Thorn is a resounding "Yes!"

8. **Meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.**

Publication of Minutes of the Meeting

Draft Minutes from the meeting will be available within 30 days after the meeting at the FCMWC web site:
www.fishcampwater.org/minutes-and-agenda

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Certificate of Posting of Notice and Agenda for a Meeting of the Board of Directors

Meeting date and time:

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 4 p.m.

Meeting location:

LPL Financial, 465 E Fir Ave, Suite 105, Fresno, California
North east of the intersecton of Herndon Ave and Fresno St.
East of Chili's Restaurant

I, the undersigned, hereby affirm that I posted a copy of the Notice and Agenda for the Meeting of the FCMWC Board of Directors.

The Notice and Agenda was posted at two places in the community of Fish Camp, California:

Fish Camp General Store	Date Posted: Nov 9, 2024
Fish Camp USPS Office	Date Posted: Nov 9, 2024

My name and title or position with Fish Camp Mutual Water Company is

James R. Franklin, Secretary for the Board of Directors

Signature: ___James R. Franklin___________________

Date Signed: _November 9, 2024____________________

Attachment A
to the Minutes for the November 13, 2024 Board Meeting