

Minutes of Special Meeting
Los Carneros Water District
Special Meeting, July 13, 2021 – 6:00 PM

Meeting Location: Napa Sanitation District, 1515 Soscol Ferry Road, Napa, CA 94558

Live Stream Via Zoom

<https://countyofnapa.zoom.us/j/97388002084>

1. Roll Call: Directors **Deyermond, Drayton, Lincoln, Turnipseed, Walker, Wilkinson** present. Director **Jones** Absent
2. Public Comment: Public comment was directed into the individual agenda items.
3. Hear from NSD if the property at 1590 Los Carneros Avenue's water usage for June is above normal and decide if any Board action should be taken.

A graph was shown indicating less water use in 2021 than in 2020. Mr Damron was asked if the parcel is connected illegally in some fashion. He responded that the property passed the cross-check test and that chlorine strips showed that recycled water was not being used outside of the district.

A member of the public raised that the parcel was pumping recycled water into their well and had reduced the people living at the house on the property from 6 to 1 which might explain the reduction in the water use at the site.

The Board encouraged Napa Sanitation to keep an eye on water use at the parcel to ensure it continues to follow the rules. It also encouraged the member of the public and former tenant who raised concerns about the appropriate use of recycled water to inform the County Health Department

4. Discussion around the application of the Administrative Guidelines to allow the use of a pond on a separate parcel (also in the LCWD) to store recycled LCWD water for later use.

Director Walker raised a motion to temporarily allow the use of this water as described to the Board until such a time as the Administrative Guidelines can be updated to reflect the permissible use of the water in this fashion. Motion seconded by Director Drayton. Motion passed 5 Aye, 1 Abstain, 1 Absent.

Director Drayton raised a motion to reconvene a committee to examine changing the Administrative Guidelines to take account of the water storage situation as described. 2nd by Director Deyermond. Motion passed 5 Ayes, 1 Abstain, 1 Absent

Committee consists of Directors Drayton and Turnipseed

5. Discussion and possible action to form a subcommittee to reach out to non-connected LCAD members and encourage them to submit an application immediately to NapaSan to connect to the pipeline.

A member of the public commented that a further 140 acres of their land in the LCAD is still to be planted

Directors Lincoln, Turnipseed and Wilkinson offered to form an Outreach Subcommittee to encourage LCAD members to connect.

Motion Raised to form Outreach Subcommittee by Director Deyermond, Seconded by Director Walker. Motion passed 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent

Mr Damron from Napa San offered to help and correspond with the Subcommittee on some of the details on who has still to connect.

6. Discussion and possible action to form a subcommittee to evaluate the feasibility and make a recommendation related to the topic of allowing non-LCAD members who have storage ponds and who have parcels which are contiguous with LCAD parcels to purchase winter recycled water delivered through the LCWD pipeline, provided they make an equitable payment for use of the pipeline which would be applied toward retiring the remaining debt. Such equitable payment should take into consideration the overall pipeline costs after subtracting off the portion of those costs which were paid by grants. The subcommittee should engage Tracy

Schulze in the course of establishing the "equitable payment amount."

Director Drayton raised potential environmental benefits of using recycled water in Carneros more widely

Director Walker asked for clarification about how this issue came up in front of the Board in the first place (it was raised as a Future Agenda Item by Director Wilkinson at the previous meeting)

Counsel Apallas said it would potentially be possible to charge newcomers to the district by using the "connection fee"

Director Lincoln raised that new users could pay for the assessment for the year in which they take water

Public Comment:

Member of Public 1 was concerned that this was setting up some kind of entitlement and that it could encourage more illegal use of the water. They warned that this was a slippery slope.

Member of Public 2 raised that only 43 acres of their parcel is in the district boundary. They opted out because their parcel is landlocked, and they are already connected to the Sonoma pipeline instead. However, Sonoma is not offering winter water.

Member of the Public 3 raised that they have a small 10-acre parcel at the end of Bayview but they were never offered the opportunity to connect because other more proximal landowners opted out of the district. They now have to truck in water which is very costly and means large trucks regularly have to drive through the district. They would like to stop having to do this. They raised that many on Bayview were not able to join the district because of proximal landowner opt-outs. They were dropped when it came to the engineering phase i.e. they did not opt out themselves but were forced out.

Director Lincoln raised that his employer would like to opt into a scheme to use water outside of the district if it ever became available. They are currently also trucking water and have used 3500 gallons of diesel to do so YTD. He believes that the rules could be written in such a way as there would not be abuse of the system.

Director Wilkinson commented that there seemed to be valid reasons on both sides of the argument.

Member of the Public 4 echoed previous comments that opening the water use outside of the LCAD is a slippery slope. They said that the Board should not start the process to examine this. They also raised the point that there are lots of large landowners and it is not clear who the land is sold to – the Board should not create a new taskforce that is liable to create rumors about water use.

Director Lincoln moved to create a Subcommittee to start conversations exploring the use of LCWD water outside of the district in limited circumstances. Motion 2nd by Director Deyermond. Motion passed with 4 Ayes, 2 Nays, 1 Absent. The Winter Water subcommittee consists of Directors Drayton, Lincoln and Walker

Director Wilkinson asked about how we would pay for any extra exploration of this idea (in fees to Ms. Schulze, Carollo Engineers or Counsel Apallas). He also expressed regret that the decision was made and that he shouldn't have raised it in the first place.

7. Future Agenda Items:

Report back from Administrative Guidelines Subcommittee

Report back from Outreach Subcommittee

Report back from Winter Water subcommittee

8. Adjourn to the Regular Meeting of October 12, 2021.

Submitted by Secretary William M Drayton

Approved Date _____