

Regular Board Meeting – December 13, 2023

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT: Office Operations

- a. The Public Hearing/Town Hall Meeting was held on November 16th at Montgomery Hall-Cuyama Valley Recreation District Center. The PowerPoint presentation was well received. Protests submitted by homeowners and businessowners were counted. Final total of protests for water rate increases was 13, and final total of protests for the surcharge was 10. The rate increase process was done in proper accordance with Proposition 218 requirements. Monthly base rate and water usage charge increases will take effect on January 20, 2024 and surcharge on February 1, 2024.
- b. CCSD has received twenty batch payments for California Low Income Household Water Assistance Program, total amount of \$24,591.84. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has approved CSD’s extension of the obligation deadline for LIHWAP funds through the end of March 31, 2024.
- c. I submitted invoices to contractors for water sales for construction and dust control purposes. Total sales to date are \$10,548.00.
- d. I have spent much time working to collect reimbursement from Santa Barbara County for CCSD’s field staff and operator services during the Cuyama Fire Station Project. Finally, there has been a response. I provided clarification of the invoices to the County Project Manager; all line items are reimbursements only to CCSD for assistance to County contractors for the Project, and there were no extra charges. The amount due is \$4,960.68.
- e. In addition, Santa Barbara County had made arrangements with the U.S. Forest Service for the County Fire Department to use the trailer at 60 Newsome during construction of the new fire station. CCSD has not received payment from the County for those water and sewer services. I hesitated to terminate services since it was being used for public service. The situation has been resolved. Santa Barbara County Fire Department will pay all arrears and will continue services at that location.
- f. Office operations have remained very busy this past month.

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT: Field Operations

- a. The ARWTP filter system is working effectively for treatment of arsenic removal. The lab result of the Water Plant effluent sample taken on November 14th was 5.70 ppb, while the arsenic level of Water Well #1 was 43.7 ppb.
- b. Field staff made repairs and replaced the water line to the meter at 4614 Morales Street.
- c. Routine service and maintenance are done on a daily basis. Overall, field operations of the water and sewer systems are in good shape.