

ALTO SANITARY DISTRICT

Meeting Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors, Wednesday, 24 April 2023

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Secretary/Treasurer Marc Nash called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

Other board Members present: Director Todd Gates, Director Mike Faust, Director Porter Merriman

Board Members absent: President Janis Bosenko

Staff present: Manager Bill Hansell

2. Visitors to the Meeting and Open Time for Public Expression:

No comments were received.

3. Consent Calendar:

a. Minutes of the Meeting of 03/22/2023.

b. Financial Reports for March 2023 and the April 2023 Lists of Payments

Motion: To adopt the agenda as presented with one revision to the meeting minutes.

Moved: Gates, Seconded by Merriman

Vote: Ayes: Faust, Gates, Merriman, Nash

Nays: None

Absent: Bosenko

4. New Business:

a. SASM's Cash for Sewers Program – Director Gates explained that the grant and loan program was discussed at the last SASM Board Meeting and a subcommittee was tasked with looking into modifications for the program. Gates is serving on the committee with Peter McIntosh, President of the Richardson Bay Sanitary District. Gates described the history of the program and similar programs which other agencies provide. Currently, SASM allocates \$50,000 per year to the program out of an \$8M budget. The committee is exploring the following: How can payments go directly to the contractors for those who need it? Should the limits be raised? Is the loan administration worth the trouble versus grants?

Hansell stated his suggestion that the program needs to be fairly offered to all residents. President McIntosh shared his support for the program. Nash suggested graduated grants based on need instead of loans. Gates emphasized that the program is just not that large and shouldn't be a problem. Merriman suggested that the program be simplified, which will make it more efficient and popular. Gates summarized the suggestions as: 1) Raise the amount for repairs, 2) Pay contractors directly, 3) Eliminate income criteria for grants and create a graduated grant program, 4) Use grants only, 5) Budget amount quarterly and roll-over funds annually, 6) Raise budget over \$50K, 7) Should the program be SASM's or the individual agencies or both, 8) Application should be online, 9) Acquire past utilization data.

b. FY2021-2022 Audit – Item postponed until the May 2023 Board Meeting.

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- c. Capital Improvement Project FY2022-2023 – Hansell shared an update on the progress from Nute Engineering. The typical questions on County paving requirements are being determined, i.e. how much street will have to be repaved based on the scope of work. The bid package has been advertised. The bid recommendation will come to the Board for the 05/24/2023 meeting.
5. **Manager’s Report:** Hansell reviewed the operations business since the last meeting. An advocacy letter from a group of sewer agencies to the Governor calling for continued funding support for SB 1383 was signed by Hansell and shared with the Board. The next LAFCo Municipal Services Review that includes SASM agencies was discussed. One of the problem issues raised by the LAFCo administrator is that Alto has never had a contested election for Board seats, which he sees as an impediment to its continuation as an independent special district.
 6. **Reports on Outside Meetings:**
 - a. SASM Board Meeting of 04/20/2023 – Gates discussed the annual planning meeting and the various upcoming issues which SASM faces, including State Water Board reporting requirements and regulations. In particular, the issue of the disposal of solids will be future challenge.
 - b. District Managers Meeting of 04/12/2023 – Canceled
 7. **Future Agenda Items:** Gates will present the Cash For Sewers recommendations to the SASM Board and will then bring it back to the Alto Board.
 8. **Directors Open Time:** Director Gates will be out of town for the May Board Meeting. Director Porter will be out of town for the June and possibly the July Board Meetings.
 9. **Adjournment:**

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm.
Moved: Merriman, Seconded by Faust
Vote: Ayes: Faust, Gates, Merriman, Nash
Nays: None
Absent: Bosenko

Minutes respectfully submitted by Bill Hansell.

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE SASM CONFERENCE ROOM, 450 SYCAMORE AVE, MILL VALLEY, CA AT 7:30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2023, AND NOTICED IN ADVANCE PER THE BROWN ACT ON THE DISTRICT’S WEBSITE.