

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FOUNTAIN HILLS SANITARY DISTRICT**

The Board of Directors of the Fountain Hills Sanitary District and Town Council of the Town of Fountain Hills met in a **Joint Work/Study Session** on **Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 5:30** p.m. in the Town Council Chambers located at 16705 E. Avenue of the Fountain Hills, AZ 85268.

CALL TO ORDER

The following Directors were present:

Chairman Tom Reski, Vice Chairman Greg Dudash, Director Jerry Butler, Director Michael Maroon, and Director Robert Thomson.

The following Town Council Members were present:

Mayor Linda Kavanagh, Councilmember Henry Leger, Councilmember Alan Magazine, Councilmember Art Tolis, Councilmember Cecil Yates, and Councilmember Nick Deporter (telephonically).

The following Executive Staff members from the Sanitary District were present:

Dana Trompke, District Manager and Bill Sullivan, Legal Counsel.

The following Executive Staff members from the Town of Fountain Hills were present:

Grady Miller, Town Manager and Mitesh V. Patel with Dickinson Wright, Legal Counsel.

Agenda Item No. 1

Update regarding the Sanitary District's project to install recharge well control rooms/restrooms at Fountain Park.

District Manager informed the Council and Board that the District has (3) Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) wells constructed within the boundaries of Fountain Park. The well control equipment is housed in three separate, buried metal vaults on top of each well location. Due to the age of the vaults and surrounding soil conditions, the vaults have severely corroded, creating hazardous working conditions for District staff.

The District is proposing to move the equipment above grade into a small control room. The District would attach this control room to rest rooms or some type of facility to mask the building so half of the building would house the equipment and the other half would be a restroom. These restrooms would be donated to the Town for their use. District Manager met with Town Manager Miller, Community Services Director Goodwin, and Parks Superintendent

Snipes to discuss the project and agreed to move forward with Well No. 2 and Well No. 4. Restrooms will be designed to be similar to the existing restroom. Well #1 is located near the great lawn and flood channel, and will take further planning.

District has placed a public notice in the Times for Request for Proposal from architects. The District will provide the Town opportunity to comment on the conceptual design. Construction is targeted for May 2019.

District Manager and Town Manager answered questions from the Council and Board members.

Agenda Item No. 2

Discussion relating to the opportunity to streamline permit process between the Town and Sanitary District.

Town Manager informed the Council and Board that all of the Town building permits are shared with the District. It has been found that over the years there are items, such as water heater installations, solar panels, and issues that don't involve sewer connections. Town staff thought that the process could be streamlined. Peter Johnson, Chief Building Official, indicated that in years past people would come in for a building permit and would have to wait until the District signed off on it. The Town would like to be able to issue permits for items that do not involve sewer lines without the District and accommodate customers. Town staff and District staff will get together and decide which permits do and do not need to be reviewed by the District.

Agenda Item No. 3

Discussion regarding Town notification of any proposed development projects with increased densities that might impact the Sanitary District in the delivery of sanitary sewer services.

District Manager requests that when a large development is proposed such as a Park Place, State Trust Land, assisted living, or multi-use facility or when parcels are being considered for increased densities, that the District is notified as soon as possible. Any of these large developments can change the densities and affect the capacity of the immediate sewer as well as require additional treatment capacity.

Town Council questioned the District Manager if the District had sufficient capacity to serve 1600 homes on the State Trust Land. The District Manager stated that the State Trust Land was not currently within the District's boundaries and that the District was able to plan expansions for the development of 1350 homes, as proposed by the previous developer. At this time, the District could not confirm how it would serve a development of more than 1350 new homes, but Director Dudash stated it was the District's intent to work with the future developer to do so.

District Manager informed the Council and Board that the District intends to include a Master Plan study for the 2018/2019 fiscal year and will have a better idea how much available treatment capacity the District's main plant has and how much additional capacity could be added to the land-locked treatment plant site. The amount of treatment capacity available to service the State Trust Land also depends on future projects and densities that may be proposed within the District's current boundaries.

Agenda Item No. 4

Discussion of possible collaboration on improving irrigation at Fountain Park.

Town Manager informed the Council and Board that the Town draws water for its irrigation of the park's grass from the lake with very high sodium content. The concentration of salt keeps increasing due to the large, stagnant volume of the lake. The Town had an irrigation consultant provide a report in 2016 to see what can be done to make improvements. One of the recommendations was to have a separate storage tank where the grass' irrigation water can be drawn and the water delivered directly from the District's Advanced Water Treatment Facility.

Councilmember Leger stated that a few years ago an IGA was started for the District to take over operation of Fountain Lake from the Town, but the IGA was dropped. He would like for the District and Town to revisit the IGA. Chairman Reski stated that the District would be willing to revisit the discussion of the District taking over the operation of the lake.

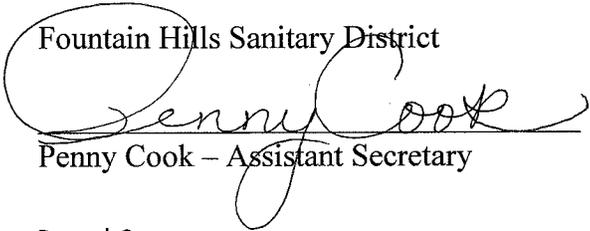
Agenda Item No. 5

Discussion regarding the impact of water softeners on the sanitary sewer system and users of reclaimed water.

District Manager stated that the salt concentration in the District's reclaimed water primarily comes from property owner's water softeners. She also stated that some communities are banning water softeners for this reason. The District is going to begin more education and outreach efforts to make people aware of what the effects are of water softeners.

After a discussion of alternative water softener media, Councilmember Yates indicated that having a dialog with local suppliers of water softener supplies would be a feasible first step.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Fountain Hills Sanitary District

Penny Cook – Assistant Secretary