

**SQUAW VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES #855  
May 28, 2019**

*Agenda & Board Packet: <https://www.svpsd.org/board-agenda-may-2019>*

**A. Call to Order, Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance.** President Dale Cox called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**Directors Present:** Directors: Dale Cox, Bill Hudson, Victoria Mercer and Eric Poulsen

**Directors Absent:** Director Fred Ilfeld

**Staff Present:** Thomas Archer, District Counsel; Jessica Asher, Board Secretary; Mike Geary, General Manager; Danielle Grindle, Finance & Administration Manager; Jessica Grunst, Account Clerk II/HR Specialist; Fabienne Gueissaz, Office Supervisor; Dave Hunt, District Engineer; Allen Riley, Fire Chief; Tyler Trojan, Junior Engineer.

**Others Present:** Jeff Collins, Gate DeMattei, Patty Heck, Charles Heath (via phone), Alaina Henry, Karen Floyd, Randy Floyd, Jean Lange, Susan Lisagor, David Stepner, Peter Werbel, Sal Monforte

President Cox asked Patty Heck to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B. Community Informational Items.**

**B-1** Friends of Squaw Creek (FOSC) – None.

**B-2** Friends of Squaw Valley (FOSV) – David Stepner provided an update. FOSV continues to support the Olympic Meadow Preserve (OMP) project. The group is trying to organize a fire evacuation drill.

**B-3** Squaw Valley Design Review Committee (SVDRC) – None.

**B-4** Squaw Valley Municipal Advisory Council (SVMAC) – David Stepner provided an update. SVMAC and the North Tahoe Regional Advisory Council (NTRAC) voted for approval of the base-to-base gondola with some conditions.

**B-5** Squaw Valley Mutual Water Company (SVMWC) – David Stepner provided an update. The MWC has revised the shutoff procedure for water service to protect renters and is working with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) on the loan application which was delayed due to the government shutdown.

**B-6** Squaw Valley Property Owners Association – None.

**B-7** Mountain Housing Council of Tahoe Truckee – Director Poulsen stated that the Housing Council's quarterly meeting is on June 14, 2019.

**B-8** Tahoe-Truckee Sanitation Agency (T-TSA) – Director Cox provided an update. The sewer main digital scanning project is underway. T-TSA is transitioning from direct billing its customers for user fee collection to collecting fees through property taxes. T-TSA is contracting for these services with the three counties in which T-TSA provides service. T-TSA is negotiating land exchanges between the agency and the Airport District. The agency continues to focus on paying down the CalPERS Unfunded Accrued Liability (UAL). A contractor has been secured for the office remodel project.

**B-9** Capital Projects Advisory Committee (CAP) – Ms. Grindle provided an update. The next meeting is on Thursday, May 30, 2019 beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Tahoe City Public Utility Department. There will be 15 project applicant presentations. The Committee is expected to make recommendations to the County Board of Supervisors at their meeting on June 5, 2019.

**B-10** Creekside Charter – None

**C. Public Comment/Presentation.**

Public Comment – None

Item F-5 was taken out of order

**F-5 Residential Garbage Service Contract**

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comments, and adopted Resolution 2019-07, awarding the residential garbage service contract to Tahoe Truckee Sierra Disposal Company (TTSD).

[Staff Report Available on the SVPSD Website.](#)

Danielle Grindle reviewed the staff report. The terms of the agreement contain no substantive changes other than a rate increase which is primarily due to the cost of labor. TTSD's rate increase is to the District is 4% for the coming year which. The District's rate increase to its customers is 3%, the maximum allowed under the five-year Proposition 218 notice approved by the Board in 2017.

Director Poulsen thanked Jeff Collins and stated that the relationship between TTSD and the District has been long and mutually beneficial. Director Poulsen asked how the difference in rates will be paid. Ms. Grindle responded that contributions to the Garbage Fixed Asset Replacement Fund (FARF) scheduled in fiscal year 2019-20 will be used to bridge the difference in rate increases.

Director Hudson asked if Mr. Collins could review some of the major concerns in the industry. Mr. Collins responded that there are several challenges including recyclables, backhauling, food waste, and labor. Director Hudson asked if Olympic Valley would have green waste bins soon. Mr. Collins responded that it is possible if the District desires this feature, however, there are advantages and disadvantages that would need to be explored.

Public Comment –

Jean Lange asked who owns the dump land. Mr. Collins responded that it is owned by Placer County.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2019-07 and award the residential garbage service contract to Tahoe Truckee Sierra Disposal Company was made by Director Hudson and seconded by Director Poulsen. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed.

Cox – Yes  
Hudson – Yes  
Ilfeld – Absent  
Mercer – Yes  
Poulsen – Yes

Item E was taken out of order.

**E. Approve Minutes.**

**E-1 Minutes for the Board of Directors meeting of April 30, 2019.**

The Board reviewed the minutes, accepted public comments, and approved the minutes for the Board of Directors meeting of April 30, 2019.

[Minutes for the Board of Directors meeting of April 30, 2019 on the SVPSD Website.](#)

Public Comment – none

A motion to approve the minutes for the Board of Directors meeting of April 30, 2019 was made by Director Hudson and seconded by Director Mercer. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes  
Hudson – Yes  
Ilfeld – Absent  
Mercer – Yes  
Poulsen – Yes

**E-2 Minutes for the Board of Directors meeting of May 16, 2019.**

The Board reviewed the minutes, accepted public comments, and approved the minutes for the Board of Directors meeting of May 16, 2019.

[Minutes for the Board of Directors meeting of May 16, 2019 on the SVPSD Website.](#)

Public Comment – none

Director Poulsen noted that he will abstain from approving the minutes as he was not in attendance due to a conflict of interest with an ownership interest in 325 Squaw Valley Road.

A motion to approve the minutes for the Board of Directors meeting of May 16, 2019 was made by Director Hudson and seconded by Director Mercer. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes  
Hudson – Yes  
Ilfeld – Absent  
Mercer – Yes  
Poulsen – Abstain

Item F-1 was taken out of order.

**F-1 Olympic Meadow Property – Project Update.**

The Board received an update on the Project and accepted public comment.

[Staff Report Available on the SVPSD Website.](#)

Director Poulsen left the room due to conflict of interest with an ownership interest in the property.

Mike Geary and Dave Hunt delivered a slideshow presentation.

Public Comment:

Jean Lange asked for an estimate of the anticipated voter turnout. Charles Heath, TBWB Strategies, responded that he estimated more than 50% of registered voters would cast a ballot.

Randy Floyd asked for clarification of the ownership percentages of each entity (SVPSD and Truckee Donner Land Trust (TDLT)). Mike Geary responded that the SVPSD will own 100% of the land. Mr. Floyd asked how TDLT was contributing to the project, including financially. Mr. Geary responded that since the District does not have a budget for parks services the Land Trust has been providing all of the required investment thus far including deposits for the real estate transaction and consultant contracts. The Land Trust will also be helping to complete the initial capital improvements and providing many other services such as helping procure grants and private fundraising.

Peter Werbel asked if the tax would decrease if large donations were made to the acquisition. Mr. Geary responded that if the fundraising is more successful than projected, the Board could adopt a resolution to decrease the maximum special tax assessed on all land uses.

Susan Lisagor asked if the \$284 tax for residential homeowners included the cost to maintain structures or only acquire the land. Mr. Geary responded that a review of the budget is included in the presentation. The tax measure will finance land acquisition and park maintenance with new structures (e.g., restroom building and pavilion). The budget used for the public financing process does not include funds to maintain the existing structures.

Ms. Lisagor asked if there would be any way to assist low-income homeowners. Mr. Geary responded that he was unsure.

Mr. Floyd asked how escalating costs are reconciled. Mr. Geary responded that there is a 2% escalator on the tax. Mr. Floyd asked if the public financing includes capital improvements. Mr. Geary responded that the presentation includes detailed information on capital improvements included in the budget used for the public financing process.

Mr. Floyd asked if a property owner does not pay their tax, would that burden shift to other taxpayers or prolong payments. Mr. Geary confirmed that the burden could shift to other

taxpayers or prolong payments but added that mitigation measures in the Rate and Method of Apportionment (RMA) will limit that risk.

David Stepner asked if the budget included funds to demolish the house if the community did not support keeping the existing structures in the master plan. Mr. Geary responded that there were.

Jean Lange confirmed a typo in the presentation – the community outreach will not conclude in July as stated on the Election Planning Timeline.

Mr. Floyd asked what local newspaper publishes public notices. Mr. Geary responded that it is the Sierra Sun.

Mr. Werbel asked how the special tax distributions were determined, specifically for non-residential parcels. Mr. Geary responded that it is important to ensure the tax is fair for commercial properties and to earn their support. Improvements and maintenance expenses were minimized to hold the residential parcel tax under \$300 and keep the non-residential taxes as low as possible. Mr. Werbel asked how many acres the ski facility owns. Director Hudson said he is unsure, but the ski facility is paying approximately \$289,000 per year in the first year. Mr. Werbel asked if there was a Plan B if the measure did not pass. Mr. Geary said there is not a viable Plan B.

Ms. Lisagor asked if TDLT will use their resources to promote the Project. Mr. Geary confirmed the support of the Land Trust and their resources during the campaign phase and said TBWB Strategies will also consult during the campaign phase.

Mr. Floyd asked who determines how much tax is levied. Mr. Geary responded that the Board has set the maximum that can be levied, \$284 for residential parcels, with a 2% annual escalator. The tax cannot exceed the maximum special tax if approved by voters in November. However, the Board can set a lower tax if the full revenue is not required to pay expenses. If the vision resulting from the master planning process requires funding beyond the revenues generated by the maximum special tax, a different funding source will need to be identified.

Mr. Floyd stated that it is more logical to allow the parcel to be developed to generate additional property tax revenue, rather than raise taxes and prevent development. Mr. Geary responded that it appears many in the community do not support further residential or commercial development. Additionally, since the District has been asked to provide parks services, developing the property as an open space asset allows the District an opportunity to provide this service.

Mr. Werbel asked if the park is for homeowners and if there will there be a user fee for non-residents. Mr. Geary responded that fee determinations have not been made, but that the park will be public and added that parks make a community better.

David Stepner asked if PlumpJack was the only hotel. Mr. Geary responded that it is. Mr. Stepner clarified that when entitled projects such as the Village at Squaw Valley Specific Plan, the Resort at Squaw Creek Phase 2, and the Palisades are developed, the District will receive additional property tax revenue. As currently projected, the parks operations budget will be constant and the maximum special tax collected by the District can be reduced. Mr. Geary responded that the Board can levy less than the maximum special tax. Director Hudson responded that the Board's objective is to collect the least amount of special tax necessary to deliver a level of service expected by the community, particularly as more revenue is generated. Mr. Stepner said that with the 1,500 units proposed at the Village and 66 homes at Palisades, many people in the Valley support open space and do not want more development. Susan Lisagor added that fire safety is another important issue in response to limiting development.

Director Poulsen returned to the room.

Item F-9 was taken out of order.

**F-9 Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA) – Status Report.**

The Board received an update and accepted public comment.

[Staff Report Available on the SVPSD Website.](#)

The District's Five-Year Strategic Plan's Work Plan included two updates on the TROA. Jim Eto, Jesus Esparza, and Tom Scott from the California Department of Water Resources provided an update on the current status of TROA's implementation.

Dave Hunt noted that the District's PlumpJack Well Project was the first well to be processed under the provisions of the recently implemented TROA. Director Poulsen asked if the PlumpJack Well will be operated differently than the older SVPSD wells due to the TROA. Mr. Hunt responded that there are no differences anticipated.

Director Hudson asked how the flow from Lake Tahoe to the Truckee River is managed. Tom Scott responded that there are minimum and maximum flows that must be maintained throughout the year.

**D. Financial Consent Agenda Items.**

Directors Hudson and Ifeld convened with staff on May 24, 2019 however the meeting was adjourned without discussing items on the Financial Consent Agenda.

Ms. Grunst highlighted select payments within the Operating Check Register numbers 46957-47019 and ACH payments. Ms. Grindle reviewed Items D2 – D8. Items of note include that property and liability insurance rates increased by 6%. The Fire Department received \$89,000 in revenue for providing a Strike Team at the Camp Fire in 2018. Labor costs for the Olympic Meadow Preserve project now total \$26,000. The District received the second installment of property tax revenue. The County paid the District for its expenses providing bike trail snow

removal services during the 2018-19 winter. The bike trail snow removal contract was completed just under budget.

Public Comment – none

A motion to approve the financial consent agenda was made by Director Mercer and seconded by Director Poulsen as submitted. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes

Hudson – Yes

Ifeld – Absent

Mercer – Yes

Poulsen – Yes

**F. Old & New Business.**

**F-2 PUBLIC HEARING to establish Appropriation Limits for Funds FD30144 and FD30146.**

[Board Exhibit Available on the SVPSD Website.](#)

**F-2A Adopt Resolution 2019-05, establishing an Appropriations Limit for Fund FD30144 for FY 2019-2020 in the amount of \$1,619,988.**

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment and adopted Resolution 2019-05, establishing an appropriation limit for Fund FD30144 for FY 2019-2020 in the amount of \$1,619,988.

Ms. Grindle reviewed the item. The appropriation limit is determined by applying a factor for the change in population and per capita cost of living, which is an approximate 4% increase from the 2018/2019 limit.

Public Comment – None

A motion to adopt Resolution 2019-05, establishing an appropriation limit for Fund FD30144 for FY 2019-2020 in the amount of \$1,619,988 was made by Director Mercer and seconded by Director Poulsen as submitted. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed.

Cox – Yes

Hudson – Yes

Ifeld – Absent

Mercer – Yes

Poulsen – Yes

**F-2B Adopt Resolution 2019-06, establishing an Appropriations Limit for Fund FD30146 for FY 2019-2020 in the amount of \$5,282,585.**

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment and adopted Resolution 2019-06, establishing an Appropriations Limit for Fund FD30146 for FY 2019-2020 in the amount of \$5,282,585.

Public Comment – None

A motion to adopt Resolution 2019-06, establishing an appropriation limit for Fund FD30146 for FY 2019-2020 in the amount of \$5,282,585 was made by Director Mercer and seconded by Director Poulsen as submitted. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed.

Cox – Yes

Hudson – Yes

Ilfeld – Absent

Mercer – Yes

Poulsen – Yes

**F-3 1st PUBLIC HEARING to Review FY 2019-2020 Budget and FY 2019-2020 Rates & Charges.**

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment and provided direction to staff.

[Board Exhibit Available on the SVPSD Website.](#)

Ms. Grindle reviewed the item. Page 1-15 provide a narrative summary of the budget and page 16 is a quantitative summary page.

Ms. Grindle highlighted the District's reserve policy prescription to maintain a balance equal to 60-days of operating expenses. While the water and sewer accounts are well-funded, the Fire Department balance is below the target balance due to paying down the CalPERS unfunded accrued liability (UAL).

Fire Department and Operations Department salaries are finalized per their respective Memorandum of Understandings (MOU) with the labor union. A salary survey for the Administrative Department is currently underway.

Public Comment - None

**F-4 1st PUBLIC HEARING to Introduce Ordinance 2019-01 – Adopting Rates & Charges and Revised District Codes.**

The Board reviewed Ordinance 2019-01 and accepted public comment.

[Board Exhibit Available on the SVPSD Website.](#)



Ms. Grindle reviewed Ordinance 2019-01 adopting fiscal year 2019-2020 rates and charges for water, sewer & garbage service and revising related codes. There is no change to connection fees from 2018-2019, however, user fees are proposed to increase consistent with the five-year Proposition 218 Rate Notice approved by the Board in 2017.

Public Comment - None

**F-6 Annual Purchase of Certificate of Deposit (CD) with Protective Securities, Inc.**

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment and approved the purchase of a CD with Protective Securities, Inc.

[Staff report available on the SVPSD website.](#)

Ms. Grindle reviewed the item. Staff proposes to purchase a \$250,000 CD which is fully insured through the FDIC and is considered a low risk exposure CD. In the event the District needed the funds before the maturity date, funds can be withdrawn without penalty.

A motion to approve the purchase of a \$250,000 CD with Protective Securities, Inc. was made by Director Hudson and seconded by Director Poulsen as submitted. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes

Hudson – Yes

Ilfeld – Absent

Mercer – Yes

Poulsen – Yes

**F-7 Annual Review of Financial Investment Policy.**

The Board reviewed the item, accepted public comment and approved the District's Financial Investment Policy.

[Staff report available on the SVPSD website.](#)

Ms. Grindle reviewed the item. Director Hudson asked if the policy as written provides the flexibility for Ms. Grindle to manage District finances in a prudent manner; she responded it was.

A motion to approve the Financial Investment Policy was made by Director Mercer and seconded by Director Poulsen as submitted. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes

Hudson – Yes

Ilfeld – Absent

Mercer – Yes

Poulsen – Yes

**F-8 Placer County Air Quality Monitoring.**

The Board reviewed the item and accepted public comment.

[Staff report available on the SVPSD website.](#)

Ms. Gueissaz reviewed the staff report. The Purple Air website (link provided in Board report) was presented onscreen in the meeting.

**G. Status Reports.**

**G-1 Fire Department Operations Report.**

Chief Riley reviewed the report.

Director Mercer thanked Chief Riley for preparing the readiness, evacuation, and insurance packet provided to attendees at the annual pancake breakfast and suggested staff post the packet at the post office and website for greater exposure.

Chief Riley explained that Alpine Meadows and Squaw Valley are not doing an official evacuation drill, however, property owners are looking to host a drill and they are keeping the Chief involved in the planning. Chief Riley encourages residents initiate efforts to establish a Fire Wise Community in the Valley.

Public Comment – None.

**G-2 Water & Sewer Operations Report.**

Mr. Hunt reviewed the report.

Director Poulsen noted that it appears there is infiltration and inflow into the sewer collection system and that water loss is quite low.

Public Comment –

Jean Lange also noted that water loss was remarkably low.

**G-3 Engineering Report.**

Mr. Hunt reviewed the report and provided an update on the District's major projects.

Cruz Construction will be mobilizing for the Truckee River Siphon Replacement Project next week on June 3, 2019. Mr. Hunt invited the Directors to schedule a site visit to observe the contractor's drilling operations with Engineering Department staff.

The Resort at Squaw Creek Phase 2 utility construction is underway.

Director Mercer asked if there were any concerns that Pro-Pipe was performing the sewer main digital scanning for T-TSA and SVPSD. Mr. Hunt responded that there are no concerns and that

there are efficiencies generated for the contractor and the agencies by performing both projects.

Public Comment – None.

**G-4 Administration Report.**

Ms. Asher reviewed the report.

Public Comment – none

**G-5 Manager's Comments.**

None.

Public Comment – none

**G-6 Legal Report (verbal).**

None.

Public Comment – None.

**G-7 Director's Comments.**

Director Poulsen thanked Chief Riley and the Fire Department for the annual pancake breakfast. Director Hudson said we should try to announce the breakfast more broadly in the future.

Director Mercer made a motion, seconded by Director Poulsen to adjourn to closed session. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes

Hudson – Yes

Ifeld – Absent

Mercer – Yes

Poulsen – Yes

**H. Closed Session – Performance Evaluation of General Manager.**

Only the action on the agenda, the General Manager's performance evaluation was discussed, no action was taken.

Director Poulsen left the building due to an ownership interest in 325 Squaw Valley Road.

**I. Closed Session: Conference with Real Property Negotiators**

Only the action on the agenda, the price and terms of payment for real-property negotiations, were discussed, and no action was taken.

**J. Possible Action from Closed Session.**

No action was taken from either Closed Session items.

**K. Adjourn.**

Director Mercer made a motion, seconded by Director Hudson to adjourn at 1:03 P.M. The motion passed.

Cox – Yes

Hudson – Yes

Ifeld – Absent

Mercer – Yes

Poulsen – Absent

By, J. Asher