

MAXWELL PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT
"This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider"

SPECIAL MEETING

Tuesday, September 17, 2024 @ 10:00 AM

54 N. San Francisco St., Maxwell, Ca 95955

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – 10:00 am

Board Present - Kenneth Cohen, David Carvalho Jr, James Lausten,

Board Absent -Tom Detlefsen, Carmelo Parra

Staff Present – Kurt Chambers, Brooke Nerli

Staff Absent- None

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA- David Carvalho Jr motioned to approve; James Lausten seconded with an amendment to add public comment. Passed 3-0

4. Public Comment- 5 Members of the Public present: Allen Beck stated that the community needed to be more involved/informed and to have a meeting before the official voting, he also stated that the letter sent out to the public should have been more direct. Allen also had concerns about parcel votes and if there are several houses on a parcel that it should be a weighted vote. Allen stated people would be happier if M.P.U.D. did the work instead of contracting a company.

Luis Flores stated that the lawyer's opinion has nothing to do with this town and has no credibility. He also referred to the letter that was sent out and stated that "his money" is going toward benefits and salary.

Mike Lenahan asked if there were grants that M.P.U.D. could get. The board told him that most of those are low interest loans. GM advised him that we have already applied for grant monies and were told that we were on track to receive funding to assist in replacing our very old collection system, but were told recently by the State that if we are not receiving violations (i.e. Raw sewage spills onto the street/ground) we do not qualify for a grant at this time from them because their funding that was allotted to them for those purposes got taken away by Gov. Newsom to help cover the State deficit.

Luis asked what would be the scenario to "close up shop and have the State take-over" the Board advised him the State would set the rate at whatever they felt was necessary without the community input and the community would be paying the salary of more employees than just the few we currently have.

Allen Beck asked why the Board meetings got changed from 6pm to 8am. He was advised that was what currently works best for the board and there was not

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overtime paid to the employees this way. Allen stated he thought we needed to have them later because the MPUD staff works for them.

Allen Beck said that the community would not have as much of an issue with a rate increase if the district employees were the ones doing the projects instead of having Fletchers here for "every project." It was explained to everyone in the room that when fletchers is called in it is because the project is either bigger than the staff has tools to complete and that Fletchers does not get called in for "everything" A majority of Fletchers calls are due to emergencies, not planned.

It was advised to the public at the meeting that the district GM is working on planning an agreement with the City of Williams for use of their staff and large vac. Truck equipment when needed for emergency projects instead of calling Fletchers in for those larger projects. In that agreement the MPUD would offer their assistance to Williams when needed.

5. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS:

6. **Postpone Prop 218 Sewer Rate Increase** – David Carvalho Jr motioned to approve postponing until further notice; James Lausten seconded. 3-0

Board decided to schedule two Informal community meetings to get input on Sewer rate increase amount. One Scheduled for late October, and one for November. At the regular board meeting in December will be an action item to approve the rate and re-start the Prop. 218 process. Dates will be announced to the public once scheduled.

7. ADJOURNMENT - 11:02 am