

20200TRI-CITY REGIONAL SANITARY DISTRICT

PUBLIC FORUM NOTES

October 28, 2015

President Zache called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

PRESENT: M.Buzan, J.Chism,K.Kenney, M.A.Moreno, R.Zache, Legal Counsel, W. Clemmens and Legal Assistant, R. Hadley, Bond Counsel, F. Rosenfeld and M. Krebs, PACE, District Engineer

Also present; A.Giles, Arizona Silverbelt, J. Heatherly, Manager, Town of Miami

16 members of the public attended. Comments were made and questions posed by Cyril Butler, A. Gameros, M. Malkovich, R.Dixon, J. Ramirez and A.Medina

Mr. Rosenfeld addressed the group and cited ARS 16-192, Section A regarding the rules of conduct for the public forum and noted that he would caution Board members if he felt they were addressing issues in a manner inconsistent with the statute and the purpose of the forum.

Mr. Butler, who is not a citizen, indicated that he felt disenfranchised as, although he is a legal resident of the District, he was not afforded a ballot for this election. He also noted that there were several properties in his area that had been abandoned because their wastewater system had failed and the county would not allow septic systems to be installed. Mr. Gameros stated that something needed to be done because of the cesspool situation in the Claypool/Lower Miami area. He asked if a rate study had been done and was informed that it was premature in that the District had no idea what funding would be available from USDA-RD and that would have a bearing on homeowner costs.

There appeared to be some confusion regarding the purpose of the election which was clarified by both the board and Mr. Rosenfeld. This election was necessary because the statutes require that any treatment provided outside the boundaries of the district requires an agreement with the provider and the electors must authorize the Board to enter into such negotiations and agreements.

Mr. Rosenfeld and Mr. Zache both encouraged anyone present who had not received a ballot to go to the Recorder's Office at the Gila County Courthouse and request a ballot and vote there. All votes must be submitted by 7 p.m. on November 3rd.

Questions arose regarding the elements of the agreement. Mr. Rosenfeld noted that these items could not be discussed as negotiations were ongoing.

In response to questions regarding residents not being allowed to vote, Mr. Rosenfeld addressed the Assessment District Process which would take place once detailed engineering had been completed, wherein each landowner of record would be allowed a voice in the process, although a non-response, in that case, would be an affirmative vote. Landowners not wishing to participate would have to state that. The process is somewhat complex but provides for intense notification and hearing processes.

M.Krebs provided input on the boundaries of the District and the Phase 1 project about which the negotiations with the Town of Miami is centered. He noted 3 alternatives, 1. Do nothing, 2. Enter into an agreement with the Town of Miami, and 3. Build a plant within the District boundaries.

F. Rosenfeld explained the scope of the project including the need for easements to enter resident's property to install lines to each home and de-commission the cesspool or septic tank.

Several individuals expressed concerns regarding the Town of Miami and its financial history.

F. Rios, District Manager, Arizona Water Co. expressed concern and a hope that his company would be kept apprised of any installation plans and was assured that Mr. Krebs planned to keep him informed and had stopped by earlier in the day to leave preliminary plans for Mr. Rios' review.

Question was raised regarding the District's DMA status. Mr. Zache noted that TRSD felt, since both Pinal Sanitary District and Cobre Valley Sanitary District had status prior to the merger and that they carried forward when those two entities merged 3 years ago. Mr. Clemmens reported that the issue had not been settled, in spite of rumors to the contrary.

M. Malkovich strongly expressed a desire to see Miami relinquish its wastewater treatment plant to an overarching entity that would be operated by a Board with representation from both the Town and the District as a regional system.

There being no further questions or comments, Mr. Zache adjourned the meeting at 6:23 p.m.