



551 Hot Springs Boulevard  
Post Office Box 1859  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Phone: 970.264.4151  
Fax: 970.264.4634

**PAGOSA SPRINGS SANITATION  
GENERAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT  
MEETING AGENDA  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2011  
Town Hall Council Chambers  
12:00 P.M.**

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – Board President Aragon, Board Member Cotton, Board Member Hart, Board Member Holt, Board Member Lattin, Board Member Pierce, Board Member Volger
  
- II. NEW BUSINESS**
  - 1. Waste Water Treatment Plant/PAWSD Proposal** – Board Member Hart recused himself from the discussion citing a conflict of interest. Town Manager Mitchem explained that there are no legal requirements for Board Member Hart to recuse himself, however ethically he has elected to recuse himself from the discussion and vote. The District has been diligently working over the past two years with USDA RD to complete the application and acceptance of a mechanical wastewater treatment plant to replace the current failing plant. Thousands of dollars have been spent for engineering, testing, applications and attorney fees towards the plant upgrade. Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District, PAWSD, approached the District offering to treat the wastewater at their underutilized Vista Treatment plant on Lyn Ave. The District would be required to pump the wastewater to the plant and pay PAWSD for the treatment of the waste. PAWSD presented pipeline options at the November 2<sup>nd</sup> Town Council meeting, at which time the Mayor appointed Board Member Cotton, Board Member Holt, Mr. Mark Weiler, and Sanitation Supervisor, Phil Starks to the treatment plant committee to investigate further the merits of pumping the wastewater to the PAWSD site. Mr. Mark Weiler explained the Committee has met several times to develop the details and designs for the pipeline options. The Committee's findings include the potential to reduce sewer service rates to the District residents by 20% and to increase the utilization of the Vista treatment plant. If approved by the District Board and with the assistance of the PAWSD Board and staff an RFQ for engineering services will be completed at PAWSD costs. Once selected by the Joint Committee, the engineering firm will be directed to complete an engineering and feasibility study in order to determine if the Committee's findings are accurate and if the pipeline option will indeed be a viable choice compared to the current USDA wastewater plant direction. Once the feasibility study/preliminary engineering report is complete, estimated February 1, 2012, the District Board will be better informed to make a decision as to the direction of the future wastewater treatment. Mr. Weiler explained the cost difference between the pumping option at \$4.7million (worst case scenario) and the new WWTP at \$7.5 million with a 40 year payment life. He believes the 35 acres of land used by the sanitation district after reclamation is completed could be used as a crown jewel of the Town; additionally the proposed pipeline could be upgraded easily with little costs to the district and a relationship

with PAWSD would be a positive direction. He suggests Sanitation Supervisor, Phil Starks, direct his knowledge toward the ever-growing uses of the Town's geothermal system. Town Manager Mitchem said the school district is receptive to allowing an easement through the district property for the pipeline. Mr. Ed Winton, PAWSD Director, thanked the council and is looking forward to working with the Town. Board Member Volger moved to approve the appropriation of up to \$50,000 in the 2012 budget line item 53-40-228 for feasibility study/preliminary engineering report, Board Member Holt seconded, motion carried with one abstention (Board Member Hart).

- III. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ACCOMPANYING PAYMENTS** – Board Member Volger moved to approve the October financial statement and accompanying payments, Board Member Cotton seconded, unanimously approved.
- IV. NEXT BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 6, 2011 AT 5:00PM**
- V. ADJOURNMENT** – Upon motion duly made the meeting adjourned at 1:51 pm.