

# BOLINAS COMMUNITY PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT



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BCPUD Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Wednesday, November 20, 2024  
Bolinas Fire Dept Meeting Room  
100 Mesa Rd, Bolinas CA 94924  
6:00PM

Link to Meeting Video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JU\\_rUJNik-g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JU_rUJNik-g)

Call meeting to order **(0:48)**

Roll (present: K. Walker, K. McElroy, J. Siedman, A. Alexander Green, G. Godino)

Community Expression **(1:25)** Jennie Pfeiffer requested an item to be added to December agenda regarding establishment of sanctuary district for undocumented community members.

Consider amending agenda item order **(7:43)** Decision to move up presentation by Isabelle Winstead and Recology Detailed Rate Review Committee update.

**Recology Detailed Rate Review Ad Hoc Committee Update (9:04)** Committee members met with Recology representatives 10/25, need to send letter to Recology ASAP with a goal to publish Prop 218 notice by 11/25.

**Net Zero Electricity Grid in Bolinas** – Presented by Isabelle Winstead **(14:40)** Proposal to expand BCPUD to include renewable energy / electric services; Jefferson County PUD in Washington is an example of successful program (link to presentation [here](#)); possibility to use wave energy as a power source; discussion of need to address information gap for low-income residents wanting to install renewable energy; suggestion to possibly involve Civic Group in project

**Resident Permit Parking Plan Committee (1:15:55)** Board of Supervisors passed vehicle length and permit restriction ordinances; committee has been working with Department of Public Works, on the residential side of Brighton, permit restriction is from 2AM-5AM; on the other side of the road, permit restriction is from 11PM-5AM, vehicle length restriction is 22 feet; Wharf Road will also have permit restriction; revised proposal will be ready in January ([Link to Map](#)).

Question from K. Walker **(1:29:17)** What's happening with Wharf Rd/the county/FEMA? Add to agenda for next meeting?

## DISTRICT ISSUED PERMIT APPROVALS

Request for Financial Relief from Quarterly Metered Water Bill pursuant to BCPUD Resolution 553 – 85 Olema-Bolinas Road, Bolinas - Nick Civetz for Star Route Farms **(1:32:32)** Leak was under the house, undetected until water surfaced, leak was repaired immediately. Discussion of smart meter installation to prevent future leaks going undetected.

G. Godino/K. McElroy *All in favor to approve 90% leak relief.*

## MANAGERS UPDATE (1:41:43)

### STATUS OF BCPUD'S WATER SUPPLIES

The district received 0.07 inches of rain in September and 0.49 inches of rain in October, so the total inches received for the 2024-25 rain year is 0.62. Projected rainfall is 27.93 inches for the coming year (average rainfall). The Arroyo Hondo creek flows continued to generally meet district demand; however, the district did divert water from Woodrat 1 reservoir for five days in October.

### **Reservoirs (1:49:01)**

The average water production in October was 84,616 gallons per day and consumption averaged 84,616 gallons per day. Production and consumption are both down from September. Staff shared a graph illustrating quarterly water use trends visually depicting water usage each quarter over the past 18 years.

**OPERATIONS UPDATES (1:53:19)** Leaks: The district had a massive leak on Wharf Road on November 10<sup>th</sup>. This leak illustrates the need to address infrastructure concerns, which is difficult to do in emergency situations; we are using up our emergency repair budget rapidly (70% of budget spent but we are not even 50% through the year); we need to analyze our finances to determine the cost of the leak repairs; one possible solution is to take out a loan and address large repairs in advance rather than a band-aid approach; the Finance Committee needs to consider infrastructure needs when creating the next budget. Suggestion that BCPUD Shift Operators could have more involvement in Capital Improvement Projects. The district also will investigate the possibility of alternative paving contractors, other than Piazza, to handle non-emergency work.

**Well Project Update (2:10:04)** The district has requested an extension to September 30, 2025; the project is over budget due to coastal development permits and funds will need to be moved from Task 3 (Construction) to Task 2 (Permitting/Engineering) before additional funds can be requested.

**Tank Site Pipeline Replacement Project (2:12:27)** The project is on track to be completed mid-December; the town is currently only drawing water from the East tank.

**Radial Gate Repair (2:13:30)** Gannett Fleming Engineering provided a proposal for \$28,280, which was received on November 7<sup>th</sup>. The proposal was submitted to the National Park Service for a permit application and the district needs to determine timing/schedule for when work can be performed depending on water flows; the proposal will be discussed by the finance committee in regard to prioritization of the work and the need to secure funding as well as a discussion of CIP projects and the budgetary cycle.

**Solar Inverters (2:31:45)** Inverter scheduled to be fixed, cost approximately \$6K.

**Lead Inventory (2:31:09)** BCPUD took a visual inventory of service lines and notified customers with service lines that are not copper or plastic; six lines need to be replaced on BCPUD's side, 21 need to be replaced on customer's side; EPA gives 10 years to replace.

### **MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES**

**Groin Repair Project (2:40:19)** Board has approved Gannett Fleming engineering work; ready for GF to provide assessments and construction drawings

**Sea Wall Repair at Surfer's Overlook (2:41:05)** New County engineers are working on this project; BCPUD operators will dig out sand around the old piles and send photos to the county engineers

**Beach Closure and Effluent Along the Bluff (2:42:15)** Staff and Bolinas community members met with County and State representatives on November 15<sup>th</sup> for discussion regarding the beach closure and effluent. The group conducted a beach walk; the beach remains closed; important points:

- Animals live and humans camp along the bluff and so could be sources of fecal contamination. However, whether the effluent is contaminated with human vs. animal feces makes no difference as far as the potential adverse impacts on health, and as far as triggering a beach closure.
- The visual vestige of a seep (salt deposit) does not necessarily indicate that there was fecal contaminated ground water flowing at this spot.
- It is normal for ground water to seep at the cliff at regular junctions where geology propels the water to daylight at the cliff.
- Testing protocols matter—and should be designed and reviewed with intention. What questions are you trying to answer?
- County reps expressed their desire to reopen the Beach but also conveyed that a path to reopening remains unclear. This is the County's jurisdiction and their decision.

BCPUD Manager's recommendations to the county regarding beach closure:

- Beach should be reopened with an advisory to stay away from the Cliffs.
- County should run a "safe to recreate" testing program throughout the winter in the ocean water, close to where they first observed the effluent. Assuming that the ocean water near the presumed contaminant remains clear, they should not close the beach.
- County needs to be thoughtful and careful in conducting and interpreting further tests along the bluff (by testing samples collected from flows or dried seeps). They should focus their attention on the original flows that caused them to close the beach to begin with and not go on a "fishing expedition" and start testing other sites along the bluff.
- Reasonable action should not include preventing ground water from flowing at the bluff—this is a natural phenomenon, and in and of itself is not indicative of an issue.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS, RECEIPTS & NOTICES (3:10:41)** None

**SPECIAL REPORTS OR UPDATES (3:10:41)** None

Stinson Water's SB-1 Grant from the Ocean Protection Council **(3:10:55)** SB was awarded a grant to conduct a feasibility study for getting off onsite septic systems; regional approach proposed will involve the BCPUD in this grant and could provide funding for expanding sewer system to accommodate septic

Amendments to the Local Coastal Plan **(3:18:24)** Presentation on December 3 at 5pm by county rep Kristin Drumm

**COMMITTEE UPDATES**

**VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Resource Recovery Project Committee – Nothing to report

Resident Permit Parking Plan Committee – Addressed earlier  
Land Stewardship Committee – Nothing to report

**AD-HOC COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Recology Detailed Rate Review Committee – Addressed earlier  
Bike-path Committee – Nothing to report  
Building Committee – Nothing to report  
Canyon Road Committee **(3:21:45)** Meeting 11/21/24

**STANDING COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Personnel Committee – Nothing to report  
Finance Committee - Nothing to report  
Operations Committee – Nothing to report  
Legal Committee – Nothing to report  
Mesa Septic, Flood Control and Roads Committee – Nothing to report

**SPECIAL REPORTS OR UPDATES—Action Requested**

**BUDGETARY/FINANCIAL RESOLUTIONS & APPROVALS**

None

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTIONS & APPROVALS**

Resolution 733 for providing water data to the Directors of the Board **(3:22:10)** Board to review resolution and provide concrete amendments for December meeting.

**OPERATIONAL RESOLUTIONS & APPROVALS**

**CONTRACTED WORK, RELATED RESOLUTIONS & APPROVALS**

None

**EMPLOYMENT APPROVALS**

None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES (3:30:49)**

August 21—Regular Board Meeting

*A. Alexander Green/K. McElroy*

*All in favor to approve the minutes.*

September 16—Regular Board Meeting

Amendment to September minutes to add “Local Task Force” to “Zero Waste Marin”

*K. McElroy/ A. Alexander Green*

*All in favor to approve the minutes.*

October 16—Regular Board Meeting – *deferred to future meeting*

**APPROVAL OF WARRANTS (3:33:37)**

September 12-November 15 —Warrants

*G. Godino/A. Alexander Green*

*All in favor to approve the warrants.*

**MEETING CLOSING (1:24:46)**

- Materials to be signed by Board Members
- Future Agenda Items
- Adjournment – 9:36