

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

September 3, 2024

Wrightwood Community Building
1275 State Highway 2
Wrightwood, CA

MINUTES

Board Members: Sadie Albers, President
Kristy Gerardo, Vice President
Natalie Lopiccolo, Member
Alexis Claiborne, Member

Staff Present: Steven Kennedy, Attorney
Tamara Keen, General Manager
Angela Rovida, Administrative Assistant

Call to Order: President Albers called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance:** Lora Steinmann led the Pledge of Allegiance
- 2. Roll Call:** Director Claiborne is absent and Counsel Kennedy present via phone.
- 3. Agenda Approval:** Director Lopiccolo motioned to approve the agenda with Vice President Gerardo seconding the motion. All in favor, motion carries.
- 4. Public Comment:** Resident Lora Steinmann shared her concerns for the recent string of robberies to various town businesses and advocated for some form of police presence or substation for Wrightwood. She also shared her concern for the two groups of lawyers that suing local businesses for ADA compliance. Mike Troeger, owner of Mountain Hardware, spoke about the significant problems with the escalating retail thefts happening in town. He spoke about the burglaries to his business and the potential dangers to his staff and our community. He was able to confirm that individuals stealing from his store have also been identified in connection to thefts in Phelan. He also encouraged the Board to explore the potential for funding police presence in town and asked that this be added to next month's agenda for further discussion. Dotti Williams, resident, recommended that signs with age guidelines for playground equipment be added at the Children's Park. GM Keen pointed out that signs with age guidelines are posted. Kurt Watson, resident, shared his concerns for the recent increase in criminal activity and asked what the WCSD can do to address the problem. Vicky Rinek, resident, informed the audience that the City of Brentwood had a similar situation and ultimately hired armed security. She suggested requesting funding for armed security from the County Supervisor. Lynn Campbell, resident, expressed her concerns for the safety of the town. She questioned the use of taxpayer money and the lack of security services in Wrightwood. She proposed that the WCSD begin to explore hiring private security without an additional tax on residents.

5. **Agency Reports:** Commander Lutz, San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department – Victor Valley Station, encouraged everyone to register to vote and research the propositions regarding public safety on the upcoming November ballot. He informed the audience that complaints for noise must be substantiated by a citizen signing the complaint. Residents are instructed to inform the operator that they are willing to sign the complaint. Recording the noise on one's cell phone is also encouraged. Captain Lutz, spoke in depth about Sheriff Department and CHP staffing issues affecting public safety. The Sheriff's Department as a whole is short 400 officers and the corrections division is short 114 deputies. He spoke about Lady Be Aware, a firearms class geared toward women. Visit the SB County website for more information. Residents interested in forming a Citizen Patrol or Neighborhood Watch can contact SB County Sheriff's Public Information Officer Stacy Buchannon who can assist with setting up classes and trainings. Stacy can be reached at (760) 552-6800.
6. **Consent Calendar:** Director Lopiccolo motioned to approve the content calendars with Vice President Gerardo seconding the motion. All in favor, motion carries.
7. **General Manager's Report:** Grant funds for the outdoor restroom's renovations have been received and have been deposited into an interest-bearing savings account. Funds will be transferred to the checking account as needed to pay bills or subcontractors. There have been several meetings with various architects and engineers to troubleshoot septic issues and identify solutions to meet our needs. The topographic map should be completed in the coming days. Once the topographic map is received the bidding process for renovations can begin. CJ Porter with Supervisor Cook's Office invited GM Keen to an informal monthly networking meeting designed for CSD managers and Board members. The first meeting is scheduled for September 18th. CR&R General Manger Brandon McGill and WCSD staff will be meeting monthly to address resident concerns, education and outreach. The summer softball season has come to an end with The Master Batters winning the championship. Fall softball registration is now open with 12 teams registered. A new umpire has been hired. Adult dance fitness classes will return this fall on Monday evenings. Thank you to Nancy Kupka who found a dance instructor willing to teach various forms of dance for adults and teens. Mommy and Me classes will return with a new schedule, keep an eye on our website for more details. Kids dance classes will resume this fall. Etiquette classes for kids, teens and adults are in development and will soon be added to WCSD recreation programs. The September senior lunch will be Wednesday September 11th from 11am to 1pm. The theme is 'Wife Appreciation' and will feature an Italian menu. Fitness in the Forest, organized by the Lion's Club, happens every Monday morning at 10am in the Community Building. The Household Hazardous Waste event will take place on Saturday September 28th from 9am to 1pm in the County yard off Hwy 2. The Senior Follies variety show, directed by Lora Steinmann, is scheduled for September 28th and September 29th.
8. **June 2023 Financials:** No action taken.
9. **Vision Plan:** President Albers motioned to authorize WCSD staff to execute the strategic plan proposal with BHI Management Consulting. Director Lopiccolo seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carries.
10. **Camera For Museum:** President Albers requested a new quote that includes a Wi-Fi camera option to potentially avoid the cost of an antenna.

- 11. Outside Bathroom Lock Replacement:** Vice President Gerardo motioned to approve the bathroom lock replacement. President Albers seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carries.
- 12. Directors Comments:** Vice President Gerardo thanked everyone for coming and thanked Administrative Assistant Rovida for her work on the strategic plan. Vice President Gerardo and Director Lopiccolo would like to see 'Public safety' added to the agenda for next month's meeting. Director Lopiccolo thanked, staff, Counsel Kennedy, and the Board. President Albers thanked Director Lopiccolo and Administrative Assistant Rovida for their work on the strategic plan.
- 13. Future Board Meeting:** Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 6:30pm.
- 14. Adjournment:** President Albers adjourned the meeting at 7:01pm

Minutes Approved: Sadie Albers Date: 10/29/24
President Albers