

Alpine Water Company

100 Nutcracker Road
Bishop, CA 93514

Minutes of the August 31, 2024, Alpine Water Company Annual Meeting

Alpine Water Company Annual Board Meeting-2024-08-31

The Water Board Meeting on August 31, 2024, addressed several key issues. Andrea, facing family health issues, will continue as the tax preparer but has reduced her workload.

Denise Yarvis was hired as the new bookkeeper. The board discussed the need for better communication, including email lists and website updates. LA Engineering evaluated the Alpine Water System and estimated a cost of \$1.3 million to completely overhaul and modernize it. Tim Rudolph's engineering report was discussed as an alternative to a complete overhaul; the report outlined ways to repair and replace aging components piecemeal, with a focus on replacing asbestos pipes. The board also addressed financial management, including a \$181,000 balance in one account and \$18,000 in another.

Transcript

<https://otter.ai/u/KgKP9-9nloDNo4TfMnm7xcBtIQ0?view=transcript>

Action Items

- [] Populate the repair log with historical information and pictures of past repairs.
- [] Complete the required water testing for asbestos and pH levels.
- [] Ensure all shareholders are added to the email alert system.
- [] Improve communication with shareholders, including sharing meeting minutes and other important information.

Outline

New Bookkeeper and Communication Issues

- Dr. Tony Phillips (hereafter "Tony") introduces Denise Yarvis, the new bookkeeper, who will handle bookkeeping functions previously done by Andrea Shallcross.
- Tony mentions a previous attempt to collect email addresses from shareholders, which was not successful.
- Speaker 1 raises concerns about not receiving minutes and email lists as promised.
- Tony acknowledges the need for better communication and mentions that the water company has a contact list of shareholders.

Website and Communication Improvements

- Tony reviews the new website, highlighting features like recent notices, emergency contact information, and a map of shutoff valves.
- The website now includes an email list server for better communication with shareholders.
- Tony emphasizes the importance of the website for emergency communication and first responders.
- The website also includes a repair log to keep track of past repairs and future maintenance.

Engineering Report and Water System Upgrades

- Tony discusses the \$6,000 engineering report that outlines recommendations for upgrading the water system.
- The report offers affordable alternatives to building a \$1.3 million parallel water system to replace the existing asbestos pipes.
- Tony mentions the need for a long-term low-interest loan to fund the project.

Pump and Valve Maintenance

- Tony explains the importance of maintaining the two pumps and isolation valves in the water system.
- Pump number two is not working, and the team is investigating the issue.
- The team has located and cleaned all isolation valves and replaced some of them.
- The team has also installed a new fire hydrant and repaired an existing one.

Firefighting and Water System Design

- Brian Nix discusses the importance of having fire hydrants in an open loop system for firefighting.
- The team is considering the possibility of abandoning the bottom pipe to simplify the water system.
- The team is also exploring the possibility of getting permission from the Forest Service to install new pipes.
- The team is working on a comprehensive plan to address the aging water system.

Compliance with California Water Laws

- Tony explains that the water company falls under California Assembly Bill 54, which requires compliance with various regulations. Now that the shareholders are aware of this, compliance cannot be avoided or delayed.
- The team needs to obtain training on water board operations and become certified D1 water system operators.
- The team is considering hiring a manager to professionalize the water company operations.

Financial Management and Budget

- Brian provides an update on the water company's finances, including the balance in the US bank account and the Chase bank account.
- The team is using a two-account system to manage finances more efficiently.
- The team is also considering the possibility of earning interest on the money in the US bank account.
- The team discusses the need for better financial reporting.

Snow Removal and Maintenance

- The team has spent \$8,000 on snow removal this year, compared to \$6,000 last year.
- The team has hired a contractor to clear key isolation valves and the pump vault regularly.
- The team is considering the possibility of adopting a group approach to snow removal.

Credit Card Fees and Payment Methods

- The team discusses the issue of credit card fees and the possibility of charging a fee for credit card payments.

- The team decides to research the exact fees and benefits of using Venmo or other payment methods.
- The team also discusses the possibility of conducting an online vote to decide on the payment method.

Two hours and 21 minutes after the meeting began, Water Board President and Secretary Dr. Tony Phillips abruptly resigned because “too many shareholders were being assholes,” he later explained. Vice-President Phil Moores also resigned. This left CFO Brian Nix as the sole remaining Board member. The meeting was not adjourned, and no elections for new officers were held.

These minutes were prepared by outgoing Water Company Secretary Tony Phillips and Otter AI, an artificial intelligence tool which summarized an audio recording of the meeting.

State Regulatory Required Statement-

The domestic water supply for this area is provided by a state small water system. State regulatory requirements for operation of a state small water system are less extensive than requirements for larger public water systems. If you have questions concerning your water supply, you should contact Alpine Water Company (AspendellWater.com) or your local health department.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Phillips', is written over the text of the state regulatory statement.

These minutes are signed by James Anthony Phillips, former Secretary of the Alpine Water Company