Spalding Community Services District 502-907 Mahogany Way Susanville, CA 96130

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SCSDNEWS

ebruary 2006 Issue

Wastewater System almost there!

Status Overview

Planning and financing the wastewater system project has been a long and complex process. Engineering plans have been approved by the State. All environmental compliance studies are complete. Land for the evaporation ponds has been secured from the federal government. About \$2.5 million in government grants have been committed.

In July of 2004, by a 78 percent majority, Spalding property owners approved assessments to fund the bulk of the estimated project cost. In response to our first request for proposals (RFP) in August 2005, however, the low bid for construction was \$15 million, which was almost double the District's construction budget for the wastewater system.

Bid Solicitations

After revising the bid package, we issued a second RFP. Over 30 bid packages were requested and sent to companies located throughout the western states. A total of three bids were received and opened on February 10. The results:

Cox and Cox, Redding. \$13,334,502

Mountain Cascade, Livermore. \$11,444,350

Sundt Construction, Novato. \$8,432,050

The low bidder, Sundt Construction, is based in Tempe, Arizona and has three California offices in Sacramento, Novato, and San Diego. The company has completed numerous large projects such as Los Alamos Dam, Tucson International Airport, and the relocation of London Bridge to the Arizona National Desert. Sundt's engineers were among the first to develop highly specialized computer programs to aid in scheduling and cost control, and they continue to be in the forefront of technology-aided project management. Their other project experience includes water systems, institutional buildings, multifamily structures, and domnitories. Have a look at their website at www. sundt.com.

Grant and Loan Funds Confirmed

The USDA Rural Development (USDA) awarded an \$8,058,000 loan and a grant for \$1,000,800 for a total of \$9,058,800 in project funding. Despite recent reductions in federal spending on domestic programs, USDA has confirmed its grant and has increased the available loan amount to \$10,308,000. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has awarded \$1,489,212 to our project, which is the maximum allowed given available funds and criteria.

CDBG Grant Extension Confirmed

As you may remember, Spalding was awarded approximately \$750,000 from the State Community Development Block Grant program administered by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). The grants will cover the assessments and onsite improvement costs for property owners that qualify on the basis of their residency and household income. After all the project delays, this grant contract was getting close to expiration. We prepared all the necessary documentation and applied for an extension, which was approved in November 2005. The contract term now extends to December 2008. We are very grateful to HCD for their trust and support of our community.

Another Ballot

The Sundt Construction bid for \$8.5 million, while significantly better than the first round bid of \$15 million, is higher than the original construction budget. As a result, the District will be asking for approval by property owners of an increase in the assessment from \$7,279.86 to \$9,274.54 per equivalent dwelling unit (EDU). The assessment can be paid in cash up front or in semi-annual installments spread over 40 years with interest at less than 5%. The estimated annual assessment payment is \$491.00 per EDU plus a USDA reserve fund charge of \$49 for a total annual payment of \$540.

The ballots will be sent out presently and must be returned before the public hearing scheduled on April 6 to be counted. Should you not receive yours soon, please notify us at (530)825-3258. Assuming a favorable vote, the SCSD will sign the construction contract and work can begin as soon as mid-April 2006. Completion is scheduled for summer 2007, at which point we will be free of our cease-and-desist order.

Eagle Lake Recreation

The attendants, Leni Vaughn together with many volunteers and users, helped to make 2005 a successful season at the marina. We received a lof encouraging words and "attaboys" from our visitor. The largest expense incurred was the pumping of the septic tanks. We will no longer have this expense when the wastewater system is up and running.

Eagle Lake's water level measured 18 inches last fall at the end of the North Ramp and our latest measurement in February was 37 inches, an increase of about 19 inches. Pine Creek has been running for a few months and is still running.

Fees for 2006 will remain the same as last year: \$5 daily, and \$75 for a season pass.

New Fire Engine!

Our Volunteer Fire Department now has a state-of-theart Wildland/Urban Interface Pumper Fire Engine. This engine is fully loaded and certified to assure added operator safety. Pump engagement, ground sweeps and a front bumper turret will allow firemen to get on the fire safely and faster. The engine is also designed so that firefighting maneuvers can be handled from the safety of the cab. We are very pleased that or exceptional team of firemen will have the use of this excellent equipment.

WHAT IS THE SCSD?

The Spalding Community Services District (SCSD) is our community's form of local government. Our Board of Directors is elected by Spalding registered voters. Directors must be property owners and are elected to four-year terms. The Spalding CSD is not associated with the Eagle Lake Community Association.

The SCSD is active in several areas of community development and service delivery.

- Fire suppression and medical emergency response (VFD)
- Marina development and operation
- Wastewater system development and operation

See the Spalding CSD website at http://www.spaldingcsd.org.



SCSD DIRECTORY

Address: 502-907 Mahogany Way Susanville, CA 96130

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Website: http://www.spaldingcsd.org

General Manager: Merle Lay

Board of Directors Charles Ray, President Sonja Watson Ed Taber Tanya McMillen Dan James