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Cedarpines Park

Cedarpines Park Mutual Water Company rate increase

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From: Roncpp

Sent: Friday, August 21, 2009 09:00 AM

The date has been revised from the original post.

On Saturday, **September 19th** at 10 am there will be a one topic special meeting for all shareholders to discuss a rate increase.

It has been announced that former Board President and Director Robert Friedman resigned his position on the board after 17 years of hard work and excellent service. He will be missed. This resignation creates a vacancy. Applications may be submitted to the office through 9/1/09 by qualified shareholders.

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From: lakeside

Sent: Friday, August 21, 2009 06:00 PM

Thanks Ron for letting us know.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Rhondalee

Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2009 04:23 PM

Shoot, I wish the meeting was next Saturday, I could have made that one. 😊

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Rhondalee

Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2009 04:30 PM

Ron: On 7/21/09 I spoke with a lady at the water co. and she said she added me to the list to receive monthly minutes of "all" meetings. I have not received any yet????

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Roncpp

Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2009 04:37 PM

We just approved the minutes for the 7/25/09 meeting Tuesday evening. They do not distribute them until they are finalized.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Rhondalee

Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2009 04:48 PM

Thank you Ron 😊

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: MountainMum

Sent: Saturday, September 19, 2009 10:07 PM

I was at the meeting. I'm a bit curious. I heard some disturbing accusations, that there were some missing funds, it sounded like to the tune of \$300,000 give or take, by a previous Board Member. Ron, you seem to know the goings on there. Do you know who these criminals were?

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: MostlySunny

Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 12:08 AM

Roncpp is on the water board...

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Roncpp

Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 08:19 AM

This is not the place to discuss events, suspicions or accusations. This is old news and has been addressed thoroughly in open meetings over the past years. Some stories go back 20 or more years. Those who have attended meetings know the details, though some seem to prefer ignoring the resolutions and focus on the past regardless of the outcome. Rumors seem to never die and facts are ignored when presented by some. Over the past 2 years we have made many changes and most agree the problems are behind us. We have taken the correct course and are back to managing the company and looking to our future needs.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Roncpp

Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 08:36 AM

Attendance at our monthly meetings is low and we have not mustered enough interest in the company business at annual meetings to achieve a quorum for many years. Those of us who volunteer our time to serve on the board would appreciate the kind of turnout we had yesterday at least at the annual meetings. I don't know how many shares were represented yesterday, but suspect it was a quorum. If those who cannot attend or just prefer to assign their proxy to another shareholder would do so, we could conduct elections as intended by our bylaws. It shouldn't be that hard to accomplish. But requests each year fail to draw any significant interest.

The proposal by a shareholder yesterday that we sell out to another company may have support, though there are serious ramifications to doing that. It has been explored in the past. If there were a consensus, could we ever muster a quorum to approve such a move? If 51% showed up and unanimously voted to approve such a move, would the other 49% be upset their property was being disposed of? Would that change our rate structure? Would another company pay for the capital improvements we need or would they just surcharge the shareholders?

These questions should illustrate there are valid reasons to inform yourself and to attend meetings or at least request the minutes of the meetings. I urge you to not rely on rumor or hearsay in the community. I hear them as well and most of what we hear is based on assumptions, not facts. Accusations occur constantly, but are mostly unfounded when investigated. Some are valid and are dealt with appropriately.

Regular meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Community Center at 7:00 pm. They are open to the public and there is an opportunity for public comment at every meeting. Copies of minutes of all open meetings are available after review and approval by request from the office. You can be placed in the mailing list or pick up copies when available. We hope to have them available on line as well soon.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: MountainMum

Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 10:04 AM

Is a reminder about the meetings on our billing statements?

Why don't you ask for everyone's email address so we can get reminders, and drafts of the minutes, and detailed expense reports, so we can make sure there are no issues that have occurred in the past?

Is anyone interested in having a meeting about our interest in what happens about our water? Outside of the Board Meetings.

We can have our own discussions about what's happening.

I'm interested. Maybe I should get a signed petition so we can address these issues for more members?

Just a thought.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Roncpp

Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 10:16 AM

Billings are bimonthly and are on a preprinted form. Messages on billings won't work.

Meetings are always the 3rd Tuesday weather permitting with rare exceptions such as lack of a quorum of the board, fire evacuation, etc.

We are working on expanding e-mail capability. You already have an e-mail address for each board member or a generic company address to put questions to the staff. There are request forms for specific actions by the board available in the office. Anybody can meet with anybody to discuss whatever they want anytime. If you are seeking information or action from the company you have to come to us through the many ways mentioned.

We do not release interim financial statements to the public, but any shareholder may examine them at the office. Copies of the annual statements are available to shareholders at the office.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: MountainMum

Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 10:32 AM

So they have already tried to put meeting information on our billing statements in the past?

In my defense, I had not gone to the meetings. I "trusted", as have many others that things would be done responsibly. If I can't ask questions of an uncomfortable nature, where can I?

I understand wanting to just sweep this under the carpet, like it never happened.

There is always a possibility for a class action suit, perhaps for those of us who do not agree.

There is much more I have to say, and many more questions that have gone unanswered.

How can I get information, if I'm being censored. Or not allowed to ask certain questions.

I was in the dark once, but I'd rather not be any more.

MM

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Roncpp

Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 10:45 AM

If I can't ask questions of an uncomfortable nature, where can I? I understand wanting to just sweep this under the carpet, like it never happened.

You *can* ask questions at meetings open to other members. A public forum is not the appropriate place to fact check and to sort through decades of rumor, innuendo, muck, actual or distorted events. Nothing has been swept under the rug. Your trust and failure to attend is not our failure. Some answers you may want involve personnel issues which are confidential. Some pertain to events so far removed in time, none of the current board

were involved with or in some cases knew about. Much of what is said is subjective opinion, not fact. Some allegations may be true, but unprovable. We have had many allegations made that were false. Sorting through all that has been a large project over the past years. Since my tenure on the board, current matters and some residual matters have been resolved. Part of the reason these take time is because we have a company to run and that has suffered under the weight of constant barrage of disruptive visits to the office, browbeating personnel, tyrades in the field when shareholders presumed to give orders to employees on what and where they should be doing their assigned tasks etc.

We have made every effort to answer all questions to the extent we are able. We have gone through financial statements down to reviewing every check issued as part of our meetings. We spend so much time on these efforts we have little time to conduct business which is the purpose of the meetings. They typically last 2 or more hours. Imagine the frustration of the board who then must find time to deal with the day to day issues with the General Manager because we couldn't get to them during the meeting?

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Roncpp

Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 10:59 AM

This dialogue illustrates the problem. My posts have been intended to inform shareholders of the rate increase meeting and to answer Mountainmoms questions. Yesterday 70 or more shareholders asked lots of questions and received lots of answers. She went from hearing *some disturbing allegations* to *a class action lawsuit could follow* in a matter of inches in one thread in one day.

Expectations went from zero to concluding I'm hiding information that is worthy of litigation. I wonder why we have such difficulty getting qualified candidates to fill the role of director? 😊

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: MountainMum

Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 11:17 AM

I understand completely not wanting to talk about it here, so why do you continue? So I'll say again, since not here, then where? Although you said that records are all for public view, your getting tired of people coming in and requesting such.

There is no need for hostility Ron.

Just looking for answers. That don't seem to want to come so easily.

I never once blamed you for myself not coming to meetings. I squarely put that blame on myself.

I guess I'll be sending emails. 😊

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: mtnjeepman

Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 12:37 PM

Once again Ron has shown us how articulate he is, my compliments, at the same time becoming defensive when pressed for information that is available to him.

You claim that a public forum as this is not the place, that the shareholders are welcome to ask any questions during the monthly meetings; isn't that for the most part; the same type of forum?

Not all of us can be at the meetings due to work schedules, child care, etc. I think this is a great place to discuss such topics.

Ron, when you take your defensive stand, as I've witnessed many times over the years; it may raise further suspicions about what exactly is going on at CPPMWC. You suggest to MountainMum in one thread that she is welcome to come into the office and examine the facts, then make a comment that you cannot get anything done when you have people coming into the office to ask about these topics. Which is it Ron?

In regards to the proposed rate increase, was it answered that is is necessary in part, due to the missing funds? If so, what kind of money are we talking about?

As always Ron, I eagerly look forward to your response.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Digger

Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 02:05 PM

*

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Roncpp

Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 05:34 PM

You claim that a public forum as this is not the place, that the shareholders are welcome to ask any questions during the monthly meetings; isn't that for the most part; the same type of forum?

Conversation is far easier than written exchanges when many subjects and a long time frame are involved. The other obvious difference is that I am answering from what I know which is not all the information available. In a meeting of shareholders there are 5 directors with varying lengths of tenure and experience with the company, different perspectives in addition to the General Manager. More complete information is likely to be available in that forum.

Not all of us can be at the meetings due to work schedules, child care, etc. I think this is a great place to discuss such topics.

Discussion of some topics, yes. Not all topics.

You suggest to MountainMum in one thread that she is welcome to come into the office and examine the facts, then make a comment that you cannot get anything done when you have people coming into the office to ask about these topics. Which is it Ron?

Routine requests and company business are part of the service available at the office. I relayed the complaint of office staff when people come in to conduct ad hoc investigations, making demands that go beyond the scope of office personnel responsibilities, and when they come in with complaints that become confrontations requiring calling the Sheriff to have someone ejected from the office. There is a difference between those types of interaction on which we can probably agree.

In regards to the proposed rate increase, was it answered that is is necessary in part, due to the missing funds?

"the missing funds"? More assumptions? The meeting began with a review of consumption and budget requirements and an analysis of variables that affect rates. We compared our rates to two other purveyors for perspective. The questions asked were diverse and for the most part very useful to all of us. The answers are not all known and we have not made final decisions on the specifics. But all who attended saw that rumors circulated before the meeting were baseless and that careful planning and thought has gone into the necessity to increase rates to cover operating deficits created by increased costs. The USDA which loaned us the money for capital projects noted in an audit we were way low and should have raised rates long ago. The board has waited until recent changes in management and procedures could take effect and provide more information to work with.

Factors in rising costs include, customers not paying bills when due.

Investments in equipment and engineering studies required for the Sawpit location and the proposed second CLAWA connection.

Improved software, training and supervision of field and office operations.

As for being defensive. Yes, when someone asks a question based on assumptions and almost immediately goes into threat mode mentioning lawsuits, there is a history of much contention among a few shareholders and the company. The history is convoluted and involves memories of various people who don't agree on all the details or the interpretations of those details. I was asked by one shareholder if it is true that directors get free water? This particular rumor has popped up for years in spite of those board members accused in the past producing canceled checks and having the company CPA audit the accounts to confirm the funds were paid and deposited into the bank. This cost all of us money and yet didn't put the baseless rumors to rest. The efforts made by the current board over the past 2 years have been recognized by most critics as welcome change in the way business is done. The current board is committed to serving the interests of the shareholders by maintaining our viability. We are one of the rare small companies in this business that has high quality water and a reliable back up source from CLAWA. Water shortages in the future are a sure thing and we are in need of detailed planning for the future. Those are the goals of the current board. If the community prefers some other way to go, all they have to do is show some interest, inform themselves and make their preferences known.//

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From: OLDGUY

Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 08:07 PM

Just be patient. The county will soon smell an opportunity to get control of more water. They will find many reasons to give you grief, then decide that it is in your best interests to take over. Then all will be good. They will fix everything. Special Sistricts will take care of you, and all for a few hundred each per month.

It is a good system - just ask anyone in Cedar Glen.

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Cedarpines Park Mutual Water Company rate increase

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From: Roncpp

Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 09:58 PM

Yes, that is exactly what is at stake with all small water purveyors. It happens all the time and some advocate sharing all the water on the mountain so certain districts would not have to deal with past decisions to opt out of CLAWA and are now dealing with *very* expensive imported water.

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From: Gemini

Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 10:03 PM

Ron - We are not dealing with very expensive *imported* water. We are being ripped off by CLAWA to deliver the cheap water we purchase. BIG difference!

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Roncpp

Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 10:10 PM

Gemini: You are not being ripped off. The studies that went into setting LACSD rates included recapturing all the cost of developing and maintaining the system and supply all the rest of CLAWA member companies paid over the years. Lake Arrowhead opted out after joining and never paid a dime. Recouping those costs plus the additional costs to deliver that imported water to your system was set by the courts. Somebody made bad decisions years ago costing the rest of us more than should have been required. Now the piper gets paid. Poetic isn't it? 😊

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Roncpp

Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 10:14 PM

The water you are purchasing on a temporary basis is MDW water being wheeled to you from San Bernardino via Silverwood, CPP, Crestline and Twin Peaks. We pay dearly for the CLAWA water to supplement our production. We paid dearly to build adequate storage facilities to provide fire flow and reserve capacity. LACSD has done very little to develop local water sources or storage because they were stealing water that belongs to the Mojave users. That is the judgment of the court.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Roncpp

Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 10:39 PM

Any water you purchase not from your wells is imported from someone else's sources. CLAWA water is imported from the Feather River drainage in the Sierras north of Portola.

MDW gets water from the Owens River Valley, the Colorado River, and from the San Bernardino Valley which also includes Feather River water as well as excess water from San Bernardino's aquifer.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: MostlySunny

Sent: Monday, September 21, 2009 08:59 AM

Some allegations may be true, but unprovable.

What "Credible" source came to this conclusion?

Were the Feds called?

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: MostlySunny

Sent: Monday, September 21, 2009 09:05 AM

From: Roncpp

Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2009 10:59 AM

This dialogue illustrates the problem. My posts have been intended to inform shareholders of the rate increase meeting and to answer Mountainmoms questions. Yesterday 70 or more shareholders asked lots of questions and received lots of answers. She went from hearing some disturbing allegations to a class action lawsuit could follow in a matter of inches in one thread in one day.

Expectations went from zero to concluding I'm hiding information that is worthy of litigation. I wonder why we have such difficulty getting qualified candidates to fill the role of director?

What is all of this about Ron? What are you talking about... she?

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Conga

Sent: Monday, September 21, 2009 10:24 AM

She=MountainMum. He used her name in the post and if you read the first page of this thread you will see what "he" and "she" are talking about.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: highlanderone

Sent: Monday, September 21, 2009 07:38 PM

First off let me start out with the board members are not voted in by the community they are and have been appointed by the good old boys club. We have the highest water rates on the mountain and with the meeting that was held on sat was so full they had to have 2 meeting because everyone couldnt fit in the community center which some left some stayed. The water rates clawa charges cppmw have not changed or gone up recently. They give cppmw special rates as clawa pipeline run through cppwc. You all have a right to know what is going on in your company at anytime. It seems that the only recourse is gonna be legal action through the courts. In the corporations lawbook it states all mutual water companys are a 20% Quorum another thing the courts can address the truth will come out and we will see whos left standing and where.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Roncpp

Sent: Monday, September 21, 2009 08:59 PM

First off let me start out with the board members are not voted in by the community they are and have been appointed by the good old boys club.

Elections of board members are supposed to be conducted during annual shareholder meetings. When there is not a quorum, no election can be conducted. A quorum under the bylaws of the company is 50% of all outstanding shares plus one represented in person or

by duly assigned proxy prior to the meeting and presented to the Secretary of the Board for verification. It was estimated at our meeting on Saturday, the company has not managed to get a quorum to an annual meeting for around 17 years. The board then must fill any vacancies through an election by the board members at an organizational meeting following the annual meeting. This is also the time when officers are elected by the board to specific positions. These procedures are in compliance with applicable corporations codes and the company bylaws.

We have the highest water rates on the mountain

Not true. When you compare rates you must consider cost per cubic foot, operating expenses and debt service. Our rates are not the highest, yet this statement is often repeated by those not in attendance to hear the answer.

The water rates clawa charges cppmw have not changed or gone up recently.

Allocations have been reduced, not the price.

They give cppmw special rates as clawa pipeline run through cppwc.

Not true, all members of CLAWA contribute to the construction and maintenance of the infrastructure. We all pay for what we use in addition to those fees.

The rate increases have little to do with the price of CLAWA water changing, but how much we must buy. This varies according to our own well production. In dry years we buy more CLAWA water, in wet years we sometimes buy none. Those costs must be budgeted regardless of the weather. CLAWA water costs more than our own well water.

You all have a right to know what is going on in your company at anytime

True

In the corporations lawbook it states all mutual water companys are a 20% Quorum

Not true. But if it were we have still come no where close.

Thanks for sharing.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: MostlySunny

Sent: Monday, September 21, 2009 09:18 PM

Just because we happen to be a small community does not mean we have to settle for second rate service at above average prices.

When you make comments about the difficulty of being a volunteer (which I agree with) and it's pressures...it only reinforces the idea for us to be absorbed into a company that has the infrastructure to provide the level of service we deserve at reasonable rates.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Conga

Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2009 12:39 AM

2nd rate service? Could you provide examples? Our service has always been great. The couple of times there were emergencies in our area they were on top of it immediately. Also have never received anything but kind and respectful attention in the years I've been here.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Roncpp

Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2009 01:50 PM

Mostly Sunny. Perhaps you were not at the meeting or missed the point made by Perry that small companies cost more, not provide second rate service necessarily. Having 7000 connections spreads the costs over a larger pool. However, there are downsides to being taken over. The capital costs of improvements already made and the debt associated with those projects and future projects are not necessarily assumed by a new entity. Those costs can stay with the local rate payers and our costs will go even higher. Compared to other small water companies, we enjoy a unique advantage in how much water we have available and how much better our infrastructure is compared to those companies unable to qualify for the loans needed to finance those improvements. Retaining local control of our assets, which we have paid for is another strong reason to not let another company into our water sources.

This suggestion was made long ago and one company expressing interest didn't want to pay anything for our assets. They just wanted us to sign them over and let the new company stick their straw into our water sources to improve their water quality & quality.

We said no thank you.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Roncpp

Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2009 02:09 PM

Another correction. No local company has "infrastructure" we need. They may have staff with the ability to manage more customers, but would likely use our personnel to service our system. We have far better resources than most and far more water and better quality water than most if not all. The only issue we have been dealing with is office and field personnel with appropriate management and certifications.

We have made significant strides in this regard in recent months. The level of professionalism and competence has improved dramatically. This involves top to bottom review and revision of all procedures and policies and practices. We have identified key areas where savings can be obtained and are in the process of changing our rate structure to comply with our needs and following the recommendations of auditors from the USDA which loaned us the funds to complete those past projects. They have been advising and recommending that we raise rates for a couple of years. We hesitated to do so before reaching the current level of correction of past deficiencies.

For those who want to be brought up to speed on all past activities and to know who did what and what happened, there is just no way to cover 20 years of past operations, rumors, scandals etc. in this forum.

For those with concerns inspired by rumor, whispered suspicions and bald accusations, I have repeatedly recommended you attend meetings and ask your questions. If you have no confidence in the answers you receive, you have remedies. Shareholders own this company and are responsible for allowing board members latitude. The current board has done and will continue working to win your confidence by presenting our actions for your review and being available to answer questions within our ability to do so. If you want a direct role, apply for the next vacancy on the board. Gather a quorum and vote for your choice to serve as a director. Annual meetings are held in July and proxy forms are distributed well in advance. 50% plus 1 constitutes a quorum at that meeting and a simple majority of votes cast determines the outcome. It has always been the way to influence outcomes.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Roncpp

Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2009 03:08 PM

We are being ripped off by CLAWA to deliver the cheap water we purchase. BIG difference!

I have this image of a lake of cheap water in downtown Los Angeles with Gemini driving up in a beat up old tank truck to pick up a load of his cheap water. The long drive back to Lake Arrowhead up the hill and finally arriving at the LACSD yard only to find out there is no way to pump it out of the truck.

Gemini: What am I supposed to do with 5000 gallons of water?

Workerbee: Dump it in the lake?

Gemini: If I do that how will anyone know it is our water and doesn't belong to those greedy bastards down in the desert?

Worker: The dayglo green color of antifreeze?



[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: MostlySunny

Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2009 07:40 PM

That's funny. Where were they going to take the water? Were we afraid they were going inherit a bunch of outdated equipment as well as an outdated system?

Since the decision of the late 80's to stay autonomous, its been a 3 ring circus, filled with lawsuits, missing money, half assed projects and a never ending string of controversy. The meetings are a joke. The board allows abusive shareholders and non shareholders alike to verbally go on for days, dominating the meetings with their own agendas.

And I'm not assigning blame to anyone because I think the root cause is the fact that our leadership just hasn't had the time, the energy, expertise or money to do it right. And I sure don't want to do it.

But result of all of this, is that our water company, with its million dollar budget has been run like a 2-bit condominium association.

Lets let it go to the experts and try, at the very least, to move into the 19th century for starters.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Conga

Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2009 07:48 PM

Sorry but what you're saying is so contradictory of even the little I know that you absolutely must have a seperate agenda, I assume against Ron.

What you are saying completely denies the facts and ruins your credibility and your arguments. Absolute hogwash. You are not worth my time.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: MostlySunny

Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2009 08:20 PM

I do not know which inconsistency you are referring to Conga?

At what point did I attack Ron?

He and I agree on some things and disagree on others and I believe on this.... I have history on my side.

I have always respected the time and energy that the board members have put in... I just think they are over their heads. It's time for a change.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Roncpp

Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2009 06:17 AM

History is great for instructing us in how to avoid past mistakes. In the past year, much has changed. Perhaps you could include those changes in your analysis to bring your conclusions up to date. We have hired "experts" to assist us. You failed to mention that fact. Meetings have also been far more productive lately. Perhaps you have not attended lately and so have missed the field reports and status reports on those changes?

[Complain About This Message](#) |

From: Roncpp

Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2009 06:21 AM

Our budget is a little over \$600k for the current fiscal year, so we have established you were not at the rate meeting Saturday were many of your questions were answered. Assuming "turning it over to the experts" (meaning some other company) may sound like a good idea, but who would give away our property and potentially increase our rates by doing so? Ask more questions at the next meeting. Perhaps we can help you with the frustration.

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From: [MostlySunny](#)

Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2009 07:13 AM

Ron, I have attended countless meetings including the last one and I have been a shareholder for 23 years. My comments are based on the belief that most of the mistakes and controversy of the last 20 years could have been avoided had we had made the merge with CVWD back then.

However, I do believe in your intention to lead us on a better course. I just believe that it will be pushing too big of a rock up to big of a hill and in the mean time the Shareholders will be footing the bill.

Time will tell

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From: [Roncpp](#)

Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2009 12:46 PM

Indeed it will: I have been working on this for some time and never thought it would be as convoluted as it has turned out. However, the costs associated with the changes have been about break even and are now starting to show a return in efficiencies gained and finally being able to start long range planning to maintain viability. The current staff were able to reduce delinquent receivables from \$90,000 to \$30,000 by applying new policies and procedures to situations which have evolved over the years. The true costs of failing to make the changes could have been insolvency if left unremedied. No business can survive when daily management is inconsistent. But at the core, we have a sound company that is capable of surviving and providing reliable, high quality water at a reasonable cost. I have gained confidence as decisions have been implemented by the board have born fruit.

A critical element to this is the active involvement of shareholders, at the very least, to show up to annual meetings or assign their proxy to someone who can cast votes on their behalf. This takes minimal time or effort and there really is no excuse for just ignoring this requirement for a quorum. Do one or the other. The way it has been is unacceptable in my view. If there are other members who have time to serve on the board and participate in running the company by overseeing the General Manager and staff, make yourself known to the community and help us get quorums at least once a year to conduct elections.

This is far more economical than giving away our assets and hoping some other company will do it cheaper. All water companies have challenges and they will become greater as

we experience shortages of water in the future. "Cheaper" is not a formula for maintaining our infrastructure and completing capital projects required to meet future needs. IMHO

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From: Roncpp

Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2009 01:34 PM

Home values are based in part on the infrastructure serving them. Having our own water company is a positive, especially when compared to many other communities. We control our own water resources and produce at our cost. Another company may be paying stockholders or paying off debt incurred from infrastructure we do not benefit from. Those variables would take thorough analysis. But clearly, those who say jump now, study later, are making far too many assumptions. Perry gave a lot of detail on those variables at the rate meeting. Our own debt may come due upon deciding to cease to exist. Anyone have a million plus to do that?

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From: Pops747

Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2009 03:03 PM

I have been following these threads and find this very interesting. Ron is right about showing up and voicing your opinions at regular scheduled meetings. My wife has gone ahead and emailed this thread also to CPPMWC it might give them a better perspective of what the overall concerns are with us shareholders.

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