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## Cedarpines Park



### CPP Water Town Hall Meeting

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**From:** CP\_Maynard

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 16, 2009 02:32 PM

I saw the flyer for a CPP Water Co. town hall meeting at Goodwins. Today someone put one on my car in Cedarpines Park. The flyer alleges fraud and mismanagement by the board.

To the person with the flyers:

1. Have you EVER been to a CPP water meeting? Because there are never enough people for a quorum so nothing can ever be voted on.
2. If you can't get a quorum at a regular meeting WHO do you think will show up for a "town hall meeting"?

Bring a book to your meeting; it will be a long lonely boring night.

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**From:** Roncpp

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 16, 2009 04:41 PM

There is an official meeting of the CPPMWC this Saturday at 10:00 am open to all shareholders and interested parties. There is one item on the agenda. Water rate increases. This meeting has been posted here, on the bulletin board and at the last 3 meetings. The meeting is at the Community Center in CPP. No need to go to Goodwins if you have any interest in company business.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From:** Roncpp

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 16, 2009 04:45 PM

I haven't seen any fliers but have heard someone is circulating them along with rumors. I wonder why they haven't shown up and asked their questions at the regular meetings? The agenda has this quaint democratic convention of "Public Comment" near the beginning of every regular meeting. This Saturday the only topic will be water rates. Come and ask your questions.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From:** No0thrButMe

**Sent:** Thursday, September 17, 2009 12:41 AM

Where is the community center for those that may not know ?

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From:** Roncpp

**Sent:** Thursday, September 17, 2009 06:47 AM

up hill from the fire station and the old Hayloft near the CSA 18 yard. Where Waters & Crest Forest intersect. It is the local polling place for those that vote.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: highlanderone**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 09:28 AM

1. Have you EVER been to a CPP water meeting? To cp\_Maynard. You need to add "Mushroom"(Kept in the dark and fed s---!)To your title as you sound very uninformed when it comes to cppmwco. When was the last time you ever went to a board/shareholder meeting?

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: highlanderone**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 09:52 AM

I was very glad to find the notice of the sat 19 water meeting on my car. I would have never known of the meeting as I saw nothing from the water co my thanks to those who let me know. NOTED the notice was right on when it stated we would be paying a 100 dollars + before any water usage. I heard we pay 12500 a month to the company no running the office and field. We are a company of 781 customers. I heard the board has no idea how much the previous office manager embezzled . I heard they dont want to go after him as what he has on the board of directors to prove how they defraud the company. I heard remarks about a board member defrauding a will serve letter for a street called canyon vista I am real intrested to hear" the rest of the story". This water company takes in over a half a million a year. When you crunch down the numbers of 1700 cubic feet a billing period youll be paying 7 cents a cubic foot instead of 6 very soon. We had a board member Mr. Friedman who resigned after 17 years just this july annual meeting where was he during all the embezzelment going durning the last 9 years. He is a criminal lawyer". Ok Roncpp why was the water rates during the meeting not compared to voe water co rates ? They are a mutual company right next door to us it does not cost them a 100 dollars before they use any water. They have no meter fees. Why waste your time for minutes when the board sensors the minutes. A 50% plus 1 quorum is unattainable according to the state corporations law book all mutual water companys should run with a 20% quorum which is attainable. Going to another water company is not the answer. CPPMWC needs to be run by those who dont spend money like they have an open purse. This board of directors has some dirty little secrets. Shareholders of CPP you better wake up to what goes on with your water company and they end of the tap or " you will be paying through the hose".

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: xoxo**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 10:09 AM

"they have no meter fees". (in VOE)

Yes, we do. Since last year, I think it's about \$25 a month?

Hopefully the rest of what "you heard" is more accurate.

I actually have to thank them for the icky water use restrictions. My usage was down 50% this year over last and my bill was \$42. They probably saved me from having a stroke when I opened the bill. (yes, I hate the restrictions but yes, they work, I grudgingly admit).

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: OLDGUY**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 10:29 AM

*I heard we pay 12500 a month to the company no running the office and field. We are a company of 781 customers*

Come to CG - the county special districts charges us \$80k/mo to run our water system. But we do have 328 customers to take care of.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: highlanderone**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 10:54 AM

Yes, we do. Since last year, I think it's about \$25 a month? To xoxo In looking at my most recent voe water bill I show no meter service fee or membership fee looking at my cedarpines park water bill shows 61.52 for these 2 fees before any water usage and they have increased these fees will now be over a 100 dollars before you use any water. Hopefully the rest of what "you heard" is more accurate. The story heard are very accurate no rumours thats the problem people have is dealing with the truth.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 10:55 AM

There is so much misinformation listed as "I heard" in the earlier post I won't bother to respond here. The facts are available. Innuendo and unprovable allegations are not news but have been dealt with to the extent possible. The legitimate questions have been answered and most of the critics have expressed their appreciation of the work that has been done to correct past situations. Obviously not all are satisfied, but perhaps if just the errors in the post were corrected, there would be less to talk about. First inform yourself, then question what is not clear. That would be my recommendation.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: highlanderone**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 11:03 AM

There is so much misinformation listed as "I heard" in the earlier post I won't bother to respond here. The facts are available. Innuendo and unprovable allegations are not new. Available to who ron? we cant even get mins for cpp more less facts the facts are we pay 61.52 on each billing before a drop of water is used the fact is you are raising that to over a 100 dollars each billing cycle before any water is used. Are you saying its a fact the embezzelment started here a couple of months ago? Ron sounds like you have your head up dark places its typical of the board of directors to lie and denie.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 11:07 AM

*they have increased these fees will now be over a 100 dollars before you use any water.*

Apparently you were not in the rate meeting. No rate increases have been approved or decided yet. We will be making them for the reasons demonstrated at the meeting. The exercise on the screen was to show the impacts of reaching a breakeven level of revenue on different customers with and without water consumption and compared to 2 other companies rates.

The "unofficial fliers" circulated announced fraud as fact and this \$100 increase as fact. The company announcements were posted on the community bulletin board repeatedly and were removed by some unknown person(s). The announcement was (and still is) here since a couple of months ago and at the last 2 meetings. An ad was placed in a local paper as well but was not published by some error on the paper's part for which the company received an apology. The facts are quite different from what heresay is being presented here by some.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: xoxo**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 11:11 AM

It isn't itemized on the water bill but they sent out letters about a year ago that the bill would be calculated as a base meter fee + water usage (VOE). I could look up the original paperwork but I'm not that organized. I remember distinctly because the base fee was about what I was previously paying for water in total and I expected ludicrously high bills but the water use fees are apparently pretty reasonable because they haven't been awful.

And I'm going to add this just cuz - there are probably a thousand adjectives anyone could use about Ron, many of them possibly not flattering, but in a million years I couldn't imagine "dishonest" being one of them. Last year at our water co. meeting we were joking about nominating him for our board (well, mostly joking) but we doubted he'd be willing to move.

We went through the same corruption/embezzlement stuff over here. At the meeting it was pretty clear that one guy did the damage, the employees got screwed just as bad as we did, and it was the courts who let us down (although the DA is still fighting).

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 11:15 AM

The estimated increase is about \$230 per year per meter. That is to break even with our current projected budget if we collected the increase for 12 months. We are already half way through our fiscal year so clearly that number won't achieve the goal.

It has also been suggested that we assess each share a fixed dollar amount and finance it over 3 years. This may be a suitable method to fund capital projects. As I said no decisions have been made yet. We are exploring our options but cannot delay resolving this for much longer. As was announced at this special meeting, there will be one more meeting to announce what we have decided and to answer the questions. Perhaps more will attend? 10% was a nice turnout and appreciated but more would be better.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 11:22 AM

It should be noted xoxo that the guy in your company was indicted, convicted and imprisoned. I believe I read there was a whistle blower that was able to provide evidence sufficient to accomplish that excellent outcome.

We have conducted top to bottom reviews and audits and found much to be upset about, but no evidence of criminality. We consulted legal counsel, the IRS, and our auditors and determined the only course available was to correct the problems and move forward. This is what we have done.

However there are some who are not aware or don't care about the changes. They are beating the same drum without taking into account the new music.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: highlanderone**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 11:29 AM

The facts are we pay 61.52 on each billing before a drop of water is used. Were you listening ron when the question was asked that the additional fee added to the existing fee would be approximately 100 dollars and there was a yes by the board president of the company.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: xoxo**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 11:40 AM

"It should be noted xoxo that the guy in your company was indicted, convicted and imprisoned. I believe I read there was a whistle blower that was able to provide evidence sufficient to accomplish that excellent outcome. "

Not really. He pled guilty on a plea bargain to "theft of over \$400" (it was actually around \$200K), was supposed to serve 90 days, and pay restitution. Probation terms were also somewhat of a farce and shortly afterwards he was working as a water company manager in Northern California (confirmed in newspaper articles from that area announcing same). No one is sure whether he ever served the 90 days and the restitution was just recently set aside, after numerous appeals, by the court and the case closed. The DA is apparently re-filing the charges. (Most of this is from the SB County Courthouse website records).

But yes indeed, it was a water co. employee (or board member, don't remember) who blew the whistle and bless them for that.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From:** xoxo

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 11:48 AM

And the point is, since VOE was brought into this discussion as some sort of comparison, a lot of people were outraged and we managed to muster a record-setting 15-20 people (lol) at last year's meeting. I think most of us came away feeling that the employees and board members had done their best, the bad apple was gone, the resolution of the issue was pretty much out of our hands, and that moving forward was all that was left to do. I have no idea how much \$\$ was spent on all this, how much will ever be recovered, and how much lost employee time. From the minutes of the hearings the water co. has had a representative at pretty much every hearing (the defendant was not required to attend, of course).

In other words, exactly what your counsel advised you - make sure whatever happened is not still happening, and move forward.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From:** TheMadDuck

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 03:13 PM

Does anyone know when the next meeting is?

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## Cedarpines Park

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**From:** Roncpp

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 03:38 PM

The next regular meeting is on 10/20/09 at 7 pm which is the 3rd Tuesday of the month as usual.

Was I listening? Yes. The existing fees plus an estimated \$36 dollars in fees yeilds around \$100 every two months and includes up to 1500 cf of water because until you use 1600 cf it only impacts the bimonthly bill about \$2. This is from my memory but is close to the numbers used for illustration. So around \$36 every two months if you are easy on water consumption and more if you use more water.

You seem to be really stuck on costs before you use any water. Our infrastructure and maintenance have costs that go on regardless of water consumption. Water cost is the least significant category until we use CLAWA water to supplement our wells production. Fixed costs are not imaginary or arbitrary. We have to maintain the system to ensure the water flows when the customer decides to turn on the faucet.

Perhaps to illustrate the point, when you buy a car you pay a certain price and have ongoing expenses to insure it, make the payments and to keep it in good repair. If you park the car for 6 months what goes away? Gas? Tires continue to rot, oil gets sludgy and it gets dirty. You continue to insure it and make the payments so it will be drivable when you come back and want to take a drive. Same principal to most businesses. Fixed costs, debt service, investment in infrastructure and labor to patrol the lines, inspect the tanks, change valve settings, to read meters and to answer the calls when emergencies happen. These are all mandated by State Health law. They are not optional.

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**From:** Gemini

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 03:43 PM

"The facts are we pay 61.52 on each billing before a drop of water is used."

Get ready to pay \$96.93, according to an article on the current issue of the Alpenhorn, **that's a whopping 58% increase**. The board wants to raise \$200,000 just for operating costs, that seems like a lot of money to me for such a small water company. Ron, LACSD looks better and better from where I'm sitting. 😊

[Complain About This Message](#)

**From:** Roncpp

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 03:49 PM



Thanks for clarifying that xoxo. I can't say I am surprised at such an outcome but it certainly doesn't provide much comfort to the shareholders who had to bear this cost.

This is the reason I volunteered. If the community cannot support a large paid staff, and the law requires certified water personnel to manage and supervise the operations, the only way a small company has to protect itself is through the board members who are charged with oversight. It is a bigger job than I anticipated and the number of hours of board time over the past 2 years has been significant. It was necessary to finally bore down enough to figure out what the problems were and what to do about them. It is not a job for those without significant business experience, water expertise or legal qualifications. Once our contractor completes the revision of policy manuals and final implementation of the recommended changes, the time demands should diminish and the problems will be more manageable.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 04:05 PM

Not according to the USDA who loaned us millions to complete some mandated capital projects. We haven't raised rates in a long time and costs continue to rise so we have a structural deficit of around \$200,000 per year. We have been using reserves for extraordinary expenses such as engineering studies on one of our tank sites that was failing after the heavy rains of a few years ago. We have replaced trucks, purchased standby generators to assure fire flow during emergencies and had more consultations with lawyers over the various issues alluded to here. The one thing that sets us apart from many small water companies is our water and our updated infrastructure. We have producing wells, excellent storage, reliable back up water supply for now and we are beginning to plan for our future needs which require additional funds.

It isn't cheap and will not get cheaper by stalling what needs to be done. We have recommendations from our lender to increase rates to maintain our solvency. We need to increase rates to demonstrate cash flow to qualify for financing other projects we have already obtained preliminary engineering and cost estimates for. We need to preserve the water company to maintain the value of our homes. It is really very basic common sense.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 04:13 PM

Gemini: What is your home worth if you have no water? \$36 every other month is chump change for a basic necessity. That's \$.60 a day to ensure you can take a shower, wash dishes, water your garden. It could have been less if implemented years ago. It will be more in the future. Is there any area of our lives that doesn't work this way? If \$36 more every 2 months is a burden, so are groceries, utilities, transportation, medical care. In the scheme of things it's a bargain. Hopefully our fellow shareholders understand better what we are trying to do and why it is necessary. Having such a good turnout was encouraging to the board. If any of them offer good ideas, we'll be happy to consider them.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Gemini**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 04:34 PM

"...increase rates to maintain our solvency."

That statement implies it's costing more to run the water company than what it takes in from its ratepayers.

Ron - You guys should look into merging with a bigger water company like some others have suggested. Merging with Crestline may not be a bad idea. Personally, I think it's

high time for all the local water fiefdoms to consolidate and become more efficient, the only thing stopping it is pride, every little chicken shit town loves bragging about having it's water company. Those days belong in the history books. Water is big business and only the big and strong will survive. Just look at what happened in the past and what is currently happening in Cedar Glen. It's a big, expensive mess. Good luck whichever way you guys decide to go about fixing the problems, I'm sure it won't be easy or cheap.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 04:44 PM

Gemini: That is the definition of a structural deficit. When you don't raise rates to keep up with inflation and changes in cost structure, you fall behind.

A merger was considered years ago. It does not necessarily save any money at all. This was discussed at our rate meeting Saturday. Some mergers result in existing debt being serviced by the absorbed company and any major required projects can also require special surcharges to the absorbed rate payers leaving them with even higher bills.

The other major concern is that our existing long term debt may require us to maintain our existence to avoid the loan being called. I am in the process of verifying this. The last thing we need is to have our 40 year 3.5% loan be called.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 04:47 PM

Large companies with insufficient water resources really like that merger idea. LACSD would love to find a way to get our water. Those companies that cannot sustain themselves due to too few ratepayers or insufficient water or defective infrastructure end up going that way. We have none of those problems.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: TheMadDuck**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 07:33 PM

Thanks about next regular meeting on 10/20/09 at 7 pm.

Educate me, if there's a quorum then I can vote on these issues? if no quorum then I sit and watch? How does it work?

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 07:40 PM

No, the board runs the company. The annual meeting is the time and place for election of board members. In theory if you have the ideal candidate who wants my job, I'm up next time. That person applies for the position, the staff determines their eligibility, ie: owning shares in good standing, no criminal background, and if a quorum is represented at the meeting that person can be elected to fill a vacancy.

Ideally we would have several somebodies that enjoy the confidence of the community and they all present their positions and make a case for election. The terms are 3 years. The other purpose of a quorum is if shareholders want a special meeting for any purpose they can call one. This requires a smaller number as I recall. The California Corporations Code spells all this out as do our Bylaws.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 07:43 PM

Decisions that affect the company are made by a majority vote of the board. We have to have a quorum to make such decisions. When we do that the shareholders are notified in



advance of such a meeting which will probably be sometime before Christmas. We will again solicit input from everyone. Once the input is heard, a decision will be made and a vote taken by the board. That is binding on the company and the shareholders.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 07:47 PM

The agenda for the next meeting should be available in advance. I'm pretty sure it will not include this matter. However, there is a public comment section of the meeting and you can bring up anything you care to. We will not necessarily act upon anything brought up in public comment. You can also go to the office and request an item to be added to the agenda or ask the board to take some specific action on your behalf. This is the purpose of the meetings. We review and approve or correct the minutes of past meetings (as opposed to "censoring"), review production reports, cover old and new business.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: TheMadDuck**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 08:13 PM

"Decisions that affect the company are made by a majority vote of the board. We have to have a quorum to make such decisions."

if there is no quorum then the board cannot make decisions?

"agenda for the next meeting..pretty sure it will not include this matter"

what does it take to have another meeting like the one last weekend? when do we get to vote on these rate increases?

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Conga**

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2009 10:45 PM

OK Ron, you've sold me. We'd like to attend the meetings and perhaps have a voice.

When we bought our house nothing was mentioned about the water company that we remember or have found any paperwork on it and it wasn't until a couple years ago, because of you, that we knew we had a vote...I think. How do we find out our status? How do we find out where our vote has been going if anywhere?

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: BreezyMtnLady**

**Sent:** Friday, September 25, 2009 12:28 AM

The good news is at least someone from CPPMWC is directly responding to inquiries. Just think, if it wasn't for Ron those busy folks in the office would have to deal with all this and based on what I've been reading in the CPP threads that would get you nowhere. I feel Ron is truly trying his best to walk a line between being a Board Member vs being a Shareholder. Unfortunately it seems like a conflict of interest which by all counts should not be the case, but that is the dynamics of the situation. Of course every Board Member is privy to "confidential" information. That's how the system is designed in these types of organizations. However, shouldn't there be a point in time when some of that information can be de-classified and available to the shareholder?

Conga: *OK Ron, you've sold me. We'd like to attend the meetings and perhaps have a voice* More and more I am hearing this sentiment among my neighbors than ever before. This is fabulous and I hope the "ground-swell" of discontent inspires and gains momentum.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: BreezyMtnLady**

**Sent:** Friday, September 25, 2009 12:34 AM

Instead of relying on Ron for all our information how about we, the shareholders combine and share our knowledge with others. So let me offer this for starters.

*The California Corporations Code spells all this out as do our Bylaws*

This is the entire index of the

**CALIFORNIA LAW - CORPORATIONS CODE**

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/calawquery?codesection=...>

Please do your due diligence and review the CODE in its entirety, however these sections may be relevant to CPPMWC

**DIVISION 2. NONPROFIT CORPORATION LAW**

(starting at SECTION 5000)

**PART 3. NONPROFIT MUTUAL BENEFIT CORPORATIONS**

(starting at SECTION 7110)

**DIVISION 3. CORPORATIONS FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES**

(starting at SECTION 12000)

**PART 7. GENERAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO CERTAIN CORPORATIONS**

**CHAPTER 1. WATER COMPANIES**

(starting at SECTION 14300-14303)

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**From: BreezyMtnLady**

**Sent:** Friday, September 25, 2009 12:37 AM

This is the entire index of the

**CALIFORNIA LAW - WATER CODE**

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/calawquery?codesection=...>

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: BreezyMtnLady**

**Sent:** Friday, September 25, 2009 12:49 AM

**California Secretary of State - Corporation Business Search** Free online access to corporate, limited liability company and limited partnership information. Available information includes the complete entity name, entity number, formation, registration or conversion date, status, jurisdiction, entity address, and the name and address of the agent for service of process.

Here is corp record of CEDARPINES PARK MUTUAL WATER COMPANY

What is interesting about this? I will give you only 1 clue 😊

**Agent for Service of Process...precious**

<http://kepler.sos.ca.gov/corpdata/ShowAllList?QueryCorpNu...>

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**From: BreezyMtnLady**

**Sent:** Friday, September 25, 2009 12:57 AM

*The California Corporations Code spells all this out as do our Bylaws*

**California Secretary of State - Frequently Requested Information**

**Bylaws or Operating Agreements** (or any amendments thereto) are maintained by the business entity and are not filed with the California Secretary of State. Requests for copies or information about these documents should be directed to the business entity itself.

**Owner, shareholder and employee information** for a business entity is not made of record with the California Secretary of State. Requests for information should be directed to the business entity itself.

Here's the source of the above information:

<http://www.sos.ca.gov/business/be/information-requests.ht...>

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From:** BreezyMtnLady

**Sent:** Friday, September 25, 2009 01:10 AM

**San Bernardino County**

**Fictitious Business Names Records Search**

<http://acrparis.sbcounty.gov/fbn/index.html>

searching CEDARPINES PARK MUTUAL WATER COMPANY will show a NOT FOUND which is ok because it is a corporation - not a big deal. But if you are wondering about any "contractors" or "other companies" or "other individuals" then give it a shot. A DBA may not be always be required? Anyway, I'll leave that for others to decide.

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**From:** [BreezyMtnLady](#)

**Sent:** Friday, September 25, 2009 01:24 AM

If anyone knows how to locate BOND information for "contractors", for "employees" please post. I think that's enough for now. I'll share more if the need arises.

Hope these links help to gain knowledge and become better informed. Time to give Ron some time off and maybe let the other Board Members chip in? Are they even on ROTW as much as R? 😊

[Complain About This Message](#) |

#### Big Bear Value Rentals

Find the best bargains in Big Bear Starting at \$75.00/night.  
[www.bigbearrentals.com](http://www.bigbearrentals.com)

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**From:** [BreezyMtnLady](#)

**Sent:** Friday, September 25, 2009 02:44 AM

### CALIFORNIA LAW - CORPORATIONS CODE

PART 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS AND DEFINITIONS GOVERNING PARTS 1 THROUGH 5 *Please do your due diligence and review the SECTION in its entirety*

**SECTION 5030 - DEFINITIONS** has terms I've heard on these forums. These sections caught my attention if interested.

SECTION 5032 - 5034

SECTION 5036 - "authorized number" ....voting power.

SECTION 5047.5 - (a) The Legislature finds and declares that the services of directors and officers of nonprofit corporations who serve without compensation..more

SECTION 5069 - "Proxy"

SECTION 5078 - "Voting power"

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=cor...>

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**From:** [MostlySunny](#)

**Sent:** Friday, September 25, 2009 02:26 PM

Ron, you sure like to speak for the other companies on how it would affect us if they provided our service.

Did the board send out the letter inviting the other companies to discuss other possible options?

If not, when?

If our company had taken up CVWD's offer twenty years ago, it is hard to imagine that we would be in the shape we are in now.

The Board owes it to the shareholders to provide us with all available options so that we can make informed decisions.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Friday, September 25, 2009 02:33 PM

I have not spoken for "other companies" but repeated some of the information discussed at the rate meeting last Saturday. As for the rest, asked and answered.

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**From: 7cities**

**Sent:** Friday, September 25, 2009 09:45 PM

BreezyMtnLady, thanks for posting. It's a lot to read. Answers a lot of questions. Still want to know if we get to vote on any increases.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Saturday, September 26, 2009 06:22 AM

The answer previously provided is that the board runs the company. Votes of shareholders are confined to elections of board members and matters initiated by the shareholders provided for in the bylaws. Rates are a matter of fiduciary mandates to ensure the sound operation and management of the company. They are not discretionary or subject to the preferences of the shareholders. In theory, your vote for board members or failure to vote at annual elections conducted during shareholder meetings where a quorum of shareholders is obtained, is how you express your choices. If you chose to elect board members who oppose charging enough to finance operations, eventually a majority of such board members would be in violation of our bylaws, state law and the terms of our long term loan.

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**From: MostlySunny**

**Sent:** Saturday, September 26, 2009 09:15 AM

Asked and Answered?

Has the board invited the Crestline Village Water District to, at the very least sit down with the board to discuss merging as an option? Yes or No?

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**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Saturday, September 26, 2009 09:21 AM

At the rate meeting a request was made to send a letter to two purveyors requesting a proposal. Perry Dahlstrom agreed to do so. As was also pointed out in previous posts, there may be an absolute prohibition of dissolving the company without causing the immediate payoff demand of our long term loan. Then there is the question of interest in doing so among the shareholders. Such a move could take years to analyze and decide. In the mean time we will operate the company as it is constituted as required by law and the bylaws.

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**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Saturday, September 26, 2009 09:27 AM

The other point to be made is that one of the possible purposes of such a merger would be to obtain the management and field staff services while remaining intact. We have already accomplished that by hiring a contractor that brings far more expertise than might be hoped for from any other local company.

So someone would have to make the case that this was not the goal of a merger and argue that the steps already taken will not fulfill our requirements. We are 6 months into our contract with our contractor and are in the process of conducting a review as provided by the contract. Renewal is at the mutual option of the parties based on performance.

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**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Saturday, September 26, 2009 09:31 AM

Anecdotally, the result of the first conversation about a merger long ago was that a company would be willing to get our assets and water for free. Our response was, why would we give you a \$5 million dollar company for nothing? What would your answer be?

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**From: 7cities**

**Sent:** Saturday, September 26, 2009 12:01 PM

*....the board runs the company. Votes of shareholders are confined to elections of board members and matters initiated by the shareholders provided for in the bylaws. Rates are a matter of fiduciary mandates to ensure the sound operation and management of the company. They are not discretionary or subject to the preferences of the shareholders*

so to be clear, shareholders WILL NOT VOTE on these rate increases! This is fact and not a question. Then WHY the big SAT show&tell town hall meeting about the increase? *At the rate meeting a request was made to send a letter to two purveyors requesting a proposal* WHY bother when it was just said the "preferences of the shareholders" don't matter. What's the point of all this? Sounds like the decision has been made.

*If you chose to elect board members who oppose charging enough to finance operations....* What obligation does the board have to fill a vacancy? 3 people were presented at the SAT dog&pony show running for the board. 2 out of 3 seemed qualified what happen to that? Will I have to wait till July 2010 before voting on these folks? WTF?

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: 7cities**

**Sent:** Saturday, September 26, 2009 02:06 PM

Looked around and guess will have to wait till July 2010 before voting on these folks.

*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.*

There was a boat load of people at the SAT 9/19 meeting. Looked like a quorum to me. What were the final numbers of people and shares represented?

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: 7cities**

**Sent:** Saturday, September 26, 2009 02:11 PM

What obligation does the board have to fill a vacancy - answered.

*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.*

when's the next "organizational meeting"? how long before a 5th board member vacancy is filled?

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Saturday, September 26, 2009 02:21 PM

The purpose of the meeting was to inform and answer questions. Input was provided and the board will hold at least one more meeting regarding rates. The annual meetings are held in July and that is when the next election will be. The shareholders do not vote to approve decisions of the board but to elect board members to represent them. This information is available in your copy of the bylaws and in the many links provided above.

The Board vacancy has been filled by a unanimous vote of the Board. The new board member will be introduced at the next meeting. Letters have been sent to the applicants and the successful candidate.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Saturday, September 26, 2009 02:27 PM

*WHY bother when it was just said the "preferences of the shareholders" don't matter. What's the point of all this? Sounds like the decision has been made.*

There is no such statement in my posts. Please stick to the facts. The Board considers the views of shareholders and solicits input because the board wants to know what the concerns are. I'm not sure what decision you think has been made. There is a requirement to raise the rates as explained but the specific timing amount and method of assessment has not been decided. The Board is still working on this matter. The shareholders do not run the company directly and a decision to raise rates is not made by popular acclaim or vetoed because it isn't popular. The meeting gave all shareholders a chance to ask questions and make statements regarding this issue. The question has never been do we or don't we. As explained, we are required by our bylaws and state law to run the company in a responsible manner. That is what we are doing.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Saturday, September 26, 2009 02:36 PM

The agenda announced in advance of the meeting contained one topic. Rate increases.

No census was taken for shares represented because no action was to be taken other than presenting information and listening to shareholders questions and comments. Elections at annual meetings require advanced notice, solicitations of proxies, presentation of candidates and the election itself at the annual meeting if a quorum is present. In the

absence of a quorum the Board fills any vacancies by vote. A quorum of Board Members is 3. The minutes of this meeting will be available at the next regular meeting along with the minutes of the organizational meeting conducted immediately following the Annual Meeting.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Saturday, September 26, 2009 02:49 PM

7cities: in the earlier post you blended your comments with mine so here is a clarification:

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.*** this is not my comment.

The following was my response to this comment. I try to distinguish quotes with italics.

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.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: Roncpp**

**Sent:** Saturday, September 26, 2009 02:52 PM

Presumably *Good Ol' Boys* refers to duly elected board members in compliance with the law. Implying that there is something improper going on should be tempered by facts. You have been given many answers and sources for more information. Distortions and innuendo serves no purpose and is insulting to those who donate time and energy looking out for your interests.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: 7cities**

**Sent:** Saturday, September 26, 2009 04:17 PM

Roncpp: *in the earlier post you blended your comments with mine so here is a clarification* got it, incorrect copy/paste, mybad. not slamming you, chill, it's all good.

*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 agenda announced in advance of the meeting contained one topic. Rate increases. No census was taken for shares represented because no action was to be taken other than presenting information and listening to shareholders questions and comments*

ok, all you had to say was the final numbers of people and shares represented on SAT 9/19 is unknown. Don't care about last 17yrs just trying to wrap my head around what is now. Wasn't that a special meeting? Did my homework-looked at the bylaws - special meetings section 2.03 - says one-fifth of the voting power etc... that's 20% isn't it? Enough already, I got the picture- alot of problems and obstacles still to come. Thanks for

chipping in with the PR, nice if the other boardmems would say something. Said before, appreciate the input.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From: BreezyMtnLady**

**Sent:** Saturday, September 26, 2009 05:17 PM

SUGGESTION? Please post any future meetings on the door at the water company. For non-resident shareholders, mail a notice (cuts down on postage costs). For resident shareholders, post a notice at the post office box locations, CPP, VOE and Crestline locations.

*The agenda announced in advance of the meeting contained one topic. Rate increases*

From: highlanderone: Thursday, September 24, 2009 09:52 AM

*I was very glad to find the notice of the sat 19 water meeting on my car. I would have never known of the meeting as I saw nothing from the water co my thanks to those who let me know*

DITTO!

From: RoncppSent: Thursday, September 24, 2009 11:07 AM

*The "unofficial fliers" circulated announced fraud as fact and this \$100 increase as fact. The company announcements were posted on the community bulletin board repeatedly and were removed by some unknown person(s). **The announcement was (and still is) here since a couple of months ago and at the last 2 meetings.** An ad was placed in a local paper as well but was not published by some error on the paper's part for which the company received an apology. The facts are quite different from what heresay is being presented here by some*

Where's the community bulletin board? Hope you aren't referring to the CPP post office location. I don't get my mail there, so I would never see such a notice. Had it not been for the "unofficial fliers" I would have never known about a special meeting.

***The announcement was (and still is) here since a couple of months ago and at the last 2 meetings.***

There is some "piece of paper" that I saw posted on the big office window facing the street. That went up at least 2 days before the meeting, my recollection. You would have to be 12ft tall to even read it. Be realistic.

From: RoncppSent: Saturday, September 26, 2009 02:27 PM

*Please stick to the facts*

Yes - absolutely:

**By-Laws of CPPMWC Section 2.05 Notice of Meetings**

Written notice of each meeting of shareholders, whether annual or **special**, shall be given to each shareholder entitled to notice, not less than five (5) days, before meeting, in any of the following ways:

FIRST: By delivering such notice personally: or

SECOND: By mailing such notice...etc or

THIRD: In any other manner provided by law.

*This information is available in your copy of the bylaws and **in the many links provided above** You're welcome!*

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## Cedarpines Park

### CPP Water Town Hall Meeting

Discuss topics specific to your community or community needs.

If you just want to chat with your neighbors, try our [Chat Rooms](#) for more general and varied topics.

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**From:** Roncpp

**Sent:** Sunday, September 27, 2009 06:09 AM

Notice to shareholders is always a challenge and a goal. The regular meetings are always at the same place on the third Tuesday at 7 PM. The bulletin board by the post office is posted with notices and some rely on that source for special meetings. Mailing notices to shareholders is expensive and still seems to fail to get much response.

I have used this site in recent months as an alternative realizing that few are on line. If we had e-mail addresses for those shareholders who have them that would be another viable and inexpensive way to provide information. We are trying. I would have no problem with the fliers being posted in Goodwins Market, placed on windshields, etc. if it weren't for the gratuitous slander and misrepresentation. This was the act of a shareholder who went too far in trying to drum up interest in the meeting.

I was happy to see the numbers who showed up and hope it wasn't a one time fluke. We need the support of the shareholders in the form of participation to the extent possible. Asking to be placed on the mailing list for minutes, asking questions directly to the board and staff by phone, letter, e-mail or at the regular meetings are available to all. Critically, showing up or assigning your proxy for annual meetings will allow us to conduct elections with wider input from shareholders.

The office staff are under a lot of pressure with the many extraordinary tasks they have been assigned. In addition to the routine business of administrative tasks, billing, payroll, documenting financial transactions, preparing minutes and agendas, they are working on creating new policy and procedure manuals for all aspects of company operations. They are doing this with the smallest number possible and have recently lost an employee due to repeated malicious confrontations with customers making demands that were inappropriate. Be understanding when you visit the office. They are there to provide customer service, but if you have a request that takes them away from their primary duties, a written request, some patience and courtesy should be mutual. The number of overtime hours already provided should be less necessary as great progress already made takes hold.

[Complain About This Message](#) |



**From:** odyfit

**Sent:** Sunday, September 27, 2009 02:06 PM

So it looks like a 200,000 dollar a year consulting firm is having trouble managing a 600,000 dollar company.

Oh wait, that is just this years budget.

You can blame the customers if you want Ron but it seems that the consulting firm and the board might be a little in over their heads.

I too believe that we should consider the possibility of merging with a company like Crestline Village Water. I was excited to hear at the last meeting that the board is going to sit down with at least two companys and discuss this.

Way over due!!!!

[Complain About This Message](#) |

**From:** odyfit

**Sent:** Sunday, September 27, 2009 02:08 PM

Oh, and you can easily put meeting times on everyone's bill. Saves on postage.

[Complain About This Message](#) |

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