



NOV 16 2023

Agenda No. 9

Staff Reports

November 16, 2023

TO: BCSD Board of Directors

FROM: Elaine Cervantes

RE: Staff Report

Cc: Marisol Camacho, Pete Cerna, Morelia Avila

Board Members,

Prop 218 District Water Rates update; in the process of further review of legal requirements before moving forward with obtaining a Rate Study.

5th Street Lighting update; The Chamber of Commerce's contribution to the 5th Street lighting is underway. Their donation of both money and time highlights their commitment to community improvement. It's also wonderful that Board Member Carlos Rodriguez stepped in with a generous donation of a third of the wire, resulting in significant cost savings for the Chamber of Commerce. It sounds like the project is making progress, and the involvement of both the Biola Chamber of Commerce and community members like Carlos Rodriguez demonstrates the power of collaboration in community development initiatives. Community-driven efforts like these can have a lasting positive impact on the neighborhood.

CDBG 2023/24 update; sounds like there was a positive development in the process for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the Biola application related to the (10) fire hydrants that are in need of attention. The meeting with the Housing and Community Development Citizens Committee on October 18, 2023, appears to have gone well, with Biola being well represented by 13 community members and the presence of AM Consulting, represented by Alfonso Manrique, the District Engineer.

The success of the meeting suggests that there is a good chance for Biola to be awarded the CDBG for the fire hydrant project. The timeline indicates that the decision on the award is expected to be known in February 2024. Until then, it's likely that there will be a review and evaluation process before the final decision is made. The district will continue to update on any further developments or communication from the County to ensure that the project is well-supported and progresses smoothly.

Board of Directors The selection of officers for key positions like President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer is crucial for the effective functioning of any organization. The change of Board positions will be added to the December agenda for action.

Fresno City College EMSL and Computer Literacy Classes – update; we are making great progress with organizing EMSL and Computer Literacy classes with Fresno City College. We have already managed to secure a significant number of participants for both courses (30+) for EMSL Classes and (30+) for Computer Literacy Classes

It's important to keep communication channels open and ensure that all involved parties are informed about the developments. Sharing the class dates as soon as they are confirmed will help participants plan accordingly.

December Board Meeting This meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, December 14, 2023 @ 6:00pm This date has been selected with consideration for the upcoming Christmas Holiday and to ensure maximum participation from both our esteemed staff and dedicated board members.

Community Outreach

- Hybrid Community Meeting – Fresno County’s Annual Housing Meeting was held on November 7, 2023 at Malaga Community Center 5:30pm to 7:30pm. This was a very informative meeting regarding an implementation program with communities regarding the housing needs of Fresno County residents. This meeting was recorded and the information will be forwarded so that it can be shared with the Biola community. This provided many financial resources for 1st time buyers, Section 8 housing, refinancing and most important the need for more housing developments in the rural communities.
- Saint Agnes Mobile Health Clinic was back in Biola on Thursday, November 2, 2023 from 1:00pm to 5:00pm at the Biola Community Center. They were able to provide flu vaccines, covid vaccines and much more. Saint Agnes will be back at the end of November, please stay tune for the new date and time.

BOARD PACKETS – Agendas and Board Packets will be sent by email effective August 1, 2023. If a hard copy is needed copies will be available at the office for pickup at your convenience, every Friday before the scheduled Board Meeting of every month. Thank you for your patience as we try and be a little more efficient with staff time and safety.

As a reminder the office hours are as follows:

Monday – office closed

Tuesday – 8:00am –5:00pm

Wednesday – 8:00am –5:00pm

Thursday – 8:00am – 5:00pm

Friday – 8:00am – 2:00pm