

Abalone Cove Landslide Abatement District

P.O. Box 4351 – Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274 - (310) 753-7117

MINUTES – June 12, 2023 Via Zoom

The Vice Chairman, Michael Barth, called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Abalone Cove Landslide Abatement District to order on Monday, June 12, 2023, at 5:30 pm.

Roll Call – Directors present – Barth, Leon and Miller
Directors absent - Knight

Secretarial Matters –

Consent Calendar

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the minutes of May 9, 2023

A motion was made by Mr. Leon to accept the consent calendar. The motion was seconded by Mr. Barth.

The vote was: Ayes: Barth, Leon and Miller
The motion passed by the above vote.

(Amended)Maintenance & Operations Warrant Register – June 12, 2023

A **motion** was made by Mr. Leon and seconded by Mr. Barth that the (Amended) Maintenance & Operations Warrant Register, Warrants No. 1 through 10 in the total amount of \$17,923.65 as summarized on the warrant register, be approved for payment.

1. Sandy Marshall – June 2023	1,400.00 (#2379)
2. S. C. Edison Co. billings - estimate	2,100.00 (#2380)
3. WSP USA Environment – S50846433 thru 5/26/23	840.00 (#2381)
4. Coastal Construction – misc. parts	288.96 (#2382)
5. Gordon Leon – misc. materials	1,145.95 (#2383)
6. Colleen Miller – reimb. Zoom	174.80 (#2384)
7. Coastal Construction – wells #12, #1, discharge lines	10,882.94 (#2385)
8. Coastal Construction – well readings	630.00 (#2386)
9. U.S. Postal Service – PO Box renewal	216.00 (#2387)
10. Gordon Leon – reimb. Sean Bauer for water level measurements	245.00 (#2388)

Total \$17,923.65

The vote was: Ayes: Barth, Leon and Miller
The motion passed by the above vote.

The agenda was amended to select a new board member.

Special Selection of a new board member – Mr. Barth reports that we are in receipt of Mr. Kelly’s resignation, and we have interviewed two candidates to replace him. Mr. Barth is sorry to see Mr. Kelly replaced, but he is looking forward to the energy that a new person brings to the board. After discussion with members of the board, we have decided that Claudia Gutierrez will be the new representative to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Kelly (November 2026). The clerk administered the oath of office and Mr. Barth welcomed Claudia to the board. He also welcomed the City Manager, Ara Mihranian to this evening’s meeting. Ara appreciates the board adjusting its meeting schedule to accommodate his request and says he will look forward to attending all the ACLAD meetings.

The next order of business was to select a new Chairman of the Board. Mr. Barth nominated Mr. Leon to fill that position. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gutierrez. Unanimous by voice vote. Mr. Leon thanked the board and vowed to make the meetings efficient, short, and comprehensive.

Continued Business

1. Community Liaison, PBCA, RPV - Colleen Miller

She attended the PBCA meeting. They are dealing with the same issues as ACLAD. Talked about the sewer, Cal Water and land movement. Discussed leaks, discharge line leak and damage regarding repairs to the road. The Web site is updated. She has added photos. She retyped the election protocol and she would like to include it on the website. She’s honored to serve on this board and serve with these people who donate so much of their time for a positive ACLAD.

Mr. Barth recommended that we postpone Mr. Kerwin’s report.

4. Financial Report, Governance, Legal, Accounting, Elections, Reserve Study and Certification – Michael Barth - We ended the year spending approximately \$2,000 more than we had planned on spending, but it’s not a big deal given that we completed maintenance on a number of wells and drilled two wells during this period. It’s been a productive year.

Regarding Certification – This had previously been Mr. Tootle’s job; however, Mr. Barth will take this on and work with Ara on this to get it done.

New Business

Mr. Barth had two items to address. #1 is that we have moved the meeting to Monday night this week to accommodate the schedule of Gordon and the City Manager, and the rest of the board and Monday night seems to be effective for all of us.

Mr. Barth **moved** that we make the second Monday of the month our permanent meeting night unless there are objections. The motion was seconded by Ms. Miller.

The vote was: Ayes: Barth, Leon, Miller and Gutierrez
The motion passed by the above vote.

The #2 item is that Mr. Leon will be out of town from June 29 to July 16, 2023, for a Trans Pac race. Mr. Kelly will also be out of town. Mr. Barth would like to know what our plan would be if something happens at the wells. Mr. Leon suggested that for most items someone on the board needs to call Mike Chiles for wells or drainage issues. Mr. Chiles will be gone for ten days, but he should be back before Mr. Leon is gone.

Continued Business

2. Maintenance, Drilling, and Operational Report - Gordon Leon

The screen was shared with the board. Mr. Leon reports that we are currently pumping an average of 113,000 gallons per day. It was down a little because two wells were having drain lines repaired and the main system drain line was also being repaired. They repaired pipe where land movement had pulled it apart. It is currently above ground. They have ordered 6-inch unions for land movement so there will be flexibility in the pipe. Also, they have installed a main line bypass system. There is a Y filter (thank you to Hendrik), that will be mounted on the box by PVDS. The filter will keep the meter clear. And there will be a valve arrangement to run water directly to the ocean, so they can work on this without turning the system off.

They repaired and moved 2-inch drain lines for wells #1 and #12. Also, per Mike Chiles they have installed a tracer line so we can find those lines, which we should be doing on all lines. Mr. Leon has measured water levels in #6, #10 and #4.

Plans are to replace pump in well #3; replace pump in well #6 and add a meter; install system bypass and apply for permit for electrical on well #10.

He discussed the graph, which is very spikey.

There was a question regarding whether it would be helpful to video our pipe to find breaks. Mr. Leon said videoing is basically for a sewage system. All of our pipe joints have a lot of right angles and you would never be able to do an adequate job of videoing. We do need to do a full drainage survey. Much of the system is above ground so we can follow it easily. Portions are covered with foliage, especially from PV Dr. S to the water.

He asked Ara what we need to do regarding foliage on the Conservancy that is obstructing the review of our drainage system. Mr. Mihranian verified that there is vegetation in the preserve that needs to be cleared. He suggested we put the request in writing to him and he will forward it to Public Works, and he can clear the area in question. A photo of the area would be helpful. This is the city's responsibility so it is great that we have an action item, so Mr. Leon will make a map and he asked Ms. Miller to make the request.

Ms. Miller is very concerned with the drain issue and hopes it can be taken care of as soon as possible. Mr. Leon says that we do not know exactly how much water is making it to the ocean, but when we have the meter up and running its results have been consistent with the sum of all the wells. He is not as concerned with leaks on our wells above PV Dr. S. because every time there has been a leak, it shows up above the ground and we fix it. We have probably fixed 10 leaks a year.

3. Geology Issues – Scott Kerwin with WSP USA Environment – He would still like to get the map finalized with the discharge lines, which is his next order of business. It still needs to be field checked. He is checking on drain lines for #19 and #20 to see where the drain lines go.

He is also interested in the wells up on Yorks's property. He understands there are a number of monitoring wells up there. Mr. Leon checked these wells several years ago and really didn't find any water in the wells. He suggests we pick two of the wells to see what the status is in possibly #14 and monitoring well D after we've had all the rain. It is interesting that we pumped quite a bit of water out of there at one time. It's good to have that information to see how the water levels have changed. In the past it has all been based on the discharge. As you know now, the discharge is not a good measure for what is going on with the groundwater now. Mr. Kerwin would like to see the results for the first two quarters that measurements were taken. Mr. Kerwin will be in the area tomorrow and discussion followed on how he could access some of the wells on the York property. Mr. Chiles will assist with this.

Mr. Barth asked Mr. Kerwin, because we have the City Manager as our guest tonight, if he would reiterate the reasons why it is so important to focus on the city wells south of PV Dr. S. Mr. Mihranian says he can give an update now. He says that the city is in receipt of the request for funding based on the study that was conducted. Next week the council will be approving the budget for fiscal year 2023-2024. He didn't include the request for funding, activating and repairing the four dewatering wells because he and Ramsey are still looking into the matter. They hope to have the answer in the next couple of months and then they can go back to the council and ask them to appropriate the funding at that time.

Mr. Barth had questions regarding the onerous regulations for drilling by the city. Mr. Mihranian says that any time city funds are used there are regulations. After drilling, the wells could be transferred to ACLAD. This and the grants were discussed.

The City Manager senses the urgency. He has been out in the area recently speaking with the residents. The Dauntless and Exultant areas are where the problems are. The city has fixed the area lately but, the sidewalk and all of that has been severely damaged now. Per Mr. Barth, the Seaview area has no representation on the Klondike board. It would be great if the City Manager could mention this while he is in the community speaking with the residents. Also, Mr. Mihranian says they need as much support from the community as possible regarding the Portuguese Bend Landslide Remediation Project because what we do there will really help the overall landslide complex.

The City Manager hopes to have an update on the well drilling below PV Dr. S. by the July 10th meeting. Hopefully he will have more information at that time. Mr. Kerwin stated that if that section of the landslide seaward of PV Dr. S were to stop moving completely, then ultimately everything would stop. It may take a while, but it starts at the ocean, so we need to make some progress ASAP.

Mr. Kerwin thinks ACLAD needs to have a formal archive for everything. Mr. Leon says that everything goes to the clerk and Ms. Miller says that it has been on the web site for the last couple of years. The most important part is what the status is of the wells and what is being fixed. He would like to finalize the last two logs for the wells that were drilled in the last year. He wants to make sure all that information goes into a file, so it is available ten years from now.

5. Well water monitoring program data– Jim Knight - no report here at this time.

Information Items – there were none at this time.

Audience Items – Kent Attridge asks if there is a limit as to how much ACLAD assessments can be increased each year. Based on recent land movement he believes that the membership would be amenable to significantly increase assessments to help protect property values. Mr. Barth responded that districts are different from normal taxing agencies. ACLAD sets up goals and cost out to the best of our abilities those goals, plus the administrative cost, and then we assess our members equal to that. In this year we decided that we would do three wells in the next 12 months, which we thought could be done. It is possible that we could increase that number, but we would have to talk to Gordon who supervises drilling and who is stretched pretty thin right now. If we have the manpower to supervise the drillers, we would be able to do more wells. The more water we extract the quicker we stabilize the land movement, and we are in favor of doing that. We would love to do six wells in the next 12 months and that was one of the reasons to pursue grants from FEMA. There was a large increase in the 2023-2024 assessment and will increase in the next fiscal year. There was a positive response from the audience regarding increases. Ms. Maxwell is working on a list of tasks that we could use volunteers to do.

There was a question regarding water coming down from the Crest Community. Mr. Barth gave the information that he had from past reports. Mr. Mihranian stated that data the city has, the contribution of ground water from cesspools, is not a significant amount. Water from above funnels into Altamira Canyon and this is being studied by Public Works. He also would like the board to accept the Plan of Control that he has and then changes could be made. Mr. Barth asked that this be included on the next agenda for the July meeting. More discussion followed. Mr. Mihranian may have a plan that does not have “draft” written on it and he believes they may have an original budget, which we would also need. Mr. Leon asked that Ms. Miller follow through on getting together all the data on the plan of Control. Discussion followed.

Thanks went out to Mr. Mihranian for attending our meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

The Next Meeting will be held on Monday, July 10, 2023 - 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Marshall, District Clerk