

From: [Christine Heinrichs](#)
To: [BoardComment](#)
Subject: Public Comment
Date: Friday, May 13, 2022 9:04:27 AM

Please include in Written Comments. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Thank you for scheduling a special meeting, after this one, about the Notice of Violation from the Coastal Commission. In the spirit of your award for Transparency, I hope you will post the Notice of Violation on the district website. For now, it is available to the public at protectcambria.com. However, the Special Meeting will be a closed Session, depriving the public of any airing of the issues the Coastal Commission raises. Please hold a public discussion by board members to inform the public. Then reach the clever solution to these violations by resolving them and complying with the law and responsible government. One of the requirements is to retract all active will serve letters. The district responded to my Public Records Request that it does not have such a list. Make one, not only for the Coastal Commission and your relationship with that agency, but also for the holders of those Will Serve letters. As the Commission said in its Notice of Violation, such letters give applicants false hope that they will get a building permit. Instead, the county and the Commission go through the permitting process, concluding with the permits being denied. I hope General Manager Weigold is at least telling the applicants that the sham permits the district has approved will never turn into real permits and allow them to build. You are elected officials at a time of coastal imperatives. Your legacy can be that you saved these precious resources. Please take action today to do so. Thank you.

Item 5 Consent Agenda:

Please pull the Merk Contract from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Please table this item permanently. The district claims it lacks money to pay for necessary repairs and upgrades to the water and sewage treatment infrastructure, yet continues to pay for more and more studies and consultant reports on the EWS. The board even hired a consultant to advise the district how to get the CDP! It ignored his advice, but still.

The staff has claimed that the CDP application would be completed years ago. Now, we find, only 25 percent of the required biological surveys, begun five or six years ago, was done. Did no one notice? Years later, studies are still not done.

Now the district is under pressure from the Coastal Commission, the eventual arbiter of this CDP, to meet more basic standards. The board should direct its attention to resolving these issues before turning its attention to issues that have been ignored for years.

The district is like a defrauded lover in a Nigerian romance scam. Just one more payment, and he'll claim the millions of dollars he's going to inherit! Last month, another \$40,000 for groundwater studies. Just one more check for \$85,860, and our water problems will be solved!

This is your chance, board. If the district was serious about getting this permit, the application would have been completed years ago. Stop throwing money at it. Direct staff to mothball the EWS/SWF/WRF. Stop now. Thank you.

Item 7C

The brevity of this item reminds me of the streamlined process a previous board took to put the district \$9 million in debt for the EWS. Watching that August 4, 2014 board meeting can be helpful in reflecting on this plan to add more debt to Cambria's finances. It's available on SLO Span, check the Archives. <https://cal-span.org/unipage/?site=slo-span&owner=CCSD&date=2014-08-04>. This time, it's 30-year financing for improvements that mostly will last 20 years or less. The district will carry debt for longer than the improvements will last. The district should consider closing down the EWS to reduce expenditures on that to a minimum, then prioritize and evaluate upgrades and repairs rather than do them all at once. Piling more millions in debt on Cambria should be a last choice. The rationale for the Water and Sewer Rate Increase is to provide enough revenue to convince lenders to finance this debt. Surely, there's better ways to manage money and get Cambria's vital services into good shape. I ask that you direct this team to bring alternative financing plans to the board for consideration rather than taking the fast track to closing on funding in a few short months.

Item 7F

The Policy Committee sent the board this policy for responding to messages from the public. It would mandate a boilerplate acknowledgement within two days that the message was received. This isn't much of an improvement over ignoring messages from the public, which is board members' usual response. I rarely get any response from any board member I contact. That's unlike other elected officials, at the state and federal levels, who make a point of replying thoughtfully, even when we disagree. The board may adopt it, but I can't see that it's going to Improve Communication, and it's not to your credit that you don't respond to messages from your constituents.

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Christine Heinrichs

From: [Crosby Swartz](#)
To: [BoardComment](#)
Cc: [Donn Howell](#)
Subject: Public Comment on 5-12-22 Agenda Item 7.C Capital Funding
Date: Thursday, May 12, 2022 12:31:21 PM

- Please consider the following comments as you proceed with funding options for the Wastewater capital projects.
- The agenda package for this item mentions a 30-year bond sale. Shorter term financing would be less costly and would be more appropriate for new equipment and installations with a useful life of less than 30 years.
- The proposed rate increases will increase the revenue stream for wastewater capital projects to more than \$1,000,000 per year. Many of the capital projects should be paid for out of these revenues, scheduled on a pay as you go basis.
- The amount of bond financing should be the minimum necessary for the higher cost projects, such as the lift station improvements. A rough estimate of the necessary financing is \$6,000,000.
- There are substantial cost savings available to the district and it's customers by reducing the dollar amount of financing to 6,000,000 and the term of the financing to no more than 20 years.
- Thank you for considering these comments. Crosby Swartz

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From: [Gordon Heinrichs](#)
To: [BoardComment](#)
Cc: [Harry Farmer](#)
Subject: CCSD Board Meeting May 12, 2022 consent item 5. B comments attached
Date: Thursday, May 12, 2022 12:29:53 PM

CAMBRIA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Thursday, May 12, 2022 - 1:00 PM

5/12/2022 Gordon Heinrichs written comments in [blue](#) and [red](#) to the Board Secretary at boardcomment@cambriacsds.org.

Consent agenda

5. B. Discussion and Consideration of Approval of an Agreement for Consultant Services with Kevin Merk Associates, LLC for Environmental Consultation for the Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) and Adoption of Resolution 29-2022 Amending the Fiscal Year 2021/22 Budget

The CCSD's current consultant Cleveland Biological is not willing to renew her existing agreement, which necessitates securing a new consultant to complete the project.

[Approximately 25% of the original scope was completed.](#)

In the event this Agreement is terminated pursuant to this Section, the District shall pay to Consultant the actual value of the work performed up to the time of termination, provided that the work performed is of value to the District. [Did the Consultant will submit an invoice to the District?](#)

Consultant shall maintain complete and accurate records with respect to sales, costs, expenses, receipts, and other such information required [by District that relate to the performance of services under this Agreement. Consultant shall maintain adequate records of services provided in sufficient detail to permit an evaluation of services.](#)

[Question is how much is the district plan on paying Cleveland?](#)

The Kevin Merk Associates, LLC current project description includes extending the lagoon discharge pipeline to the bank of San Simeon Creek, [which will require additional construction work when the permit is approved.](#)

[Question Where is this cost included in this project?](#)

Much thanks,

Gordon Heinrichs



From: [Handel, Tracy](#)
To: [BoardComment](#)
Subject: Cambria Water Issues
Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2022 6:43:59 PM

To the Board:

I would like to understand if state and/or government grants have been written to improve the water infrastructure in Cambria. I am admittedly not yet well-informed on all aspects of the situation but I do know that something needs to be done in advance of an emergency and that we need to plan long term for the inevitable worsening drought situation. I would like to know 1) what has and has not been done with regard to grant applications; 2) what the outcomes were if any grants were submitted; and 3) if no grants were submitted, why not?

I have written grants my entire life and I would like to propose that a team of interested residents could volunteer to help with grant application submissions. I for one would be more than happy to participate in such an endeavor. Now is the time to do it given the current focus on infrastructure.

Looking forward to hearing from you

Best wishes

Tracy

Tracy M. Handel

[REDACTED]