

**Cordry Sweetwater Conservancy District**  
**Financial Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**April 15, 2021 – CSCD Office**

1. Members attending in person: Sharon Ketner, Anita Sears, Rex Keck, Denise Caudill, Scott Nickerson and Ron Rayl.
2. Others attending in person: Jay Nogan.
3. Attending via computer: None.
4. Members Absent: Carrie Vavul.
  
5. Meeting began at 7:00 PM  
Minutes reviewed. No changes recommended.
  
6. Sears requested an update about the Zebra Mussel Prevention Committee (ZMPC) from Nogan. At this time, the ZMPC and Ecology Commission had not reached any final decisions. A fee for contractors of \$25 per launch has been proposed. A fee for freeholders is still under review. The initial ZMPC discussions have been more about the proposed rules and prevention policy.
  
7. Ketner shared information about Survey Monkey to gather opinions from the freeholders. Provided we keep the survey to 10 questions or less, there is no fee. The Committee agreed that this would be the best way to reach the 1598 freeholders. Discussion about the survey included the following points:
  - a. Put link for survey on the CSCD-in.gov website.
  - b. Use CSCD email/text messaging to encourage use of survey. Brittany Bay indicated to Ketner that the CSCD has approximately 1,220 subscribers to the email/text alerts.
  - c. Use water bills or a separate postcard mailing to advertise survey to all freeholders.
  - d. If a CSCD newsletter goes out, include article on completing the survey.
  - e. Survey must indicate that only one response per freeholder will be counted.
  - f. Ask CSLOA to advertise survey on CSCD website.
  
8. The current sources of revenue, outside of the property tax levy, includes: boat decal income; work boat permits; marina income; Verizon tower; building permits; New Wave Communications franchise fee; and allocation from the Water department. These items will require additional analysis to determine how we may be able to equitably increase rates where possible.

An idea that got some traction was to retain a flat levy assessment for all freeholders that would be tied to Roads and Security expenses. The thought was everyone uses these works of the CSCD. Revenues from the lakes and parks/trails could be more user based. However, it is noted that even those who live off lake and do not “use” the lake, do benefit from it as an integral part of the community. Rayl cautioned the committee to not become fully dependent on

user fees as freeholders could choose to scale back usage of revenue sources, or an unforeseen event...i.e. tornado, major lake disaster...could have a major impact on revenues.

9. The committee brainstormed about the benefits of living in the CSCD. This list included:
  - a. 24/7 public safety – private security; regular patrols.
  - b. Roads – snow removal, maintenance, striping, gravel.
  - c. Lakes – clean water, property values, ramps, dams.
  - d. Fishing.
  - e. Parks/Trails/Ecology – basketball court, pickleball court, maintenance of trails, nature, compost area.
  - f. Beach – shelter, playground, volleyball court, grooming of beach.
  - g. Boating – private access, marina, safety patrol.
10. Ideas for survey questions were proposed. Ketner was to compile the suggestions and send to the committee for further refinement before the next meeting.
11. Nickerson inquired about the committee using his model that he provided on March 14. Without explanation of how his model worked, it was not discussed in length at the March meeting. The committee is interested in learning more about this tool that Nickerson has provided.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 7:00 PM at the CSCD Offices.

***The Financial Advisory Committee Mission:***

*“Explore ways to fund the approved budget and eventually decouple from the reliance upon value-based assessments for the collection of CSCD revenues.”*

**DRAFT**

Proposed survey questions:

Of all the benefits provided by your property tax levy from the CSCD, please rank the top 3 benefits that YOU value most:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 24/7 public safety – private security; regular patrols.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Roads – snow removal, maintenance, striping, gravel.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lakes – clean water, property values, ramps, dams.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Fishing.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Boating – private access, marina, safety patrol.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Beach – shelter, playground, volleyball court, grooming of beach.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Parks/Trails/Ecology – basketball court, pickleball court, maintenance of trails, nature, compost area.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Complete the following, who pays for/provides the following. You may choose more than one:

	CSCD	Brown Co.	Other
Area Sheriff deputy patrols	_____	_____	_____
Fire department services	_____	_____	_____
Road repaving	_____	_____	_____
Snow removal within CSCD	_____	_____	_____
Beach Shelter rental	_____	_____	_____
Clubhouse shelter rental	_____	_____	_____
Water supply within CSCD	_____	_____	_____
Lake treatments for weeds	_____	_____	_____
Library at Nineveh Rd & Centerlake	_____	_____	_____

Tell us about your property:

Paved drive or gravel drive.

On water or off-shore.

Lot with house or empty lot.

Survey responses will be limited one per freeholder. Please provide your address AND lot number for tracking purposes only. i.e. 6784 Grey Wolf Dr. SW234

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Thank you!