

**Klondike Canyon Geologic Hazard Abatement District**  
**P.O. Box 3675 – Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274 - (310) 787-7111**

**MINUTES – October 28, 2024**

The Chairman, Steve Cummins, called the regularly scheduled Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Klondike Canyon Geologic Hazard Abatement District to order via Zoom.

**Roll Call**

Directors Present - Cummins, Hotchkiss, Freeman and Grillo

The meeting was paused to go to Executive Session – 4:30 p.m.

After the executive session, the Chairman reconvened the special meeting, and the members were invited into the zoom meeting by Colleen Miller.

**Roll Call** – Directors present - Cummins, Hotchkiss, Freeman and Grillo

Mr. Cummins informed the board that there have been 2 new tort claims filed against the Klondike board and the board considered the claims and that the board has rejected each and every claim. They are claiming damages caused by Klondike. In order to sue a public agency, you have to first file a claim. The district has 45 days to accept or reject the claim. Then 99% of the time, the claimant files suit. Mr. Cummins read the names of the additional people in the claim. They are as follows and the board has voted to reject them all.

1. Charles F. Stirling & Robin G. Stirling – Cummins, Hotchkiss, Freeman, Grillo -reject all
2. Roko Vulin & Marica Milicic - Cummins, Hotchkiss, Freeman, Grillo -reject all

After discussion and due consideration, each of the members of the board have voted to reject the claims of each and every claimant. The clerk of the district is instructed to mail a notice to each claimant and their attorney of record that their claim has been rejected by the district.

As a side note, the city loan and the FEMA loan if we get it, will not cover any of the legal expenses. Funds for legal will all come out of assessment funds. If we are not released from those claims it will be on the backs of the assessment district.

**Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved by voice vote.

**Secretarial matters** – none at this time.

**Approval of Minutes – September 23, 2024**

The minutes of the September 23, 2024 meeting were presented. It was moved by Ms. Hotchkiss and seconded by Mr. Freeman that the minutes of September 23, 2024 be approved as presented.

The vote was: Ayes: Cummins, Hotchkiss, Freeman and Grillo  
The motion passed by the above vote.

## Continued Business

- 1. a Upper Canyon Drain** – Mr. Cummins met with Ramzi last Friday and they discussed an issue that the council had been concerned about. With the loan that the city has promised and the fact that the ownership of the property where a lot of the project work would be done is owned by the city, they are concerned that it would not look good to the public to have work being done by both the city and Klondike. It was decided that the city would do all of the work on the city owed land, which would include fissure filling, work on part of the 48 “ pipe that goes under PV Dr. S., and also the 16 “ flexible pipe that will be put in down the canyon. Ramzi set up a meeting for tomorrow with the geologist to walk the area. They will start filling the fissures and start digging a berm this week as soon as they have adequate access after filling the fissures in the canyon. They also discussed removing the gabion wall, which creates a damn there.

Steve had ordered a CCTV for Friday on the 48” pipe but there was a mechanical problem. The company was going from Yacht Harbor Dr. down to the ocean when the camera they were using, which weighs 250 lbs., broke. They had to manually pull it back up by hand and take it in for repairs. Possibly tomorrow they will be able to begin work again.

- 1. b Beach Drain (Artesian Well)** – The Artesian wells are not really artesian wells, but pumping wells doing dewatering. Steve Hinchcliff has been doing a really good job of capturing all of the data regarding the wells. Our latest data is that well #6 is pumping 300/gpm and the water level is down to 67 ft. Well #5 is still down, which is a problem. Nikki Noushkam interrupted to say there were people waiting to get into the meeting. Colleen said there were no people in the waiting room. Nic said they may be clicking on the old agenda. The other two wells that were pumping 80/gpm are not being worked on because the pump guy wants to get well #5 back on line first. The actual surface slide movement is 100% stopped. That has happened over the last month. We don’t have to worry as much about the pumps being sheared. With the new land movement scenario and hopefully they will be sustainable. The pumps are adjustable so that as the water table goes down, they can be adjusted to pump less or turned off or rotated to keep the water table as is. In the future we need to make sure they are all operable and if we do get rains in the future we have back up pumps, etc.
- 2. Seaview Area Report** - Mr. Cummins has spoken with Ramzi. The city was going to get started with work on the very deep intersection at Dauntless and Exultant Drives and install pumps. Mr. Grillo says that the city has installed a catch basin, and will be filling the area and putting plastic over that so that water will all run to the catch basin and be injected into the sewer. The County Sanitation District project on PV Dr. S is almost done. This is quite beneficial to us because the force main sewers were buried coming across the ancient beach club slide. If these had broken that would have been an unbelievable tragedy.

Colleen Miller reported that power and gas are still off but 14 houses in the PBCA area have their power back on. Unfortunately, some of the areas with electricity are not powering the wells which need to be powered at all times.

3. **Klondike Channel Maintenance Plan** – this is the ancient beach club slide. This is the city property and it was graded flat. We don't want to add dirt there because you don't want to put dirt at the head of the slide to add extra weight. We will keep looking into this.
4. **Sub Slide Maintenance** – work is always ongoing.
5. **Video Presentation for district** – Mr. Grillo has been working on this and he has gone to using social media. Klondike now has an Instagram account and a Facebook account and Mr. Grillo has been updating Klondike information there. He will be working on the website as soon as he can get rights to the website transferred over. Colleen volunteered to work with him to help update the website.
6. **P.B. slide dirt** – this includes removing dirt from the easterly side of the Portuguese Bend slide. We have a continuous permit to do work and this slide is continually monitored. Nothing else is needed at the moment.
7. **Loan from the city** – This is being worked on to put packages together for the 3 wells that have been drilled. Mr. Cummins has talked with Vina as to what is needed to go through Public Works. This loan is a big chunk of money we can use for repairs and generators. The primary one we need is for the FEMA loans. It has been decided that we will continue with the FEMA loans. The first run for the city, ACLAD and Klondike was denied by FEMA because of reasons of an ongoing existing condition. We will not accept that. We have an advisor that we have hired who is going to assist with that. Even after we get the money, we will need advisors to manage the FEMA grants and the city loan. Andrew and Kelly will be checking on additional loans.

Water testing update. Mr. Cummins says that we have talked about this before. There really isn't anything with stopping the slide that is involved with water testing. He knows that ACLAD had previously done testing and didn't really find any results as to where the water was coming from. As far as stopping the slide, water is water no matter where it comes from, so that has never been a part of our responsibilities. The results are very difficult to obtain because sampling is very hard to get done properly, certified and tested.

Election update – Mr. Grillo reported that possibly Jerry Yutronich would be interested in joining the board. We have tried for years to get members from Seaview to get on the board and we have been unsuccessful. If Jerry is interested, we should get him to fill out a Statement of Candidacy. Colleen will follow up on this. Colleen is updating all of the addresses and emails for Seaview and the Beach Club. She is missing a few but has had some help and she thinks she has the information and the next assessment will be sent out by Quick Books.

**New Business** – none at this time

**(Amended) - Maintenance & Operations Warrant Register**

**October 28, 2024**

1. Sandy Marshall - District Clerk – October 2024 service	1,000.00
2. Christopher Lewis – maintenance	125.00
3. Mike Drews Construction - Inv #2635 labor/equipment earthen swale	4,650.00
4. Colleen Miller – Asst. Clerk October	1,000.00
5. Alliant Insurance Services, Inc. 9/29/24 – 9/29/25 special liability	5,329.31
6. Mike Drews Construction - #2636	
Fabrication to construct 42” vault	4,350.00
Clear sand to create 35 ft wide access road	3,250.00
Cover access road with gravel	1,250.00
Install 175 ft of electrical conduit to well #4	3,995.00
Excavate trench approx. 16 ft. deep for well casing	7,500.00
Deliver & set vault in place	<u>750.00</u>
	21,095.00
7. Portuguese Bend Beach Club - fuel thru 9/20/24	1,229.94
8. Mike Drews Construction - #2640 install electrical for new well	5,626.67
9. Mike Drews Construction - #2639 discharge line for 2 wells	19,500.00
10. Michael Barth – reimb. ½ cost of new laptop	989.63
11. Portuguese Bend Beach Club – reimb. generator rental & additive plus an additional invoice of \$306.45	8,104.59
12. Wood Oil Company	497.13
13. Wood Oil Company – 9/13/24 quote	1,049.84
14. Wood Oil Company - #195189 combustible liquid 10-4-2024	1,154.56
15. Wood Oil Company - #195513 combustible liquid 10-21-2024	1,393.94
16. Pump Systems Unlimited - #Q8743446 – flow meters/#1 & #2	2,842.85
17. Garrett & Tully – as of Sept. 30, 2024 Anderson vs Cal Water	13,020.00
18. Pump Systems Unlimited – Q8743451	10,058.96
19. Mike Drews Construction - #2652 fabricate vault #3	3,450.00
	<b>\$102,117.42</b>

It was **moved** by Ms. Hotchkiss and seconded by Mr. Grillo that the (Amended) Maintenance and Operations Warrant Register dated October 28, 2024, No. 1 through 19 in the amount of \$102,117.42 as summarized on the warrant register, be approved for payment.

The vote was: Ayes: Cummins, Hotchkiss, Freeman and Grillo  
The motion passed by the above vote

**Information items** – none at this time.

**Audience Items** – Sha wanted to know how many times ACLAD has tested the water. Mr. Cummins said just once when he sent samples over to be included with the ACLAD results. The results were inconclusive. Colleen will send her this information which is on the ACLAD website. Eva Albeja said that if RPV is going to take responsibility for their land, how does that change our budget. The Chairman said that this would give us more money to do maintenance. Someone said that the city has about 57% of Klondike’s assessment. The city has already paid a large assessment fee. The Chairman says that one of the big issues for next year is going to be with the budget. We have to include repayment of the loan in the budget for next year 2025. The loan cannot be used to pay for legal expenses. We will have to see where this goes with the lawsuits. We are already into it by about \$40,000. This has to be paid through assessment fees. We now have 28 tort claims. We have legal defense fees that we are all paying with our assessments. So that includes the possibility of loan repayment and it depends on if we are fortunate enough to get grants. Some of those allow payment for anything and others do not, so a lot of that burden falls on the assessment district payers, including the city who is just another property owner. There is a possibility that our assessments will increase in the spring. The slide has only been stopped for the last 4 weeks. If the fissures are fixed, the pipes fixed and functioning then we are in a position where we can make it through the winter with this warm dry weather we have had. We don’t really know at this time what financial position we will be in. We have a lot of things in the pipeline.

Nikki ? Someone wanted to know where the Klondike records are. This is public taxes and we should know where the money went. Where is it listed? She wants it listed on a public website. Where can they get that information. The information is with the Klondike clerk and efforts are being made to post this information on the website. We are a public agency and we do our own bookkeeping.

Jerry Yutronich inquired about filling fissure. Mr. Cummins discussed the city taking over filling the fissures above Dauntless. It is probably just out to bid, but they may want to use Malcolm. How will Klondike be involved in what the city is doing? Per Mr. Cummins, Klondike will be monitoring what is done and may be making suggestions. Sott Kerwin will be involved, as well as the city’s geologist.

David Roth asked a question regarding Exultant and Dauntless. This is a complete city project. He wants to know how much Mr. Cummins is working with them. Klondike is not responsible for the sewer or damages to homes or fissures on the property. Homeowners are responsible for filling their own fissures. PB Club is responsible for their own roads, their sewers, storm drain systems, etc. Everything in the PB Club is paid with their own reserves. So then Mr. Roth wanted to know if at any time in the past Klondike money had been used for road repair work down at the Beach Club. Mr. Cummins said “absolutely not”.

There was another question regarding funds and where they are spent. How are funds allocated? The counsel designated an amount of money to fill fissures to be spread evenly over the areas with fissures. Who is watching the funds? This information is on the website.

Dennis Jaconi thanked Steve Cummins for his service to our community helping save all of our homes. It’s incredible to know that we are pumping out more water than our own city next to us who has spent tens of millions on pumps. We are a model for everyone else and couldn’t have

done it without Steve. He was also asking about the 48” pipe under 47 Seawall. Per Mr. Cummins, the city seems to be flexible on getting things to work. The city is doing a lot of dewatering and it is very evident that they are really focused on making this finally an area that is safe and sane. We are really very lucky to have hardworking people at the city to make this stabilization happening.

There was a question about the tarps that were put on last year. The Chairman says they were an emergency measure and it actually did help, was not a permanent solution.

Eva and Nikki want check #'s. Did any funds designated for Klondike get used for the Beach Club?

**Adjournment** – There being no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held via Zoom on December 23, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Marshall, District Clerk