

Minutes
Los Carneros Water District
Special Meeting, July 20, 2023 - 6:00 PM
NSD Conference Room 1515 Soscol Ferry Road, Napa, CA 94558

Roll Call: Walker, Lincoln, Jones present. Drayton and Wilkinson absent. Staff Present was Chris Appalls, County Counsel.

Public Comment: None

Board Members discussion of violation of LCWD Ordinance No1 and Administrative Guidelines regarding transfer of water from parcel within the Los Carneros Assessment District to a parcel outside the Napa Assessment District. Jason Ray owner of Napa Select Vineyard Services manages they property where the violation occurred - 1017 Los Carneros - which is owned by Joey Wagner. The first violation in 2020 which was watering an adjacent parcel. This violation was taking recycle water from this site and loading in onto a truck and using the water at a parcel further down Los Carneros which is owned by Jason Ray. The violation was 30,000 gallons or 10 truckloads of water.

The Board asked about increasing penalties. County Counsel Appalls stated increasing penalties are allowed under Guidelines. The first penalty was \$2,000 and 28 days of no recycled water during the fall. The escalation of the second penalty in terms fines and days without water use was discussed. Public comment Jennifer Thompson suggested longer days without water. George Thompson suggested a letter in writing that says a third offense would result in the recycle water being cut off permanently. The Board discussed doubling the fine and retaining 28 days without water during the summer peak season.

Board asked that NSD Staff start watching for spikes in the Aqua Hawk System to determine if large quantities of water are being taken, and possibly being trucked to outside parcels in violation of the Guidelines. Board discussed need for NSD to more closely water usage now. This will be important particularly when water metering begins under the guidelines. We might anticipate more violations. If we better understand the baseline water usage spikes, could be explained by new plantings, extended high temperatures, breaks in the system, or illegal transferring of water.

Motion made by Jones to levy a penalty that included a fine of \$4,000 and 28-day cessation of recycle water use immediately. Motion seconded by Walker. Board approved penalty 3-0. The Board asked that the letter outlining the penalty also include language that any third violation will result in a cessation of the recycle water.

Board agreed to send out a notice to our mailing to reinforce the requirements of Ordinance #1 and the Administrative Guidelines regarding appropriate use of water only on connected parcels. The Board wants to emphasize that we take any miss use of recycle water seriously and we are watching water consumption.

Adjourn at 6:45 PM to regular scheduled meeting of December 12, 2023.