

MOUNTAIN VALLEY ASSOCIATION

Winter Newsletter 2018

Dear Members:

Thank you to all our members who paid your 2018 assessments on time, it really helps with record keeping and reduces the costs we incur sending out additional notices. All costs we can save on administrative activities means more funds that are available for maintenance! Second notices have been sent out, but many assessments remain unpaid and further collection efforts will be necessary. If you haven't paid your 2018 or prior assessments, please do so now! If you are unable to pay your assessment, please contact Rita Leonard, Treasurer, for information regarding a payment plan to help you get current and prevent any collection efforts.

Thanks to those of you who have agreed to receiving agendas, meeting minutes, newsletters and other notices via email. It really saves time and money and ensures that it can't be lost in the mail. Please consider giving us consent to communicate using your email address. Simply email secretary@qvwd.org and request all notices be delivered by email.

The new board is up and running as of January 1, 2018. The following Officers have been elected: Randy Hardenbrook, President – Pat Birley, VP – Joan Tyer, Secretary – Rita Leonard, Treasurer – Audrey Johnston, Director-at-Large.

Regular meetings are scheduled to be held on the second Saturday of each month, 9:00 a.m. in the QVWD office. The regular meeting scheduled for March has been cancelled due to a lack of agenda items that were ready for action.

A website has been set up – www.mymva.org – where agendas and minutes of meetings will be posted. You can still request minutes to be sent by email or USPS.

A charge for costs incurred for printing and postage will be added to your annual assessment for mailed copies.

Agendas and minutes are also posted on the bulletin board at the entrance to Mountain Valley Estates.

Rules of conduct for board meetings, board members and officers have been adopted and are available to you on our website. Your Board of Directors has also established a Rule Committee to review existing rules and make recommendations for rules to be updated or new rules to be adopted.

A Road Committee has been appointed with Bill Gerring as Chairperson. They have already met twice and prioritized the most needed repairs. The potholes on Sand Canyon will be cold patched (we received a generous donation of cold patch) by the road crew volunteers., We have the other needed supplies as well, and donations are gratefully accepted! Repair work was planned to have already begun, but the weather has just not been cooperating. **As soon as the weather permits, the pot holes will be filled.** We can always use more volunteers! If you would like to volunteer, please contact the Association and we will insure you are added to the volunteer list! Initial research by the Road Committee has found that Kern County has no road grants available this year, but a member of the Road Committee is researching federal grants and other funding opportunities.

The contract with Fiore, Racobs & Powers, association specialists, expires in July of this year and the Board has elected not to renew the contract. John Linford, previous counsel to the Association, will be retained to serve as our legal adviser.

An audit, which has not been performed in many years, will be done at a cost of approximately \$4000.00. Our D&O/Liability insurance increased by almost \$1000.00 for 2018 – operating costs seem to always increase. While the Board did look for alternative insurance coverage, we were unable to find comparable coverage at any less cost. Our current coverage retains (does NOT pay) the first \$25,000.00 in Indemnity and Defense

costs for Directors and Officer Liability which means that the Association is basically self-insured up to the first \$25,000.00, and we need to increase our reserve account to cover that amount. The Board voted that all late fees, other penalties and/or costs incurred by members will be placed in the reserve account. The Board also approved transferring \$7500.00 per year from the operating account into the reserve account for the next two years to increase the reserve account to \$25K.

There's been a rash of burglaries, vandalism and graffiti lately here in the Canyon. MVA, the Sand Canyon Volunteer Counsel and the KCSO will meet to discuss setting up a Neighborhood Watch program on March 22, 2018 at 6:00 PM in the Quail Valley Water, District office on Sand Canyon, anyone interested in the neighborhood watch program or crime in our area is encouraged to attend!

Though there is no longer an "official fire season" - fire danger is year-round. Please clear dead trees/brush from your property to prevent the spread of fire. The Kern County Fire Department has been taking enforcement action and the fines are significant! The Association is removing dead trees from Association property and will continue to do so. The Association does not have any authority to remove trees or brush from private property. We will however, inform you of any resources that we become aware of that could be of assistance to property owners in removing trees and brush.

There will be two Board seats open in the next election. If you are interested in serving your community or know a member who would, please consider completing the nomination form that will be sent to you prior to the election and campaigning for an open seat.

The Board is here to work for you. If you have any concerns, questions or suggestions – or complaints, please let us know.

Have a pleasant Spring!

Your board members,
Randy Hardenbrook, President president@mymva.org
Pat Birley, Director
Joan Tyer, Secretary secretary@mymva.org
Rita Leonard, Treasurer treasurer@mymva.org
Audrey Johnston, Director

MOUNTAIN VALLEY ASSOCIATION

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