

JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT
Minutes of the
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

September 7, 2016

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 6:30 PM
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:**

Victoria Fuller	Present
Bob Johnson	Present
Mickey Luckman	Present
Mike Reynolds	Present
Rebecca Unger	Present

STAFF PRESENT: Curt Sauer, General Manager
Sarah Johnson, HR/Contract Administrator
Keith Faul, GIS Coordinator

CONSULTANTS PRESENT: Kathleen Radnich, Public Outreach Consultant
Steve Berliner, Labor Counsel, Redwine & Sherrill
(Telephonic)

GUESTS 4
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MSC/ Reynolds/Luckman 5/0 to approve the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors, September 7, 2016 Agenda.

Fuller	Aye
Luckman	Aye
Johnson	Aye
Reynolds	Aye
Unger	Aye
5. **PUBLIC COMMENT- None.**

PUBLIC COMMENT CLOSED
6. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Items on the Consent Calendar are considered routine in nature and will be adopted in total by one action of the Board of Directors unless any Board Member or any individual or organization interested in one or more consent calendar items wishes to be heard.

 - A. Approve the Draft Minutes of the August 17, 2016 Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors.
 - B. Approve the Draft Minutes of the August 23, 2016 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors.
 - C. Approve Check Register June 2016.

MSC/ Unger/Reynolds 5/0 to approve the August 17, 2016 and the August 23, 2016 Minutes of the Board of Directors and the June 2016 Check Register.

Fuller	Aye
Luckman	Aye
Johnson	Aye
Reynolds	Aye
Unger	Aye

7. **RESOLUTION 16-965 THANKING AMY FAULS FOR HER SERVICE ON THE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.** Recommend that the Board approve Resolution 16-965. President Fuller read Resolution 16-965 aloud and thanked Amy Fauls for her participation on the CAC. Amy Fauls was unable to attend. Vice President Luckman also thanked Amy Fauls for doing a great job.

MSC/ Unger/Reynolds 5/0 to approve Resolution 16-965.

Fuller	Aye
Luckman	Aye
Johnson	Aye
Reynolds	Aye
Unger	Aye

8. **CAPACITY FEE REPORT** – GM Sauer gave the report and recommended that the Board review, accept and file the Capacity Fee report.

BOARD COMMENTS

Director Unger asked that if we aren't doing any public improvements with the money, what are we doing with it?

GM Sauer replied that the funds are used for future new facilities and will be held in reserve.

Director Unger asked facilities meaning?

GM Sauer replied water lines, water tanks, any new booster stations etc...

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

PUBLIC COMMENT CLOSED

MSC/ Reynolds/Johnson 5/0 to accept and file the Capacity Fee report.

Fuller	Aye
Luckman	Aye
Johnson	Aye
Reynolds	Aye
Unger	Aye

9. **WATER ACCOUNT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, A COMPARISON – CURT SAUER**
Recommend the Board direct the GM to amend existing regulation with two changes. Keep the existing protocol, except 1) change the name to Customer Account Assistance Program (CAAP) and 2) adopt the 25 percent deduction guideline used by Hi-Desert. A discussion with the BoD followed. Report is attached.

MSC/ Reynolds/Johnson 5/0 approving the GM to amend the existing regulation and come back at the next BoD meeting with the Resolution and Amendment for the BoD to approve.

Fuller	Aye
Luckman	Aye
Johnson	Aye
Reynolds	Aye
Unger	Aye

10. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING:** Director Johnson reported they had a great audience and encouraged everyone to attend.
- B. **WATER RESOURCES AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:** Vice President Luckman reported that Director Johnson attends both the WRO Committee and the Finance Committee meetings and she encouraged participation also.

- c. **LEGISLATIVE AND PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE:** Kathleen Radnich reported that they had a very good meeting and stated that this is National Emergency Preparedness month. The Farmer's Market theme coincides with the Newsletter on the Aquifer and replenishing it. There is a mock-up of an Aquifer at the Farmer's Market booth in order to educate people on its process. We have completed a four-part Wild Crafting education session on growing native plants, which reduces water use, it was well received and well attended with the added bonus of more volunteers for the next Water Education Day. The Best in Blue Annual Awards through ACWA, encourages all Water Districts to enter a submission and we submitted our Native Plant Program with the National Park this year. It's impressive, a lot of negotiation with the federal solicitor and with our own Attorney donating his time in arranging this. Also, in our Art Garden there are 14 new interpretive signs to help educate the public.

11. **DISTRICT GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT – No report.**

12. **GENERAL MANAGER REPORT -** GM Sauer commented that Wanda Stadum dropped off flyers for a free workshop, which are out in the lobby. The free workshop is on "How to Testify with Impact at Public Meetings" beginning on September 13th from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. at Copper Mountain College. GM Sauer introduced Bryan Winwood who has expressed interest in being on the Citizens Advisory Committee. He will attend the next CAC meeting in order to see if he would like to be on the Committee and to also learn what the CAC does.

GM Sauer continued with the Water Use Calculation presentation and stated that with the cooler months coming up, it may be harder to increase the conservation numbers. GM Sauer informed the Board that the next meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2016 but two Board members will be out of town and we could either have a meeting with three for a quorum or maybe reschedule for the week of the 26th.

GM Sauer updated the BoD on NextEra and that he and Seth Zielke, Director, Water Resources and Operations have a meeting with NextEra's Project Manager on September 8, 2016 to discuss where they will take their water from. They will get their water from a fire hydrant on Sunfair instead of 4th Street. There are no fire hydrants needed for this project because NextEra will not be building any structures that require fire protection. The parcel is served by three separate hydrants' on Sunfair. They plan to start the Fencing Project and the demolition of the existing structures in September. This will go into October and the actual construction of the solar panels will begin in January and is expected to be completed by June.

13. **FUTURE DIRECTOR MEETINGS AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

- Mojave Water Agency Board of Directors – September 8, 2016 – Director Unger attending
- ASBCSD – September 19, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the Castaway Restaurant, San Bernardino, Director Reynolds attending.

14. **DIRECTOR REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED, COMMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Director Unger attended the MWA BoD meeting commenting that Roger Mayes, High Desert Water District Director and a Pastor, gave a somber invocation and then gave appreciation to the MWA BoD and their staff and said that he had presided over three (3) very tough memorials that made him feel that he needed to tell people how much he appreciated them. He also offered prayers for the flood, fire and quake victims. Kent Anderson introduced himself, he is running against 16 year incumbent Richard Hall for the Third District seat. Mr. Anderson previously represented County Supervisors Mitzelfelt and Lovingood and he was on the Phelan Pinon Hills Community Services District. He said he sold his family business to go on a mission in Russia.

As for new business they only had an annual Conflict of Interest Policy, they increased the limit to \$460 for gifts and no additional reporting categories. Jim Ventura went to Lucerne Valley for small water systems. They have about 10-12 small producers with 30 to 350 connections. Many complained of bad

water and poor pressure. A representative for the State Revolving Fund was there and there was some talk of the advantage of consolidating some of the small producers. Four to six systems already have interties and could do it with a possible \$60k to help with some of these connections. Doug Shumway, Board Secretary, Division 7 Director is not running for re-election but is being replaced by Thurston "Smitty" Smith who ran unopposed and was appointed in lieu of an election. Smith spent 10 years in Hesperia City Government, 2 years Park & Rec. and 8 years on the City Council. There were no department reports ahead of a Closed Session on property negotiations that was anticipated to be very lengthy.

Director Unger reported that during the Legislative and Public Information Committee had discussed the different laws coming down from the State. One law was about water shaming on the surface but with much more repercussions for how it will affect water districts.

Yorba Linda Water District increased their monthly water rates as an urgency measure. There was an action against this by the citizens and an Orange County Judge ruled that a local Water District may increase monthly water rates as an urgency measure without going through the 218 process. It is an essential Government process by providing safe, clean and potable water. This may be impaired if the referendum against the rate increase were allowed to proceed.

Director Johnson stated that the Committee meetings are extremely important as we like to know where the money is going and what the District is looking at down the road. It's a great opportunity for the public to come and sit in on these meetings. He feels we are doing very well with the water conservation especially with an extremely hot summer. We have stepped up but we still have some challenges ahead. Director Johnson encouraged everyone to be water wise and smart about our business. The CAC is a good thing to do, he has been there and done that.

Director Reynolds had no meetings to report on. However, he commented on his travel to the surrounding lakes and found Silverwood Lake to be full but Lake Arrowhead, Grass Valley and Big Bear were extremely low. He noticed on his return, when he passed through White Water, that it was like a raging river.

Vice President Luckman reported, in reference to water conservation, she has switched to all drip irrigation, her landscaper came up with a solution so she is hopefully looking at a lower water bill. There is a Bill that states that large projects will need voter approval, which can be dangerous. She understands that the public needs to give input but the public never really learns enough about what is needed and wanted to be able to make those decisions intelligently, in her opinion, at least not as a general rule. She informed the BoD that the Pipeline Commission will be meeting at the JBWD Board Room on October 11th at 2:00 p.m. This is all of the local agencies that are part of the Mojave Pipeline and the Morongo Basin Pipeline, everyone is welcome to attend.

President Fuller had no meetings to report on. She agreed with Director Reynolds about the lakes being so low. With the very dry Summer and Fall months coming up the fire danger is very discouraging for the residents up there. President Fuller reiterated that she thought the Joshua Tree residents have done very well with water conservation.

A Discussion followed with the BoD agreeing on September 28, 2016 for the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors.


15. **CLOSED SESSION** –Following Item 14 of the Agenda, the BoD went into Closed Session at 7:15 p.m. pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6 to consult with the District's Designated Negotiators, (Curt Sauer, General Manager and Sarah Johnson, HR/Contract Administrator for Susan Greer, Assistant General Manager) and Labor Counsel, Steve Berliner who attended telephonically, regarding labor negotiations pertaining to represented employees of the District (AFSCME Local 1903). The Closed Session ended at approximately 8:12 p.m. and the BoD returned to Open Session. No reportable action was taken.

16. **ADJOURNMENT**

MSC /Luckman/Unger, 5/0 to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of September 7, 2016 at 8:12 p.m.

Fuller	Aye
Luckman	Aye
Johnson	Aye
Reynolds	Aye
Unger	Aye

Respectfully submitted:



Curt Sauer, GM and Board Secretary