

JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2022

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – President Floen called the regular board meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM – All Directors are present.

STAFF PRESENT –Sarah Johnson, General Manager, Anne Roman, Director of Finance, Autumn Rich, Accounting Supervisor, Beverly Krushat, Executive Assistant, Jeremiah Nazario, Distribution Supervisor, and Brandon Warner, CIRP Supervisor.

CONSULTANTS PRESENT – Kathleen Radnich, Public Information Consultant, Nicolle Falcis, Legal Counsel, and Lauren Everett, Kennedy & Jenks

APPROVAL OF AGENDA –

MSC¹ (Delph/Jarlsberg) 4/0/0 motion carried to approve the agenda.

Ayes: Delph, Doolittle, Floen, and Jarlsberg

Noes: None

Absent: None

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

STATE OF EMERGENCY FINDINGS– The Board of Directors renewed its findings outlined in Resolution No. 21-1035 for an additional 30 days.

MSC¹ (Delph/Doolittle) 4/0/0 motion carried to renew the State of Emergency findings for another 30 days.

Ayes: Delph, Doolittle, Floen, and Jarlsberg

Noes: None

Absent: None

CONSENT CALENDAR – June 2022 check registered was pulled for Director Jarlsberg as she had a question on the Nobel System Geo Viewer and what it was for. GM Johnson replied that Geo Viewer (GIS) is for our maintenance tracking, asset tracking, dig alert tickets, and is used daily for service orders. The amount is the annual fee.

MSC¹ (Delph/Jarlsberg) 4/0/0 motion carried to approve the June 2022 June check register.

Ayes: Delph, Doolittle, Floen, and Jarlsberg

Noes: None

Absent: None

MSC¹ (Doolittle/Delph) 4/0/0 motion carried to July 20, 2022, Draft Minutes.

Ayes: Delph, Doolittle, Floen, and Jarlsberg

Noes: None

Absent: None

PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 22-1044 ADOPTING THE 2020 URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN & THE 2020 WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN – GM Sarah Johnson gave the staff report and informed the Board of Directors that the State of California mandates that all urban water suppliers within the state prepare an Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) and Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) every five years. Detailed information on what must be included in these plans as well as who must complete the plans can be found in California Water Code sections 10610 through 10657. According to the Urban Water Management Plan Act of 1989, an urban water supplier is defined as a supplier, either public

or private, that provides water for municipal purposes either directly or indirectly to more than 3,000 customers or supplies more than 3,000 acre-feet annually. Ms. Lauren Everett, Kennedy & Jenks gave the presentation.

BOARD QUESTIONS –

Vice President Doolittle asked why the population showed 10,227 when she believed there were only a little over 6,000 residents. Where did the discrepancy come from?

Ms. Everett replied that using the DWR population tool and taking a look at the single-family and multi-family connections they all factor into the tool, which then encapsulates the information from it.

Director Delph asked why the “Plan” states that we do not utilize groundwater storage, banking, and recharge, however, we do have groundwater storage, banking, and recharge and I had hoped this was in the plan.

Ms. Everett indicated that section 4.7.3 is where Director Delph could view the banking storage.

Director Delph reminded the public that the UWMP is a planning guide and not a substitute for project-specific. It is not a commitment, and it can be adjusted, but it doesn’t preclude anything that we come up with here at the District.

Director Jarlsberg asked why there was no mention of short-term rentals and how irregular their water use is; many are vacant. They are still only paying the basic fee, but possibly on a weekend they could have a large party, and still only have to pay the basic fee; how is this factored into the UWMP?

GM Johnson replied that short-term rentals are defined as residential and reminded Director Jarlsberg that we are playing catch up and that the UWMP is from 2020. In 2025 we can update the UWMP with all of our concerns and suggestions.

President Floen concurred with the statement that this is just a general plan and is stated in the UWMP. He continued to say that the document is formed from a checklist that we are given to go by and doesn’t think the Short-Term Rentals are even on the checklist. On Page 2.3.3, Distribution Water Losses, it summarizes that we are investigating this. This is verbatim from the 2015 UWMP, which means that we have been looking into it for 7.5 years.

GM Johnson responded that water losses and Geo Viewer segway and we can now do the calculations because we have the tools, which we didn’t have before.

PUBLIC COMMENT –

Ms. Deb Bollinger stated that she and Mr. Douglas “Buck” Buckley reviewed both of the documents and they feel there isn’t a lot of improvement between 2015 and 2020.

Mr. Douglas “Buck” Buckley stated that it’s really important to replace the pipe instead of fixing it.

Mr. Thomas Short introduced himself and stated that he is running for one of the open Board seats. He would like to see us focused on the Air BNBs and have a plan in place to predict the amount of water they are using.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT 6:30 PM

MSC¹ (Delph/Jarlsberg) 4/0/0 motion carried to approve and adopt Resolution No. 22-1044 the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan & the 2020 Water Contingency Plan with corrections for population, SCR, and climate change.

Ayes: Delph, Doolittle, Floen, and Jarlsberg

Noes: None

Absent: None

REAL PROPERTY AUTHORITY DELEGATION – GM Johnson informed the Board of Directors that Resolution No. 22-1045 does not itself approve any acquisitions; it delegates certain authorities to the General Manager to accomplish the same once they are separately approved by the Board. This Resolution would authorize the General Manager to accept real property acquired pursuant to a Purchase Agreement; accept easement interests reasonably necessary for the operation of the District’s systems; consent to the recording of deeds and other instruments providing for such conveyances; take other actions necessary to complete such transactions; and, as applicable, disperse funds up to an amount separately approved by the Board. This was followed by a brief Q&A period with the Board.

MSC¹ (Doolittle/Delph) 4/0/0 motion carried to approve and adopt Resolution No. 22-1045.

Ayes: Delph, Doolittle, Floen, and Jarlsberg
Noes: None
Absent: None

APPROPRIATION LIMIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 22/23 – Director Anne Roman stated that the appropriation limit (a.k.a. the Gann Limit) was enacted in 1980. The purpose of the Limit is to place an annual limit or restriction on the growth of *tax-funded* programs and services. The Limit provides for an annual increase no greater than the increase in the cost of living, plus the increase in population. The proceeds of taxes *in excess of* appropriations must be designated for purposes exempt from limitation or returned to taxpayers. Proceeds of *taxes* have been interpreted to include general tax revenues, proceeds from investment of tax revenue, revenue from user fees/charges that exceed the cost of providing the service, and unrestricted state/federal grant revenue. This was followed by a brief Q&A period with the Board.

MSC¹ (Jarlsberg/Delph) 4/0/0 motion carried to approve and adopt Resolution No. 22-1043.

Ayes: Delph, Doolittle, Floen, and Jarlsberg
Noes: None
Absent: None

21/22 BAD DEBT WRITE-OFF OF \$3,358.87 – Director Anne Roman informed the Board that the annual write-off of the bad debt is required for the audit. Bad debt is an expense to the District (one which is, unfortunately, passed on to all ratepayers). The **21/22** bad debt is comprised of water charges still unpaid or not liened, remaining from the **20/21** fiscal year. This year’s bad debt also reflects debt incurred during the COVID period and the state’s moratorium on shutoffs, as well as credits applied under the California State Water Arrearages Payment Program. When the 21/22 bad debt budget was developed, the customary budget of \$25,000 - \$30,000 was increased to \$40,000 with expectations that the moratorium would cause bad debt to rise. However, with the District’s participation in the Arrearages Payment Program, credits of over \$308,000 were applied to customer accounts. As a result, this year’s proposed bad debt write-off of \$3,358.87, which was on track to be as much as \$44,000 before credits were applied, amounts to approximately 8% of the \$40,000 budget and .06% of what remains unpaid and/or not liened from the 20/21 water revenues that totaled \$5,350,360. A brief Q&A period with the Board followed.

MSC¹ (Doolittle/Delph) 4/0/0 motion carried to approve the bad debt write-off of \$3,358.87.

Ayes: Delph, Doolittle, Floen, and Jarlsberg
Noes: None
Absent: None

COPPER MOUNTAIN MESA (CMM) ASSESSMENT DISTRICT STATUS UPDATE – Director Anne Roman informed the Board that of the \$4,551,389 original balance, the bond debt had an outstanding balance of \$2,622,000 as of 6/30/2021. The 40-year Bonds are scheduled to be paid off in 2036. The Board received for information only.

DIRECTOR REPORTS/COMMENTS – All Directors reported on the meetings they attended.

Kathleen Radich, Public Information Consultant updated the Board on pending classes and meetings. She also gave a brief report on the BIA Water Conference. Ms. Radnich also informed the Board of the 1st grant quarter drought message “Save water now... it will save you later”.

FUTURE DIRECTOR MEETINGS – President Floen read off the list of upcoming meetings.

ADJOURNMENT – MSC¹ (Delph/Doolittle) 4/0/0 motion carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sarah Johnson, General Manager & Board Secretary