

JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT
Minutes of the
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
June 5, 2013

1. CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 PM
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:

Frank Coate	Present
Victoria Fuller	Present
Mickey Luckman	Present
Mike Reynolds	Present
Gary Wilson	Present

STAFF PRESENT: Susan Greer, Acting General Manager
Marie Salsberry, HR Manager/Administrative Specialist
Keith Faul, GIS Coordinator

CONSULTANTS PRESENT: Gil Granito, District Counsel
Mike Metts, District Engineer
Kathleen Radnich, Public Outreach Consultant
Deborah Bollinger, Conservation Coordinator

GUESTS 16

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Acting General Manager Susan Greer noted the need to add a discussion item to the agenda under Item #11.

She explained that the need for this discussion arose after posting of the meeting agenda MSC Fuller/Coate 4/1 to find that there is a need to take action on an item to be added to Item # 11 of this meeting's agenda.

Coate	Aye
Fuller	Aye
Luckman	Aye
Reynolds	Aye
Wilson	No

MSC Reynolds/Coate 4/1 to approve the agenda for the June 5, 2013 Regular meeting of the Board of Directors as modified.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Karl Wyne of Joshua Tree commented suggesting that there be a drug testing program for District employees to ensure the safety of the water system.

Richard Fountain of Joshua Tree commented in favor of the District requiring a 12" mainline for all commercial areas; he stated he understood that the proposed Dollar General Store will not be required to pay for any mainline improvements.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Fuller moved that Item C be removed from the Consent Calendar to be revisited following the Closed Session.

MSC Fuller/Coate 4/1 to approve the April 2013 Financial Report; to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2013 Regular meeting of the Board of Directors; to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2013 Joint Meeting of the Board of Directors and Citizens Advisory Committee; and to approve a certificate of appreciation for outgoing General Manager Joe Guzzetta, and to hold Item 6C approval of draft minutes of the May 28, 2013 Special meeting of the Board of Directors for later discussion.

Coate	Aye
Fuller	Aye
Luckman	Aye
Reynolds	Aye
Wilson	No

7. WATER EDUCATION SCHOOL PROGRAM RECOGNITIONS

Conservation Coordinator Deborah Bollinger reported on the District's "Water Wise School Education program that was recently held at the District for local fifth grade students. She reported that students' scores on water knowledge improved overall from last year. She recognized the many volunteers that were instrumental in making the Water Wise Water Course a success.

8. CO-SPONSORSHIP WITH JOSHUA TREE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF ELECTRONIC WASTE DISPOSAL EVENT IN JOSHUA TREE IN AUGUST 2013

Jett Tucker was present representing the Joshua Tree Chamber of Commerce. She requested that the District help sponsor a one-day e-waste cleanup event for Joshua Tree and the surrounding communities by featuring the event in the District's monthly newsletter. The purpose of the cleanup is to properly dispose of electronic clutter such as televisions, cellphones and computer monitors. It was noted that proper disposal of this type of waste can help prevent contamination of the aquifer.

MSC Fuller/Reynolds 5/0 to approve sponsorship of the waste disposal event with the Joshua Tree Chamber of Commerce in September 2013.

9. PURCHASE OF TWO REPLACEMENT VEHICLES

AGM Greer presented the staff report. Discussion ensued with several questions and comments from the Board and the general public regarding the competitive bidding process.

MSC Coate/Reynolds 5/0 to table the item until a future agenda.

10. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE WATER AVAILABILITY (STANDBY) CHARGES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013/2014

AGM Greer gave a detailed presentation on the standby fees. She explained how they originated and were developed, and how the revenues are used. It was noted that the District developed a complex rate schedule that addresses parcel size and zoning for each parcel in the District.

President Luckman opened the public hearing.

Karl Wyne of Joshua Tree asked about fee amounts per parcel; AGM Greer explained the rate structure.

President Luckman asked for any comments from the Board.

Vice President Coate asked whether these rates will be addressed in the upcoming rate study; AGM Greer noted that an increase in standby fees is not being considered at this time.

President Luckman closed the public hearing. President Luckman requested comments from the Board.

MSC Reynolds/Fuller 5/0 to approve staff recommendation to adopt Resolution 13-906 Establishing Water Availability Charges for 13/14 and Authorizing Collection by San Bernardino County.

11. D3 BOOSTER PUMP STATION REPLACEMENT PROJECT – CONSTRUCTION
ADVERTISEMENT APPROVAL and
PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION ON BOOSTER STATION ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS

District Engineer Mike Metts of Dudek and Associates reported and requested that the Board authorize staff to go out to bid for construction of the D3 Pump Station Replacement Project. Design for the project was completed in December 2012; he gave a detailed explanation of the project and noted that although \$250,000 was budgeted by the Board for the project it is expected that bids will come in at considerably lower amounts.

Additionally, Mr. Metts explained that the G pump station had an electrical failure and he noted that the electrical systems for many of the District's pumping stations are very aged. In light of this, staff would like to prioritize replacement of electrical systems. He suggested that if as anticipated, bids for construction of D3 come in at amounts considerably lower than that budgeted by the Board for the project, the remaining budget allowance could be used to replace electrical systems for three pump stations if it is determined that they could be done at a cost of approximately \$30,000 each. Staff will research the possibility of replacing the electrical systems and bring further information to the Board at a later date.

MSC Coate/Wilson 5/0 to authorize the General Manager to advertise bidding for construction of the D3 pump station replacement project.

12. ACTING GENERAL MANAGER COMPENSATION

President Luckman reported that this is AGM Greer's sixth time serving as the District's Acting General Manager and the procedure has been in the past that while serving as Acting General Manager she has been paid the same salary as the former General Manager. President Luckman recommended that Ms. Greer be paid the same salary as the former General Manager while she is Acting General Manager. It was noted that the prior General Manager's annual salary was \$167,000.

Karl Wyne of Joshua Tree commented in favor of an independent person being appointed Acting General Manager.

Fred Klintworth of Joshua Tree commented in favor of the Acting General Manager being given the same salary as the General Manager was and noted that while Ms. Greer who is already the Assistant General Manager and Controller is performing the duties of Acting General Manager she would earn only one salary not the salary of both positions combined.

Vice President Coate commented that the additional duties are worth the expense. Director Wilson commented he felt it was too much of a raise. Director Reynolds commented on Ms. Greer's extensive experience with the District. President Luckman noted that if another person were appointed as an interim General Manager that person would be trained by Ms. Greer. Director Fuller agreed that Ms. Greer has the experience and knowledge for the interim position.

MSC Fuller/Reynolds 4/1 to approve the annual salary for the Acting General Manager at the amount of the annual salary of the prior General Manager.

Coate	Aye
Fuller	Aye
Luckman	Aye
Reynolds	Aye
Wilson	No

AGM Greer thanked the Board and stated that she is confident in her ability and the ability of staff to continue the District operations.

13. APPOINT ACTING GENERAL MANAGER AS LABOR NEGOTIATOR

AGM Greer reported that the District is currently in negotiations with the labor union and the General Manager previously acted as the appointed negotiator for the District.

MSC Coate/Reynolds 5/0 to appoint AGM Greer as the District labor negotiator.

Coate	Aye
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Fuller	Aye
Luckman	Aye
Reynolds	Aye
Wilson	No

14. AGREEMENT WITH PUBLIC INFORMATION CONSULTANT TO PROVIDE I PHONE AND CELLULAR SERVICE

AGM Greer reported on the Public Information Committee recommendation to provide the Public Information Consultant with an I Phone to use in her duties including postings to the District's Facebook page. After brief discussion the Board took the following action:

MSC Reynolds/Coate 4/1 to approve the recommendation of the Public Information Committee to purchase an I Phone for the Public Information Consultant and provide continuing cellular service for business use only.

Coate	Aye
Fuller	Aye
Luckman	Aye
Reynolds	Aye
Wilson	No

15. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE: President Luckman and Director Fuller: Kathleen Radnich, Public Outreach Consultant reported that a meeting will be held regarding the Mojave Water Agency Integrated Regional Water Management Plan; the next Public Information Committee meeting is June 12 and she expects the new website to be unveiled at that time. June 22 is Joshua Tree Community Days and the District will be represented at that event.
- B. RECHARGE BASIN AND PIPELINE PROJECT: Vice President Coate and Director Fuller: President Luckman dissolved the committee.
- C. HOSPITAL WASTEWATER PROJECT: President Luckman and Vice President Coate: AGM Greer stated that the District will need to determine how to handle operation and maintenance of the wastewater treatment facility.
- D. TANK RESTORATION PROJECT: Director Wilson and Vice President Coate: President Luckman dissolved the committee.
- E. RULES AND REGULATIONS UPDATE PROJECT: Director Fuller and Vice President Coate: Vice President Coate reported that the committee met to review Articles 1, 2 and 11. The committee will meet with AGM Greer to review suggested modifications prior to bringing the articles to the Board for action.
- F. ADMINISTRATION CODE UPDATE PROJECT: Director Fuller and President Luckman:
- G. AD HOC GENERAL MANAGER SEARCH: President Luckman and Director Reynolds: President Luckman reported that the committee's recommendation to the Board is to advertise in water-specific venues such as Association of California Water Agencies and Brown and Caldwell for the General Manager position; and search for a company to process vetting of the applicants and make a recommendation to the Board. If that is not satisfactory the District can then consider an executive search firm.

16. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

17. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

AGM Greer reported that the district is in final stages of preparing the annual water quality report. The District recently filled three vacant positions. AGM Greer is working with field staff to finalize the SEMS dashboard report. Mike Metts commended the District's operations staff and Justin Scheidel of Dudek Engineering for their efforts. He reported that the recharge pipeline is proceeding on schedule; pavement replacement at Sunset should be done within the next week. The Wastewater treatment plant is on schedule startup is scheduled for July or August. The altitude valve at C2B tank was installed. C2B overflow has been installed. H1B tank design is complete and bidding is on hold for this project at this time. Specifications for recoating of four reservoirs are complete; the District will go out to bid for this soon.

18. DIRECTORS COMMENTS/REPORTS

Vice President Coate reported attending the Mojave Water Agency Board meeting where their budget and the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan were discussed.

Director Reynolds reported on his attendance at the Association of San Bernardino County Special Districts meeting hosted by Hi-Desert Water District last month and a presentation on the Miracle sports field.

Director Fuller thanked Deborah Bollinger for her work on the water education school program.

President Luckman presented AGM Greer with a gift to commemorate Ms. Greer's 25 years of service with the District.

19. DISTRICT GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT

District Counsel Gil Granito updated the Board on Assembly Bill 465 introducing the concept of comparative fault in inverse condemnation actions.

20. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None requested.

21. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session began at approximately 9:10 pm and open session reconvened at approximately 10:00 pm.

Following the closed session, District Counsel Gil Granito reported that at 9:10 the Board of Directors went into closed session pursuant to Government Code 54957.6 and consulted with the District negotiator Greer and labor counsel Berliner. There was no further reportable action.

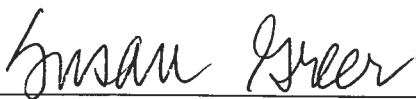
6C. APPROVE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MAY 28, 2013 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MSC Fuller/Reynolds 5/0 to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2013 Special meeting of the Board of Directors, as presented.

22. ADJOURNMENT 10:03 PM

MSC Coate/Fuller 5/0 to adjourn the June 5th 2013 Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted:



Susan Greer, Acting General Manager

The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for June 19, 2013 at 7:00 pm.