

JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2020

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – President Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. via teleconference.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM – President Johnson, Vice President Unger, Director Floen, Director Hund, and Director Reynolds are in attendance via teleconference.

STAFF PRESENT –Mark Ban, GM, Susan Greer, AGM, Sarah Johnson, Director of Administration, Anne Roman, Accountant, and Beverly Waszak, Executive Assistant, are in attendance via teleconference.

CONSULTANTS PRESENT –Kathleen Radnich, Public Outreach Consultant, and Jeff Hoskinson, District Counsel, are in attendance via teleconference.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA –.MSC¹ (Hund/Unger) 5/0/0 motion carried to approve the Agenda.

Ayes: Floen, Hund, Johnson, Reynolds, and Unger

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

PUBLIC COMMENT – Jane Jarlsberg, Joshua Tree, asked if the future election for Board members in November will be affected by the current conditions caused by COVID-19? She then asked for more information on how to apply for and more information on running for a Board seat.

CONSENT CALENDAR - MSC¹ (Unger/Reynolds) 5/0/0 motion carried to approve the Consent Calendar.

Ayes: Floen, Hund, Johnson, Reynolds, and Unger

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

PANDEMIC POICY – Director of Administration Johnson, gave the staff report on the new Pandemic Policy for insertion into the Employee Handbook, stating that the World Health Organization has classified its spread as a pandemic. The COVID-19 has caused employers to roll out policies to aid in preventing the spread of such diseases in the workplace and offer guidance on what to do when these types of illnesses affect employees. After a brief Q&A, the Board of Directors approved the Pandemic Policy insertion into the Employee Handbook.

MSC¹ (Unger/Reynolds) 5/0/0 motion carried to approve the Pandemic Policy with minor corrections to bring back to the Board of Directors for a formal approval.

Ayes: Floen, Hund, Johnson, Reynolds, and Unger

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

SCADA IMPROVEMENTS – GM Ban gave the staff report stating that this is the District’s third year (Phase III) of planned upgrades to its SCADA system. There will be several security and monitoring peripherals that are being installed for daily use. Upgrades will focus on H-1 Reservoir, MWA Vault (Recharge), J-1 Recharge, and the E-2-1 Reservoir. After a brief discussion, the Board of Directors approved the \$23,498.11 for the improvements.

MSC¹ (Unger/Hund) 5/0/0 motion carried to approve the SCADA improvements.

Ayes: Floen, Hund, Johnson, Reynolds, and Unger
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

FORMATION OF JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT COVID-19 AD HOC COMMITTEE – After a long discussion between the Board of Directors, staff, and District counsel, President Johnson asked for a motion to support himself and Vice President Unger to serve on the COVID-19 AD HOC Committee for a period equal to the State’s “Stay at Home” order.

MSC¹ (Reynolds/Unger) 5/0/0 motion carried for President Johnson and Vice President Unger to serve on the COVID-19 AD HOC Committee and provide minutes to the rest of the Board of Directors after said meetings.

Ayes: Floen, Hund, Johnson, Reynolds, and Unger
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT – GM Ban updated the Board on COVID-19 and the use of Constant Contact email to inform the public. As part of last year’s floods, the County declared a state-of-emergency, which then made us eligible for reimbursement for OT, materials, and parts (we had several days of emergency service). We just recently received approval for reimbursement amount of \$23,110.

DIRECTOR REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED, COMMENTS, AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS –

Kathleen Radnich, Public Information Consultant, updated the Board on the following:

- Farmers Market attendance has been suspended due to the heightened concern of COVID-19
- AB2093 (Bill that would impose costly mandates on all state public agencies to save/archive all emails received and sent for a minimum of 2 years).
- JBWD now communicates via Constant Contact and Twitter.

Vice President Unger quoted Yvonne Hester, Director of Community Outreach, MWA, who said, “being separated shows how much we need each other” and then gave a brief overview of the Mojave Water Agency Board of Directors meeting she attended on April 9, 2020. MWA had a Draft Budget Workshop, along with a discussion on the volatility of today, water supply, increase in costs, retirements, 1,000-acre-feet allotment for JBWD, and if people will be able to pay their property tax.

Director Reynolds asked that everyone stay hydrated, wash your hands, and be well.

Director Hund commented that in times like these, it helps to see the community's value and each other.

Director Floen stated that there is a lot of contrast between what happened in 1918 with the Spanish Flu compared to the current COVID-19. Initially, he was a skeptic with the isolation with COVID-19, but he has since changed his attitude.

Vice President Unger stated that the World Health Organization recommends in their criteria is that communities are fully educated, engaged, and empowered to adjust. We are the Government for Joshua Tree and can support anyone's efforts, i.e., testing at CMC, etc.

President Johnson thanked the first responders and everyone on the front lines.

FUTURE DIRECTOR MEETINGS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES – President Johnson read off the upcoming meetings.

ADJOURNMENT – MSC¹ (Unger/Floen) 5/0/0 motion carried to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Barr', is written over a horizontal line.

Mark Barr, General Manager and Board Secretary