

JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT
Minutes of the
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
September 15, 2010

1. **CALL TO ORDER** **7:00 PM**

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:** By roll-call:
Bill Long Present
Mickey Luckman Present
Mike Reynolds Present
Steven Whitman Present
Gary Wilson Present

STAFF PRESENT: Joe Guzzetta, General Manager
Terry Spurrier, HR/Administrative Services Supervisor

GUESTS: 6

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MSC Long/Whitman 5/0 to approve the agenda for the September 15, 2010 Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

6. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

MSC Long/Reynolds 5/0 to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 1, 2010; to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of September 1, 2010; and to approve the Financial Report for July 2010.

7. **APPROVAL OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OF THE JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT (AFSCME LOCAL 1902)**

General Manager Joe Guzzetta reported that the District and employees of AFSCME Local 1902 have tentatively approved a three-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and that employees have ratified the MOU. He recommended that the Board approve the MOU. Main points of the MOU were reviewed. It was pointed out that the Field Technician position will be adjusted consistent with the Construction and Maintenance II position since it is benchmarked to the Construction and Maintenance II position; however there would be no budgetary impact this year. He expressed appreciation to the employees for working with the District to achieve the agreement.

Directors Whitman, Long, Luckman, and Reynolds spoke in support of the agreement thanking employees for their efforts and noting that JBWD employees are still paid in the range of 15% lower than employees of comparable water agencies due primarily to the more prudent retirement program at JBWD.

Joshua Tree resident Gary Lovelace spoke in support of the MOU.

Director Wilson opposed the agreement stating that the current MOU should continue with a 5% reduction in benefits, and drug testing.

MSC Long/Whitman 4/1 to ratify the MOU with the Employee Association and allocate \$35,000 in the current year budget from the General Reserve budget to fund this year's costs.

Long	Aye
Luckman	Aye
Reynolds	Aye
Whitman	Aye
Wilson	No

8. PRESENTATION OF DEMONSTRATION GARDEN GRATITUDE PLAQUE

President Mickey Luckman presented plaques to local artists Bruce Miller and Shirley James in appreciation for murals that they have painted on the portal walls of the Joshua Basin Water District Water Wise Demonstration Garden. It was noted that a permanent plaque will be affixed to a large rock at the entrance to the garden. President Luckman thanked Public Information Consultant Kathleen Radnich for providing the plaques.

9. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH AB1420

General Manager Joe Guzzetta advised the Board that JBWD has been certified by the Department of Water Resources as providing comprehensive water conservation programs in compliance with AB1420. This certification enables JBWD to apply for State grants. The certification process was completed by local water specialist Deborah Bollinger with assistance from Human Resources/Administrative Services Supervisor Terry Spurrier. Cost for self certification was \$5,000 compared with a \$16,000 proposal from another consulting firm. Board Members Whitman, Long, Reynolds, and Luckman thanked Ms. Bollinger and staff for their efforts in achieving this certification.

10. DEB BOLLINGER PRESENTATION TO BOARD ON WATER CONSERVATION

Conservation Consultant Deborah Bollinger gave a PowerPoint presentation reviewing the JBWD Water Conservation Program Best Management Practices (BMPs) which are the foundation for compliance with AB1420 certification that was noted in the above item. She noted that JBWD is meeting all required 14 BMPs. Conservation measures underway include public education, school education, the Demonstration Garden, "hands-on" school tours and activities at the Water Wise Demonstration Garden, "water-wise" landscape workshops, Water Wise Demonstration Garden Docent program, water conservation surveys for residential, commercial and large landscape users, rebates for water efficient appliances, toilets, and landscapes. She reviewed progress in water conservation at the Joshua Tree Memorial Cemetery and the SIMIS station that will be installed at Copper Mountain College. Questions from the Board and public were addressed. The Board thanked Ms. Bollinger for her role in implementing the conservation programs.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

12. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

General Manager Joe Guzzetta stated that the certification process for Well #16 has been completed through the excellent work of Water Production Supervisor Randy Little and Senior Administrative Assistant Randy Mayes, and the District should receive a permit this week. He noted that three community meetings will be held on Thursday, September 16: Hi Desert Water District, in conjunction with the Morongo Basin Chapter of the Alliance for Water Awareness, will host the ABC's of water at 5:30 pm; the three Morongo Basin Chambers of Commerce will host a joint mixer at 5:00 pm, and the Joshua Tree Municipal Advisory Council will meet at 7:00pm.

13. DIRECTORS COMMENTS/REPORTS

Director Whitman reported on attendance of himself, President Luckman, Vice President Reynolds, and General Manager Guzzetta at the Association of San Bernardino County Special Districts (ASBCSD) meeting on September 13. He met Director Chambers from the Twentynine Palms Water District and they will initiate an exchange of information between the two water districts. Director Long commended Kathleen Radnich for staffing a JBWD booth every Saturday at the Joshua Tree Farmers Market and noted that she recently assisted a woman who was overcome by the heat. Director Reynolds discussed attendance at the ASBCSD Meeting. Director Wilson said that in a 12-month period two of our directors received a total compensation of \$31,301 in compensation compared with what would normally be \$3,500 each, and that many of the trips and expenses were not authorized by Board action. He expressed condolences to Rubin Taegle whose son passed away, and the wife and family of Joe Bryant, noting that Mr. Bryant passed away recently and that he was a veteran of the Battle of the Bulge during World War II. President Luckman announced the community forum for candidates of the Joshua Basin Water District will be held on Monday, September 27 at 7:00pm at the Joshua Tree Community Center and encouraged local voters to attend.

14. CLOSED SESSION

Conference with labor negotiator regarding General Unit; pursuant to Government Code 54957.6.

District negotiator: Joe Guzzetta

There was no closed session.

15. ADJOURNMENT 8:05 PM

MSC Long/Whitman 5/0 to adjourn the September 15, 2010 Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted;



Joe Guzzetta, General Manager

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for Wednesday October 6, 2010 at 7:00 pm.