

JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT
Minutes of the
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
March 24, 2010

1. **CALL TO ORDER** 4:05 PM

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

It was reported that Director Reynolds would arrive late due to a business commitment made prior to setting the date of this special meeting.

STAFF PRESENT: Joe Guzzetta, General Manager
Susan Greer Assistant GM/Controller
Marie Salsberry, Executive Secretary

GUESTS: 10

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MSC Long/Luckman 3/0 (2 Absent) to approve the agenda for the March 24, 2010 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

6. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

MSC Luckman/Long 3/0 (2 Absent) to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 3, 2010; to approve payment to Ficara for paving in the amount of \$35,020.45; and to approve changes to the Project Priority List

7. **UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY PRESENTATION**

Dr. Peter Martin and Dr. Tracy Nishikawa presented information on the study on the District's groundwater recharge project. USGS scientists studied underground nitrate concentrations from septic systems in the densely developed area in Joshua Tree south of the highway. Modeling performed by USGS shows that with no recharge or septic treatment, water quality will suffer over time due to continually increasing nitrate concentrations reaching the water table. Dr. Martin explained that some denitrification occurs in the unsaturated zone, but not enough to ensure water quality. Recharge with state water project water will dilute the recharge from septic systems, thereby reducing nitrate concentrations to below maximum contaminant levels.

Dr. Martin requested that the District come up with scenarios for USGS to simulate using their model. GM Guzzetta noted that one scenario could be set to see what might occur if recharge replaced all

water pumped out; another would be what might occur with only 1,100 acre-feet of recharge per year. Staff will meet with USGS to refine the scenarios.

President Given called for a break and the meeting recessed at 5:20 pm.
The meeting was again called to order at 5:40pm.

8. UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY CONTINUATION

General Manager Guzzetta reported that in 2006 the Board approved the four-year study at a total cost of \$1.2 million. USGS requires a new contract each year and the amounts for each one-year contract have not been proportionate to the total amount. The amount requested for fiscal year 09/10 is \$524,450. The Board took the following action:

MSC Luckman/Long 3/0 (2 Absent) to approve staff recommendation to approve an agreement with USGS to continue the study of the groundwater recharge project in the amount of \$524,450 for federal fiscal year 2009/2010; and to appropriate \$174,450 from the unappropriated reserves.

9. NAMING OF LANDSCAPE DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

Assistant General Manager/Controller Susan Greer reported that the CAC had suggested three possible names. Board discussion ensued and the following action was taken:

MSC Long/Luckman 3/0 (2 Absent) to select the name "Joshua Tree water Wise Demonstration Garden", with a slogan of "Growing Awareness".

10. DESIGNATE MONTH OF APRIL AS EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS MONTH

GM Guzzetta reported that April had historically been recognized as "Earthquake Preparedness Month" by many organizations and agencies. However, the District could find no actual record of April being designated as such, other than by the State of California for April of 2000 only. District staff is focusing on emergency preparedness and planning for an emergency exercise; in our area earthquakes are a certainty.

MSC Luckman/Long 3/0 (2 Absent) to recognize the month of April as "Earthquake Preparedness Month".

11. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR PROMOTIONAL CONSERVATION ITEMS

AGM/Controller Greer reported that the District is required to provide water conservation education; promotional giveaways with a conservation message as well as the District logo and contact information help spread the word. These can be used for events that the District hosts or takes part in such as Turtle Days, or the JBWD Water and Land Use Forum. The Board took the following action:

MSC Long/Luckman 3/0 (2 Absent) to approve staff recommendation to approve \$5,000 budget amendment for promotional conservation items.

12. PROJECT PRIORITY LIST

GM Guzzetta noted that per the Consent Calendar, some items have been taken off the list because they are no longer needed. He reported that Well 16 and Well 17 are expected to be online soon, following water quality testing.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

14. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

GM Guzzetta had nothing further to report.

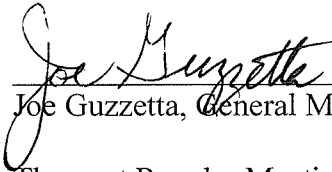
15. DIRECTOR COMMENTS/REPORTS

Vice President Luckman reported that she attended the California Department of Water Resources “listening session” regarding implementation of new legislation and she felt it was time well spent. She also attended the Mojave Water Agency Board meeting. She recommends that people who are interested in water attend Mojave Water Agency’s “ABCs of Water” sessions. She and District consultant Joe Bocanegra went to Washington and met with Senator Feinstein’s and Senator Boxer’s staff and other legislators.

16. ADJOURNMENT 6:15 PM

MSC Long/Luckman 3/0 (2 Absent) to adjourn the March 24, 2010 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted;



Joe Guzzetta, General Manager

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for April 7, 2010.