

**JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT**  
**Minutes of the**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**January 16, 2008**

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

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:** By roll-call vote:  
Bill Long Present  
Gary Given Present  
Gary Lovelace Present  
Gary Wilson Present  
Karl Wyne Present

**STAFF PRESENT:** Joe Guzzetta, General Manager  
Susan Greer, Assistant GM/Controller  
Marina West, Chief of Operations  
Marie Salsberry, Executive Secretary

**GUESTS:** 14

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Al Marquez of Joshua Tree commented that the Directors should get along with one another.

6. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Director Wilson said, "Mister President, could I have Item D pulled for a vote, on the Consent?"

Director Given suggested a roll-call vote for Item D under the Consent Calendar, "Rejection of Steven Taylor Damages Claim".

MSC Lovelace/Given 5/0 to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 5, 2007; to approve the financial report for November 2007; and to approve the financial report for December 2007.

MSC Given/Lovelace 4/1 to approve staff recommendation to reject a claim from Steven Taylor for alleged damages.

Given	Aye
Long	Aye
Lovelace	Aye
Wilson	No
Wyne	Aye

**7. CONTRACT FOR WEBSITE, PUBLIC INFORMATION, AND PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAM**

General Manager Guzzetta reported that six proposals were received and three firms were interviewed. O'Reilly Public Relations has experience and knowledge of water agencies. GM Guzzetta introduced Nicole Dailey of O'Reilly Public Relations, who presented more information on the company. Discussion ensued. Director Wilson said, "I just look at it as something the management can do and we don't need to be contracting it out."

MSC Given/Lovelace 4/1 to approve staff recommendation to approve a contract with O'Reilly Public Relations to develop the website and related services for Joshua Basin Water District in an amount not to exceed \$24,600.

Given	Aye
Long	Aye
Lovelace	Aye
Wilson	No
Wyne	Aye

**8. REMOTE METER POLICY**

The Ad Hoc Committee of President Long and Vice President Given reported on the draft policy. Discussion ensued. Director Wilson said, "Well, number one, I'd like to thank Director Given for his work, and I don't see any problem with the extended water lines in the District. In a lot of instances, these, adding on eight inch pipes for one house out in the middle of nowhere is ridiculous. And that's all I've got to say." The following action was taken:

MSC Wyne/Given 4/1 to approve the remote meter policy proposed by the Board Ad Hoc Committee and direct staff to prepare the appropriate amendment to rules and regulations implementing the policy.

Given	Aye
Long	Aye
Lovelace	Aye
Wilson	No
Wyne	Aye

**9. MOJAVE WATER AGENCY (MWA) VOUCHER PROGRAM**

GM Guzzetta reported on the program which would provide rebates for purchase of water-efficient toilets and washing machines, and pay customers fifty cents per foot to replace turf with water-efficient landscaping. Director Wilson said, "It has already been stated, our customers use less water than almost any of the communities up here, so I don't see any need for an agreement with Mojave." "Any time the government is here to help I get a little nervous." "I just don't like dealings with Mojave, I don't trust them."

MSC Long/Lovelace 4/1 to approve staff recommendation to approve an agreement with Mojave Water Agency to participate in a voucher program that would provide incentives to customers who purchase certain low water usage appliances and take other conservation measures; and refer the program to the Citizens Advisory Committee to consider implementation.

Given	Aye
Long	Aye
Lovelace	Aye
Wilson	No
Wyne	Aye

**10. REQUEST FROM MR. STEVEN TAYLOR FOR A REMOTE METER AT 3189 CANDELA AVENUE**

GM Guzzetta reported on Mr. Taylor's request, which was previously denied by the Board. Mr. Taylor addressed the Board. President Long recommended that the Board not discuss the matter, because Mr. Taylor had filed a claim against the District.

**11. CONSIDERATION OF ENDORSEMENT OF INTEGRATED REGIONAL WASTE WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE MORONGO BASIN**

GM Guzzetta presented the staff report. Following discussion an Ad Hoc committee consisting of Directors Wyne and Given was appointed to develop a recommendation for the Board.

**12. PURCHASE OF NEW SOFTWARE**

GM Guzzetta reported that staff continues to investigate software systems in anticipation of replacing the District's outdated system. The cost for replacement is estimated at about one hundred fifty to one hundred seventy five thousand dollars. Director Wilson said, "Well I'm not in favor of software, that's for sure."

**13. STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP TO KICK OFF 2008-2010 TWO-YEAR BUDGET AND PLANS**

GM Guzzetta reported. Director Wilson said, "The workshop is a good idea, but as far as having someone to run the workshop, I see no reason that our highly paid staff couldn't do it." MSC Given/Wyne 4/1 to approve staff recommendation to set a date for the strategic planning workshop that will initiate the 2008-2010 budget planning process and authorize staff to retain Pat Caldwell to facilitate the workshop.

Tentative dates identified for the workshop were February 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, or 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Given	Aye
Long	Aye
Lovelace	Aye
Wilson	No
Wyne	Aye

**14. AUTO ALLOWANCE FOR CHIEF OF OPERATIONS**

GM Guzzetta reported that providing an auto allowance for the COO would be a cost savings compared to purchasing a vehicle. Director Wilson said, "When you came to work here you were assigned a vehicle; what happened to it? So there was a vehicle for you and you just chose not to use it."

MSC Lovelace/ Given 4/1 to approve staff recommendation to adopt Resolution 08-825, approving an automobile allowance for the Chief of Operations.

Given	Aye
Long	Aye
Lovelace	Aye
Wilson	No
Wyne	Aye

**15. PROJECT PRIORITY LIST**

GM Guzzetta reported that several items on the list are nearing completion. H-Zone Phase II Pipeline project is progressing rapidly. Director Wilson said, "Mister President, a

question. Why was the pipe stockpiled behind the office? And they're moving it back and forth at their own expense and the District isn't paying for it?" "Has the area west of Sunny Vista, there's a housing tract in there that has some of the worst water lines that are in town there, and it's been a lot of housing being built there, the street where Beatty lives. West of Angel View. That's all four inch lines and they're very bad." GM Guzzetta responded that area was being considered as an upcoming pipeline replacement project.

**16. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT**

The General Manager had nothing further to report. Director Wilson asked, "On the inactive meters there was a fee charged last year that was dropped. Is that money going to be refunded to the customers?" GM Guzzetta responded that the money would be refunded.

**17. DIRECTOR COMMENTS/REPORTS**

Director Lovelace reported on the draft "Best Practices" reviewed by the Ad Hoc committee consisting of himself and Director Given.

MSC Given/Wyne 4/1 to Approve the Board of Directors Best Practices Policy.

Given	Aye
Long	Aye
Lovelace	Aye
Wilson	No
Wyne	Aye

**18. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Al Marquez of Joshua Tree asked whether the number of system leaks have increased, decreased, or stayed the same in 2007 compared to 2006, where old pipe was replaced.

**19. CLOSED SESSION**

**A. Conference with labor negotiator regarding General Unit; pursuant to Government Code 54957.6. District negotiator: Joe Guzzetta.**

**B. Conference with real property negotiators per Government Code 54956.8**

**Property: APN 601-231-15; 601-231-14**

**District Negotiator: Joe Guzzetta**

**Negotiating Parties: Purported Owner Karen R. Norris; Don Norris**

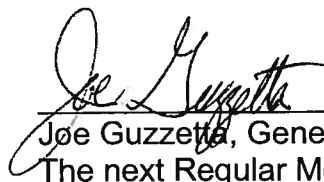
**Under Negotiation: Instruct District negotiator regarding price and terms.**

The Board went to Closed Session at 9:26 pm and returned to open session at 9:45 pm, having taken no reportable action.

**20. ADJOURNMENT 9:45 PM**

MSC Given/Lovelace 5/0 to adjourn the Regular Meeting of January 16, 2008.

Respectfully submitted;

  
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Joe Guzzetta, General Manager

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for February 6, 2008.