



**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT
583 SAN YSIDRO ROAD, MONTECITO, CALIFORNIA**

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**TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2020
9:30 A.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

President Wicks called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. All participants attended electronically.

Directors Participating:

Directors Kenneth Coates, Brian Goebel, Cori Hayman, Tobe Plough, and Floyd Wicks

Directors Absent:

None

Staff Participating:

Nick Turner, General Manager

Robert Cohen, General Counsel

Adam Kanold, Engineering Manager

Laura Camp, P.I. Officer

Daryl Smith, Business Manager

Lois Werner, Recording Secretary

Guests Participating:

Bob Hazard, Montecito Journal

Bryce McAteer, WestWater Research

Matt Payne, WestWater Research

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Participants recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public participating who wished to speak on matters not on the agenda.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

Following discussion, it was moved by Director Plough, seconded by Director Coates and carried, with Directors Coates, Goebel, Hayman, Plough, and Wicks voting in favor, to approve the Consent Calendar as corrected.

5. DISTRICT OPERATIONS AND GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS

- A. BOARD ACTION: Approval of a proposed contract with WestWater Research LLC for water market services involving the possible lease of future surplus State Water Project water

Mr. Turner introduced Mr. Payne who presented this item and responded to questions from Directors. Following discussion it was moved by Director Goebel, seconded by Director Plough and carried, with Directors Coates, Goebel, Hayman, Plough, and Wicks voting in favor, to authorize the execution of a contract with WestWater Research LLC for water marketing services in connection with the implementation of its Water Market Strategy involving the lease of District's surplus State Water Project water.

- B. BOARD ACTION: Approval of proposed *Radio Device Installation and Access Agreement* template for Smart Meter Program and authorization of staff execution of agreements for installation of data collection equipment on private property

Director Plough left the meeting at this point.

Mr. Kanold presented this item and responded to questions from Directors. Following discussion it was moved by Director Coates, seconded by Director Goebel and carried, with Directors Coates, Goebel, Hayman, and Wicks voting in favor, Director Plough not present, to authorize staff to execute agreements for the installation of smart meter collectors on private property using the proposed Radio Device Installation and Access Agreement.

- C. INFORMATION ONLY: Progress update on implementation of permanent pipeline repairs and FEMA reimbursement

Mr. Kanold presented this item and responded to questions from Directors.

- D. BOARD ACTION: Possible modification of job classification for the Engineering Manager position

Director Plough returned to the meeting during this item.

Mr. Turner presented this item and responded to questions from Directors. Following discussion it was moved by Director Goebel, seconded by Director Coates and carried, with Directors Coates, Goebel, Hayman, Plough, and Wicks voting in favor to approve the modification of the job title and description for the Engineering Manager to reflect those responsibilities consistent with those of an Assistant General Manager / Engineering Manager and approve an associated new salary range.

- E. INFORMATION ONLY: General Manager's Report
Mr. Turner and Mr. Kanold presented this report on several District projects and activities not covered elsewhere in the agenda.
- F. INFORMATION ONLY: Status update on revisions to District operations and procedures in response to COVID-19
Mr. Turner presented this item and responded to questions from Directors.

6. DISTRICT BUSINESS REPORT

- A. INFORMATION ONLY: Unaudited District Monthly Financial Reporting for February 2020
Mr. Smith presented this report and responded to questions from Directors.
- B. INFORMATION ONLY: Receive, Accept and File 2018/19 Annual Audited Financial Statements

This item was heard after item 5-B, Director Plough still being absent

Mr. Smith presented this report and responded to questions from Directors.

7. DIRECTOR AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. President's Report
Director Wicks mentioned the productive meeting the Strategic Planning Committee had with District staff and Dr. Steve Bachman.
- B. Central Coast Water Authority
Director Wicks reported that the CCWA meeting had been canceled.
- C. Santa Barbara County Special Districts Association
No report
- D. Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board
Director Hayman reported on the activities of COMB.
- E. Cachuma Conservation Release Board
Director Plough reported on the activities of CCRB.
- F. Operations & Customer Relations Committee
Directors Hayman and Wicks reported that the activities of the Committee had already been covered elsewhere in the agenda.
- G. Finance Committee
Directors Coates and Plough reported on the activities of the Committee. A special Board Meeting is planned for April 7 to hear a report from Raftelis on the Rate Study currently underway.

- H. Strategic Planning Committee
Directors Wicks and Goebel reported on the activities of the Committee.
- I. Ad hoc Committee WSA/Rate Study Communications
Directors Coates and Goebel reported on discussions concerning public communications regarding the rate study and rate increases with the need for Prop 218 compliance and the current situation of social distancing due to the covid-19 virus.
- J. Ad hoc Committee WSA Review
The Committee had not met.

8. LEGAL MATTERS

- A. Recent and Pending Legal Matters Review – Oral Report
Mr. Cohen had no legal matters to discuss with the Board in open session.
- B. CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation, Cachuma Operation And Maintenance Board v. Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District Number 1, Santa Barbara Superior Court Case No. 19CV01873
- C. CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Government Code 54956.9(d)(2) Conference with Legal counsel – Anticipated Litigation, 6 cases

The Board adjourned to closed session on the above matters at 1:00 p.m.

The Board reconvened in open session at 1:25 p.m.

Report from closed session:

As to item B, the Board received an update and no action was taken.

As to item C:

1. The Board received information as to the settlement of a claim received on February 26, 2019 by claimant Valerie Aroyan. The claim was settled by the General Manager in accordance with Montecito Water District Resolution 2175.
2. The Board received information as to the settlement of a claim received on February 26, 2019 by claimant Peter Bohlinger. The claim was settled by the General Manager in accordance with Montecito Water District Resolution 2175.
3. The Board received information as to the settlement of a claim received on February 26, 2019 by claimants Geoff Crosby and Susan Crosby. The claim was settled by the General Manager in accordance with Montecito Water District Resolution 2175.

4. The Board voted 5 to 0 on a motion by Director Goebel seconded by Director Plough to reject the claim received on February 18, 2020 by claimant Tom Ziaee.
5. Direction was given to staff and counsel and no action was taken.

All of the above referenced claims, and settlement documents, will be available for review pursuant to Government Code 54957.5 and 54957.1

6. The Board received an update and no action was taken.

9. DIRECTOR REQUESTS

Directors requested that the communication strategy for the rate study and rate increases be discussed at the April 7 Special Board Meeting.

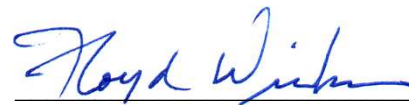
Directors requested that a discussion recycled water roles and responsibilities of the two special districts be discussed at the next regular meeting.

There were no other requests from Directors for agenda items for any future meeting.

10. ADJOURNMENT


There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Approved:



Floyd Wicks, Presidents

Attest:



Nick Turner, Secretary