

The minutes presented herewith are not a verbatim transcription of the Regular Board meeting held July 23, 2019. The intent is to provide a synopsis of key points of discussion and to chronicle decisions and actions taken by a quorum of the Board of Directors (ref: Roberts Rules of Order, Section 48). For more information or background, please refer to the applicable board packet.

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE RINCON DEL DIABLO MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
July 23, 2019**

A Regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Rincon Del Diablo Municipal Water District was held on Tuesday, July 23, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at the offices of the District located at 1920 North Iris Lane, Escondido, California 92026.

Directors Present: Drake, Lump, Murtland, Quist, and Towne.

Directors Absent: None.

District Staff Present: Greg Thomas, General Manager; Clint Baze, Director of Engineering and Operations; Jeff Umbrasas, Director of Administration and Finance; Julia Escamilla, Public Services Information Officer; and Wanda Cassidy, Board Secretary.

Legal Counsel Present: Gerry Shoaf, Legal Counsel, Redwine & Sherrill.

Fire Services Staff Present: Rick Vogt, Fire Chief, Escondido Fire Department.

Guests Present: Chris Palmer, Field Coordinator, California Special Districts Association; Jason Foster, Administrative Services Director, San Diego County Water Authority.

President Murtland called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Director Quist then led the Board of Directors and attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA

There were no additions or changes to the Agenda.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

There were no communications to the Board.

PRESENTATIONS

Chris Palmer, California Special Districts Association

Chris Palmer, California Special Districts Field Coordinator, presented a Special District Leadership Foundation Recognition in Special District Governance Certificate to Director Diana Towne. Director Towne attended the Special District Leadership Academy, a four-day seminar consisting of four modules: Governance Foundations, Setting Direction/Community Leadership, the Board's Role in Human Resources, and the Board's Role in Finance and Fiscal Accountability. Mr. Palmer also acknowledged Director Towne for her commitment to CSDA and her work as Secretary to the CSDA San Diego Chapter.

Jason Foster, San Diego Water Authority

Jason Foster, Administrative Services Director for the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) began his program by providing Directors with a SDCWA Challenge Coin in honor of the agencies 75-year anniversary. Mr. Foster then presented on "Member Agency Engagement." The presentation focused on how SDCWA is enhancing communications and working to build more integrated relationships with member agencies. The enhanced communications and improved relationships should provide the following benefits for member agencies:

- new opportunities;
- collaborate programs and events;
- improved outreach support;
- more collaborative and expanded involvement on media and community relations; and
- improved resource development.

Following the presentation, Mr. Foster answered questions from Directors.

SECTION 1 - CONSENT ITEMS

In a motion by Director Drake and seconded by Director Lump, by a vote of 5-0, the Board of Directors passed the following consent items unanimously:

- 1-A. Minutes of the Regular Board of Directors Meeting of June 25, 2019.
- 1-B. General Fund Disbursements, June 2019.
- 1-C. Investment Portfolio Report, May 2019.
- 1-D. Financial Statements, May 2019.

- 1-E. Board of Directors' Per Diem Fees and/or Expense Reports, June 2019.

SECTION 2 – EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & FIRE SERVICES

- 2-A. Oral Report by Escondido Fire Department Regarding Current Events and Community Fire Readiness Relating to Improvement District E.

Rick Vogt, Chief of the Escondido Fire Department reported the following:

- There have not been any large fires reported in California since the start of the 2019 fire season, which is fortunate.
- The Fire Department will be hosting a series of wildfire preparedness meetings. The meetings will educate customers on defending their home during a wildfire and how to prepare for an emergency and provide information on emergency alerts and evacuation preparedness. There will be a total of five advertised meetings, including one at the District scheduled July 30th. A sixth meeting specific to a local mobilehome park will also take place.
- The Fire Department is encouraging members of communities to participate in their local Fire Safe Council. The councils provide a number of programs related to wildfire preparedness, including some of which are grant funded and free.

General Manager Thomas then acknowledged Sandy Bauer and Chief Vogt for their commitment to fire mitigation in the area. The Escondido Fire Department has an annual resolution related to fire mitigation and liens related to the costs of those services on the August agenda, however for FY 2018-19, there was nothing to report.

Following the report, Chief Vogt answered questions from directors.

SECTION 3 – PUBLIC INFORMATION & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

- 3-A. Focus on Conservation. Updates on District Conservation Programs, Regional Water Supplies, Statewide Water Resource Outlook and Legislation.

Julia Escamilla, Public Services Information Officer provided the Focus on Conservation report. Ms. Escamilla began her presentation with a photo of the military filling water bottles in Trona, California, where a boil alert was issued after a 7.1 earthquake.

Ms. Escamilla then proceeded with the monthly Focus on Conservation report. Overall Northern Sierra precipitation is at 68.4 inches and at 136 percent of average, however, it is tapering off. Lake Shasta is above average at 91 percent of capacity and at 123 percent of seasonal average while Lake Oroville is at 92 percent of capacity and above seasonal average at 122 percent. For Colorado River conditions, Lake Powell is up a few percent over last month and Lake Mead is steady at 40 percent of capacity. Precipitation was at 123 percent of normal.

For State Water Board monitoring for the month of June, customers reduced water usage by 34 percent of use compared to June 2013 for a cumulative savings of 26.4 percent since June 2013. GPCD for residential customers was at 123.

Ms. Escamilla then reported the California Drought Monitor is nearly all white, indicating there are currently “No Drought” conditions in the majority of California. The exception is approximately four percent in the San Diego area, indicating “Abnormally Dry” conditions. On the Wildland Fire Potential Outlook, San Diego’s potential for wildland fire is currently at “Normal,” however, in September the outlook is expected to move into the “Above Normal” category.

Following Ms. Escamilla’s report, General Manager Thomas provided the Legislative Update. Mr. Thomas began his state legislative update with a timeline of upcoming key dates for legislation. Following the timeline, Mr. Thomas provided information on the State Drinking Water legislation. SB 200 is pending the Governor’s signature to finalize the safe drinking water compromise. The legislation means there will be no water tax. SB 200 includes:

- 5% GGRF continuous appropriation beginning FY 2020-21 for safe drinking water with a cap of \$130 million – sunsets in 2030;
- General Fund backstop to fill Safe Drinking Water Fund should the 5% of GGRF be lower than \$130 million beginning FY 2023-24; and
- Sets up the Safe Drinking Water Program framework and Fund.

The Newsome Administration Water Resiliency Portfolio will initially focus on listening and receiving input from stakeholders through public meetings and listening sessions. The Administration has created a Water Resiliency Portfolio program website “WaterResilience.ca.gov” which will provide access to a calendar of events and a way to track and monitor the state’s information gathering.

Prior to the Summer recess, the Legislature approved AB 1054 (Holden). The legislation provides the following:

- Establishes the California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board (CWSAB).
- Creates two funds to help wildfire victims:

- Liquidity fund - \$10.5B line of credit to cover fire costs exceeding IOUs insurance coverage; and
 - Insurance fund - \$21B, half paid by the IOUs and half paid by ratepayers through extension of existing monthly fee (\$2.54).
- In terms of fire prevention, the IOUs must allocate \$5B to fire mitigation projects.
 - POUs must submit wildfire mitigation plans to the CWSAB every three years for review and comment.

Sponsored legislation AB 1588 (Gloria/Gray) is currently pending hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee after summer recess. AB 1588 is co-sponsored by the Water Authority and the Otay Water District. The legislation is intended to address the lack of satisfactory crediting and equivalency standards for military veterans transitioning into civilian water and wastewater system operator occupations.

Additional key issues remaining in the 2019 Legislative Session include:

- AB 292 (Quirk) - Clarifying statutory definitions for potable reuse.
- AB 315 (C. Garcia) – Restrictions on local government association spending.
- AB 402 (Quirk) – Funding for local primacy agency oversight
- AB 756 (C. Garcia) – PFAS monitoring and public notification process.
- AB 1184 (Gloria) – Retention of emails.
- AB 1486 (Ting) – Surplus lands.
- SB 1 (Atkins) – California Environmental, Public Health, and Workers Defense Act of 2019.
- SB 414 (Caballero) – Small System Water Authority Act of 2019.

Following the presentation, General Manager Thomas answered questions from directors.

SECTION 4 – FINANCE, INSURANCE & PERSONNEL

- 4-A. Adopt Resolution No. 19-817.29, entitled “Establishing the Limit for Appropriations of Proceeds of Tax Subject to Limitation for Fiscal Year 2019-20, in Compliance with Article XIII-B of the Constitution of the State of California.”

President Murtland introduced Adopt Resolution No. 19-817.29, “Establishing the Limit for Appropriations of Proceeds of Tax Subject to Limitation for Fiscal Year 2019-20, in Compliance with Article XIII-B of the Constitution of the State of

California.” President Murtland reported this is an annual event and asked for a motion.

In a motion made by Director Drake and seconded by Director Towne, by a vote of 5-0, the Board of Directors unanimously approved Resolution No. 19-817.29, “Establishing the Limit for Appropriations of Proceeds of Tax Subject to Limitation for Fiscal Year 2019-20, in Compliance with Article XIII-B of the Constitution of the State of California” by the following roll call vote:

**Murtland: Aye
Lump: Aye
Drake: Aye
Towne: Aye
Quist: Aye**

SECTION 5 – OPERATIONS; ENGINEERING & LONG-RANGE PLANNING

- 5-A. Approve Additional Project Expenditures and Authorize Filing of Notice of Completion for the Eden Valley Waterline Replacement Project.

Director of Engineering and Operations Clint Baze reported that staff is requesting an additional \$39,168 for increased construction costs as a result of adverse weather, conditions which impacted excavation, and the redesign of the Country Club Drive tie-in. In addition, the project has been completed and staff is requesting the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to file the Notice of Completion.

After staff answered Directors questions, President Murtland asked for a motion:

In a motion by Director Towne seconded by Director Drake, by a vote of 5-0, the Board of Directors unanimously authorized the General Manager to increase the approved construction costs from \$547,910 to \$587,078 and file a Notice of Completion for the Eden Valley Waterline Replacement Project.

- 5-B. El Norte Recycled Water Retrofit Project Update.

Clint Baze presented the El Norte Recycled Water Retrofit Project Update. The El Norte Recycled Water Retrofit Project is being funded by grants and by participating property HOAs through cash contributions and/or re-payment

agreements. The project is a three-part project that involves the construction of an offsite distribution main and two onsite potable water to recycled water conversions. The offsite portion was completed in June of this year.

Staff has been negotiating contracts with the two HOAs, Rancho Escondido Mobile Home Park and the Morning View Terrace Apartment Complex for two and a half years. Morning View Terrace anticipated contracting directly with a union landscape vendor, however, was unsuccessful in procuring a vendor and requested assistance from the District. On behalf of Morning View Terrace, Mr. Baze contacted 19 construction vendors and received three quotes for the project. The lowest quote was received from Blue Pacific Engineering and Construction, who completed the offsite phase of this project. Staff is now working on the construction agreements to ensure work on the project will be completed by grant deadlines and on budget.

After the presentation, Mr. Baze answered questions from Directors.

SECTION 6 – WASTEWATER

6-A. Update on Plant Operations.

Director Baze updated Directors on Wastewater Plant Operations. Mr. Baze reported the plant is now operating and producing 140 gallons of recycled water per minute.

In Harmony Grove Village, approximately 400 of the 742 homes have been sold and 330 of those homes are occupied. Equipment is being prepared for doing composite sampling to determine the composition of what is going into the plant. Previous sampling indicated paint solvents have been a component of that sampling.

Dudek is currently running the plant and providing maintenance. Additional items being corrected by the developer include ensuring collection system manholes are properly sealed, ensuring water in the wet weather storage pond is not going stagnant, and ensuring security and safety measures are being taken.

After Mr. Baze's presentation, General Manager Thomas updated Directors on the Valiano issue.

SECTION 7 – SDCWA DIRECTOR’S REPORT & DIRECTORS/STAFF ACTIVITIES REPORT

- 7-A. This portion of the agenda may be used by the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) representative to make informal reports on activities.

Director Murtland was absent from the meeting, however, he did report the San Diego County Water Authority’s budget was passed and the conveyance report was included in that budget.

- 7-B. This portion of the agenda may be used by the Board of Directors or management to make informal oral reports on their activities.

- Director Quist attended a UWI Institute North-South Group. Discussions included “Forest to Faucet,” which relates to the need to take care of Northern California watersheds in order to keep water flowing to Southern California. Director Quist then announced the theme of the upcoming Urban Water Institute Conference is “What’s Water in 2070?”
- Director Towne reported on the Fire Expo and the CSDA Executive Committee Board meeting. The speaker at the next CSDA Quarterly Dinner will be John Minto, Mayor of Santee. Mayor Minto is the creator of the Highway 52 Coalition. Director Towne then reported the CSDA Quarterly Newsletter Spotlight subject will either be Ed Cerna, the General Manager of the North County District Cemetery or Hannah Gbeh, the new Executive Director of the San Diego County Farm Bureau.
- Director Drake reported on Bill Knutson’s 90th birthday party and the Fire Expo. Director Drake then gave an update on the formation of the California Water Insurance Fund. In upcoming months, the California Water Insurance Fund will be interviewing four financial analysts and transferring money to Utah where the fund will be based.
- Director Lump reported the Fire Expo was inadvertently left off her June Per Diem form and it will be submitted in July.
- Director Murtland reported on COWU.

- 7-C. This portion of the agenda may be used by the Board of Directors to request items for future agendas.

There was nothing to report.

- 7-D. Request Approval for a Board Member(s) to Attend Upcoming Meetings; Conferences; or Seminars for Those Not Authorized in the District’s Administrative Code, Section 502 “Authorized District Memberships.”

There were no requests.

7-E. District Activities Report (DAR), June, 2019.

General Manager updated directors on the following:

- The Senior Engineer application deadline was July 16th. A total of 13 applications were received. Staff will review the applications and narrow the pool down to five or six applicants. Interviews will take place the last week in July. The Management Analyst application deadline was July 23rd and 50 applications were received. The Administrative Assistant position closed on July 23rd and 189 applications were received.
- The Urban Water Institute Conference will be August 14th, 15th, and 16th.
- The EPFS Committee meeting scheduled on August 7, 2019 is being canceled due to no agenda items.
- Tri-State will be from August 6th to August 8th. Director of Engineering and Operations Baze will be presenting at Tri-State on Tuesday morning, August 6th.
- A Special Board Meeting for the GM Evaluation and SWOT has been scheduled on Monday, August 12th at 5:00 p.m.
- The next ELRP Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 18th. A Special ELRP Committee meeting to discuss the El Norte Recycled Water Project may need to be scheduled in August.
- On Tuesday, September 10th Director Towne will attend the Wastewater Committee meeting in Director Drake's absence.
- A tour of the Harmony Grove Village Water Reclamation Facility will be scheduled for the beginning of September.

7-F. CSDA Southern Area Seat B Board of Directors 2019 Election.

General Manager Thomas introduced CSDA Southern Area Seat B Board of Directors 2019 Election. After a brief discussion a motion was made:

In a motion by Director Towne and seconded by Director Quist, by a vote of 5-0, the Board of Directors unanimously selected Kathleen Tiegs of Cucamonga Valley Water District for the Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District vote for President on the CSDA Ballot.

7-G. Call for Ballots – San Diego County Consolidated Redevelopment Oversight Board:

General Manager Thomas introduced the Call for Ballots for the San Diego County Consolidated Redevelopment Oversight Board. After a brief discussion, a motion was made.

In a motion by Director Towne and seconded by Director Drake, by a vote of 5-0, the Board of Directors unanimously selected Mitchell Thompson of the Otay Water District for the Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District vote on the San Diego County Consolidated Redevelopment Oversight Board Ballot.

SECTION 8 – GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

8-A. General Manager’s Report

General Manager Thomas reported the following:

- The 2018 Consumer Confidence Reports for ID1 and IDA were released.
- On April 21st, 2019, there was a treatment process failure at the SDCWA Twin Oaks Valley Water Treatment Plant. Corrective action was immediately taken and the incident was reported to state regulators. Although the event had no impact to the quality of drinking water, SDCWA was cited by the Division of Drinking Water and is now working with impacted member agencies to follow state mandated noticing requirements and notify all customers who may have received water from the Twin Oaks plant during the April 21-22 incident. This includes Rincon customers from ID-1. The appropriate notifications were made by SDCWA. Approximately 70 calls were received by the San Diego County Water Authority. All were generated from the postcards.

SECTION 9 – LEGAL MATTERS

9-A. Legal Counsel Report.

- a. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – LITIGATION, Litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1): San Diego County Office of Education, et al. v. The County of San Diego, et al.

There was nothing to report.

- b. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 (b) (1): General Manager’s Evaluation.

There was nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board of Directors, the meeting was adjourned by President Murtland at 8:50 p.m.

APPROVED:



James B. Murtland, President

ATTEST: 

Wanda Cassidy, Board Secretary