



*Setting standards of excellence in public service*

**MINUTES  
COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Wednesday, April 26, 2017 – 3 p.m.  
7811 University Avenue, La Mesa, CA 91942-0427**

1. President Scalzitti called the meeting to order at 3 p.m. The roll call showed a quorum of the board present: Directors Scalzitti, Hedberg, McMillan, Verbeke and Gracyk were present.

Staff present: Lugo, Miller, Stoia, Tomasulo, Olney, Janzen, Doubrava, Salois, Garuba, Emery, Curtis, Annett, Uhrhammer and Bryant.

At 3 p.m. the boardroom was filled with Helix Water District employees, retirees and friends of Senior Chemist Cindy A. Ziernicki in honor of her 20-year service award.

Others present: Customer Andrea Beth Damsky was present. Executive Director Elyssa Robertson of the Water Conservation Garden and President Harold Bailey of the Friends of the Garden were present.

2. Vice President Hedberg provided the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. The agenda was approved unanimously.

Motion: Verbeke  
Second: Scalzitti

4. President Scalzitti provided opportunity for members of the public to address the board on any item under the subject matter jurisdiction of the district. No one requested to be heard.

**DISCUSSION**

5. Senior Chemist Cindy A. Ziernicki received an award for 20 years of service with the district. She was joined by friends, retirees and employees. Director of Water Quality/System Operations Brian M. Olney introduced Ms. Ziernicki; General Manager Carlos V. Lugo provided background information; Director Verbeke presented a framed

certificate. Ms. Ziernicki introduced her family and friends and thanked the employees for their support.

President Scalzitti adjourned the meeting at 3:24 p.m. for service award photographs.

President Scalzitti reconvened the meeting at 3:33 p.m.

6. The board of directors recognized the winners of Helix Water District's annual "San Diego Water Colors" high school photo contest. The board received a PowerPoint presentation by Senior Public Affairs Representative Theodore J. Salois showing the black and white photo category winners Angel Ramirez (honorable mention); Destiny Kassab (third place); Austin Finch (second place) and Mohammed Jiyad (first place). The color photo category winners were Kawther Fadhil, Gonzalo Leon Garcia, Erik Jared Martinez, Chrestina Polus, Eduardo Silva and Stephanie Szumilas (honorable mentions); Gonzalo Leon Garcia (third place); Michelle Bristol (second place), Anthony Moreno (first place) and Zahra Nazeri (best in show). The board congratulated each photographer and provided gift cards, ribbons, certificates, thumb drives and tote bags.

Director McMillan left the boardroom for approximately five minutes to take a phone call. President Scalzitti waited for his return before introducing agenda item seven.

7. The board of directors received a PowerPoint presentation by Executive Director Elyssa Robertson of the Water Conservation Garden. Discussion ensued. The board of directors agreed to place a discussion item regarding the district's future financial commitment to the Water Conservation Garden on a board agenda in June. Director McMillan requested an action item versus a discussion item. There were no public comments.
8. The board of directors discussed Harry Griffen Regional Park at the request of Director Gracyk in preparation for the Harry Griffen Park Joint Powers Agreement meeting on May 2, 2017, at 10 a.m. in the city of La Mesa council chambers. Discussion ensued. Staff was directed to provide Director Gracyk with talking points for the meeting. Through board consensus, Director Gracyk was asked to vote for approval of the budget, but also ask for a future meeting to review and evaluate the joint powers agreement. There were no public comments.
9. President Scalzitti adjourned the meeting at 5:14 p.m.

  
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Joel A. Scalzitti, President

**ATTEST:**

  
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Sandra L. Janzen, Board Secretary