



Setting Standards of Excellence in Public Service

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Wednesday, November 4, 2020 – 4 p.m.
7811 University Avenue, La Mesa, CA 91942-0427
Virtual Meeting**

1. President Gracyk called the special board meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. and turned the meeting over to Board Secretary Sandra L. Janzen to verify all board members, staff and members of the public could hear one another and that everyone could identify the board members by voice recognition or video image.

The roll call showed a quorum of the board present via electronic conferencing software. Directors Gracyk, Verbeke, Hedberg, Scalzitti and McMillan were present.

Staff present: Lugo, Olney, Tomasulo, Bryant, Miller, Ross, Janzen, Garuba, Lyford, Palechek, Curtis, Lunde, Lundy, Pope and Andrews. General Counsel Elizabeth W. Hull of Best Best & Krieger was also present.

Others present: San Diego County Water Authority Principal Public Affairs Representative Risa Brown, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck Policy Assistant Victoria Barba and several unidentified participants were present.

2. Vice President Verbeke provided the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. General Manager Carlos V. Lugo reported there were no additions or deletions to the agenda. There were no public or board comments. The motion to approve the agenda carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Motion: Verbeke
Second: Scalzitti

4. President Gracyk provided opportunity for members of the public to address the board on any item under the subject matter jurisdiction of the district. There were no public

comments. President Gracyk congratulated Directors McMillan and Scalzitti for their strong leads in the election.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. The motion to approve the consent agenda carried unanimously by roll call vote. There were no public comments.

Motion: Hedberg

Second: Verbeke

- a) Memorandum dated November 4, 2020, from the Secretary of the Board Sandra L. Janzen submitting expense and per diem claims was approved.
- b) The board approved the following sets of minutes:
 - i. October 21, 2020, special board meeting
 - ii. October 28, 2020, Committee of the Board meeting
 - iii. October 29, 2020, Special Finance and Administration Committee meeting
- c) The operating account checks submitted for ratification were approved:
 - i. Checks dated October 23, 2020
 - ii. Checks dated October 30, 2020
- d) The board adopted the following resolutions:
 - i. Resolution 20-39 authorizing the execution of the quitclaim of the easement over portions of assessor parcel numbers 514-180-07 and 514-331-05, in unincorporated Spring Valley, county of San Diego, state of California
 - ii. Resolution 20-40 declaring construction complete and authorized filing a notice of completion for Shasta Homes project RMB18031
- e) The board approved the following attendance considerations:
 - i. California Water Policy Conference
Time for Transformative Water Leadership and
Walking the Talk: How to Increase Water Sector Diversity
Webinar, October 20, 2020 at 2 p.m.
 - ii. San Diego County Water Authority
Regional Conveyance System – Economic Study Session
Video/Teleconference, October 27, 2020 at 10 a.m.

ACTION ITEMS

6. The board appropriated and approved the expenditure of funds in the amount of \$269,000 from the fiscal year 2020-21 capital budget and authorized the sole source contract with Otis Elevator Company in an amount not to exceed \$263,835 for the administration office elevator rehabilitation project CIP21401. There were no public comments. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Motion: Scalzitti
Second: Verbeke

Facilities Manager Joseph J. Garuba presented the item and answered all questions regarding the permitting and the continued maintenance/warranty of the project work. All directors expressed gratitude for the focus on safety and the continued maintenance of the elevator system. Mr. Garuba will provide the board additional information regarding the expected lifespan of the treatment plant and operations center elevators.

7. The board authorized General Manager Carlos V. Lugo to execute an agreement for professional services with Infosend for bill printing, insert and mailing services for four years with an additional two-year renewal option. There were no public comments. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Motion: Scalzitti
Second: Verbeke

Customer Service Manager Sonya M. Andrews provided a PowerPoint presentation. President Gracyk, Vice President Verbeke and Director Scalzitti expressed appreciation Infosend is easy for staff to work with and that the pricing has remained relatively flat since the last contract.

DISCUSSION

8. President Gracyk reported that he would attend the virtual Lemon Grove Community Garden Membership meeting with Public Affairs Representative Vincent R. Dambrose, III on Saturday, November 7, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. In addition, President Gracyk will attend the November 9, 2020 virtual open house at Cuyamaca College in honor of Veterans Day, the November 17, 2020 virtual Council of Water Utilities meeting at 8 a.m., followed at 10 a.m. by the virtual Regional Presidents and General Managers meeting.

Secretary of the Board Sandra L. Janzen reported that the district received customer compliments regarding the outstanding service provided by: Meter Services Field Representative Victor A. Romero, Customer Service Representative Deborah A. Copher and Lake Jennings' part-time Assistant Maintenance Ranger Raymond Estrada.

9. President Gracyk, Director Hedberg and Director McMillan provided written reports. In addition, Vice President Verbeke reported she has stayed busy with the Association of California Water Agencies Region 10 plans for the Fall Association of California Water Agencies conference and encouraged all to attend. In addition, Vice President Verbeke reported she is attending a series of webinar sessions with ACWA that she highly recommended to the board.

Directors McMillan and Scalzitti reported they met with General Manager Carlos V. Lugo and his team on October 30, 2020, regarding potential land sales and potential campground improvements. Recommendations for the campground will be provided during the November 18, 2020, special board meeting.

Directors Hedberg and Scalzitti reported that there will be changes on the San Diego County Water Authority Board of Directors following the general election. Director Hedberg shared that she attended the November 4, 2020, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Delegates meeting highlighting the collaborative efforts of agencies sharing costs for larger projects. Director Hedberg reported attending the October 29, 2020 Special Finance and Administration Committee meeting with a discussion regarding the Proposition 218 schedule and the benefits of a Section 115 Trust.

Director McMillan also attended the Finance and Administration Committee meeting and shared that the trust will be discussed at a future board meeting as an investment option to provide a higher rate of return over current investments. Director McMillan thanked the board and staff for their work over the years keeping his election process smooth. There were no public comments.

10. President Gracyk opened the board discussion regarding the regional conveyance system study. The board directed General Manager Carlos V. Lugo to draft a letter for the district's San Diego County Water Authority Board of Directors representatives to sign requesting SDCWA delay a vote on the regional conveyance system until February. Director McMillan reported regional boards need time to receive and evaluate new information regarding the project prior to making a recommendation. Board Secretary Sandra L. Janzen was directed to contact the SDCWA for the question and answer transcripts from the workshop conducted by the SDCWA Water Academy on October 27, 2020.
11. General Manager Carlos V. Lugo detailed the upcoming agenda items for the board meetings scheduled on November 18, 2020, December 9 and 16, 2020 and January 6, 2021. Mr. Lugo reported the district provided emergency mutual assistance to Padre Dam Municipal Water District during a large water leak near Cuyamaca and Highway 52. The assistance allowed PDMWD crews to meet mandatory rest requirements. Mr. Lugo reminded the board of SDCWA's November 12, 2020, 1:30 p.m. Special Water Planning and Environmental Committee meeting. There were no public comments.

12. General Counsel Elizabeth W. Hull reported that the Association of California Water Agencies is requesting the California Supreme Court to depublish the opinion addressing the decision in *Malott v. Summerland Sanitary District*, which could encourage ratepayers to bypass an agency's Proposition 218 ratemaking process and take districts straight to court. Director Hedberg requested Ms. Hull keep the board informed regarding any developments in this case. There were no public comments.

INFORMATION ITEM

13. The board received an update regarding the treatment plant ozone project from Water Treatment Plant Manager Larry W. Lyford. The board thanked Mr. Lyford for the PowerPoint presentation and recognized Henry Palechek, Thomas J. Pearce, Director of Water Quality and System Operations Brian M. Olney and their teams. Vice President Verbeke suggested a newsletter article for customers to hear about the expertise needed for this project and the savings staff provided the ratepayers. General Manager Carlos V. Lugo also thanked staff for their impressive accomplishments. There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

14. President Gracyk adjourned the special board meeting at 5:43 p.m.



Mark Gracyk, President

ATTEST:



Sandra L. Janzen, Secretary of the Board