



Setting Standards of Excellence in Public Service

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Thursday, November 12, 2020 – 5 p.m.
7811 University Avenue, La Mesa, CA 91942-0427
Virtual Meeting**

1. President Gracyk called the special board meeting to order at 5:02 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 and Curtis. General Counsel Lutfi Kharuf of Best Best & Krieger was also present.

Others present: Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck Policy Assistant Victoria Barba and several unidentified participants were present.

2. Director Scalzitti led the Pledge of Allegiance. No invocation was provided.
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: Hedberg

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.

DISCUSSION

5. President Gracyk opened the board discussion regarding the regional conveyance system study. General Manager Carlos V. Lugo provided background information regarding the presentations from San Diego County Water Authority and consultants regarding the feasibility of Phase A. Mr. Lugo reminded the board that a vote on the study was delayed by the SDCWA until November 19, 2020, allowing additional regional education and outreach. The scope of the project has been updated by Phase B and the district's board of directors received the SDCWA board materials regarding Phase B at 5 p.m. on November 11, 2020. Director Hedberg also provided an overview of the study. Director Hedberg suggested the SDCWA secure a transportation agreement with Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and that partnerships be included in the project. Director Hedberg stated her hope that the scope had remained smaller and reminded the board that rates are expected to increase 30 percent in five years. Directors Scalzitti and McMillan both agreed the project does not make sense at this time, reporting it is too costly and does not provide additional water for the district's ratepayers. Vice President Verbeke reported that MWD's transportation costs are needed for proper evaluation and rate comparisons. Director McMillan expressed his sensitivity that the study has come this far wasting district funds. Discussion continued. General Counsel Lutfi Kharuf reported the SDCWA representatives would vote their position at the SDCWA board meeting on November 19, 2020. The board agreed that a letter to SDCWA was no longer necessary as discussed during a previous meeting. President Gracyk opened and closed public comments and thanked the board for the discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

6. President Gracyk adjourned the special board meeting at 6:13 p.m.



Mark Gracyk, President

ATTEST:



Sandra L. Janzen, Secretary of the Board