



*Setting Standards of Excellence in Public Service*

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Wednesday, July 7, 2021 – 3 p.m.  
7811 University Avenue, La Mesa, CA 91942-0427  
Virtual Meeting**

**OPEN MEETING**

1. President Scalzitti called the July 7, 2021, regular board meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. The meeting was turned 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 Scalzitti, Hedberg, McMillan, Gracyk and Verbeke were present.

Staff present: Lugo, Miller, Olney, Bryant, Ross, Janzen, Schipper, Curtis, Malkin, Doubrava, Dambrose, Uhrhammer and S. Sample. General Counsel Elizabeth W. Hull of Best Best & Krieger was also present.

Others present: Students Mia Moran and Marianna Buenrostro Giner, former General Manager Robert D. Friedgen and an unidentified participant were present. Parents of the scholarship recipients also attended the meeting.

2. Director McMillan 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 comments. The motion to approve carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Motion: Verbeke  
Second: Hedberg

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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. There were no public comments.

**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 July 7, 2021, 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. June 16, 2021, regular board meeting
  - ii. June 23, 2021, Committee of the Board meeting
  - iii. June 23, 2021, special board meeting
- c) The operating account checks submitted for ratification were approved:
  - i. Checks dated June 18, 2021
  - ii. Checks dated June 25, 2021
  - iii. Checks dated July 2, 2021

**PRESENTATION**

6. The board recognized the 2021 recipients of the Dr. Lillian M. Childs Scholarship and the Robert D. Friedgen Scholarship. President Scalzitti welcomed former General Manager Robert D. Friedgen to the meeting and recognized Scholarship Committee Chair Mark Gracyk. Director Gracyk announced Steele Canyon High School Student Mia Moran as the recipient of the Robert D. Friedgen Scholarship and Monte Vista High School Student Marianna Buenrostro Giner as the recipient of the Dr. Lillian M. Childs Scholarship. Senior Public Affairs Representative Michael J. Uhrhammer provided a PowerPoint presentation, highlighting the accomplishments of each recipient. Director Gracyk congratulated Miss Moran and Miss Giner on behalf of the Scholarship Committee. President Scalzitti opened board and public comments. Each board member congratulated and encouraged Miss Moran and Miss Giner. Both students thanked the board for their scholarships.

**ACTION ITEMS**

7. The board adopted Resolution 21-38 supporting the nomination of Pamela Tobin as a candidate for the office of Association of California Water Agencies president. There were no public comments. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Motion: Verbeke  
Second: Hedberg

Board Secretary Sandra L. Janzen presented the item and answered all questions with the assistance of Vice President Hedberg and Director Verbeke. Both directors spoke highly of Ms. Tobin.

8. The board appropriated funds in the amount of \$468,000 from the fiscal year 2021-22 capital budget to fund the small valve replacement program project CIP22001. Field Operations Manager Oliver K. Malkin presented the item. There were no board or public comments. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Motion: Verbeke  
Second: Gracyk

9. The board waived one immaterial deviation of the apparent low bid; adopted Resolution 21-39 awarding construction of the R.M. Levy Water Treatment Plant sewer improvements project CIP19028, to the lowest responsible bidder submitting a responsive bid, Cass Construction Inc. DBA Cass Arrieta, in the amount of \$507,050; and appropriated funds in the amount of \$805,000 from the fiscal year 2021-22 capital budget. There were no public comments. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Motion: Gracyk  
Second: Hedberg

Engineering Manager Milica K. Schipper provided a PowerPoint presentation and answered all questions regarding the previously appropriated \$310,000 for the emergency repair and pipeline design. Director Gracyk verified with General Counsel Elizabeth W. Hull that the immaterial deviation was vetted through counsel, that there were no bid protests and that the contractor will adhere to the environmental timeline for construction. Vice President Hedberg was pleased to see the number of bids ensuring fair pricing.

## **DISCUSSION**

10. President Scalzitti and Director McMillan detailed the June 24, 2021, San Diego County Water Authority Board of Directors meeting. President Scalzitti reported the SDCWA board filed the monthly treasurer's report; authorized the purchase of property insurance; approved the special agricultural water rates program extension; approved the budget for fiscal years 2022 and 2023; adopted rates and confirmed the board's position on various assembly bills. President Scalzitti also reported the evaluation of the general manager took place in closed session. Director McMillan reported that both he

and President Scalzitti shared lunch with SDCWA General Manager Sandy Kerl to discuss SDCWA expenditures.

President Scalzitti reported receiving an overview of district easements during the Parks, Land, Lakes and Garden Committee meeting on July 1, 2021. President Scalzitti also shared that a 30 percent design of the Lake Jennings improvements would be provided at a future board meeting. Director McMillan added that the Lake Jennings water feature is looking favorable.

President Scalzitti polled the board and determined a two to three hour meeting on August 7, 2021, would work to conduct a board retreat at Lake Jennings. President Scalzitti shared that he would be sending an email requesting topics to be covered during the retreat in addition to General Manager Carlos V. Lugo leading a succession planning discussion.

11. Directors McMillan, Gracyk and Verbeke provided written reports. Director McMillan and Vice President Hedberg reported attending the July 6, 2021, San Diego East County Chamber Government Affairs, Infrastructure and Land Use meeting detailing the nomination process and rating of candidates.
12. General Manager Carlos V. Lugo detailed upcoming agenda items for the board meeting scheduled on July 21, 2021. Mr. Lugo reported the Engineering and Operations Committee will meet on July 14, 2021 at 4 p.m. and President Scalzitti reminded the board of the meetings with Mr. Lugo on July 15, 2021, to discuss upcoming agenda items in detail.

At the request of Vice President Hedberg, Public Affairs Supervisor Michelle M. Curtis shared that the July-August Helix Highlights newsletter was emailed to 16,241 paperless customers with 26 percent (4,275) of these customers opening the email. Additionally, 144 customers clicked on links included in the email. The annual Water Quality report was emailed separately from the newsletter in both English and Spanish with a 43 percent open rate. Ms. Curtis shared that an email open rate of 15 to 25 percent is considered excellent from a marketing perspective.

Director of Water Quality/System Operations Brian M. Olney and General Manager Carlos V. Lugo provided an update regarding the recent chlorine shortage. Mr. Olney confirmed pricing has remained reasonable with only modest increases. Mr. Lugo informed the board that the district will continue to follow the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health regulations with fully vaccinated employees no longer being required to wear a mask. There were no public comments.

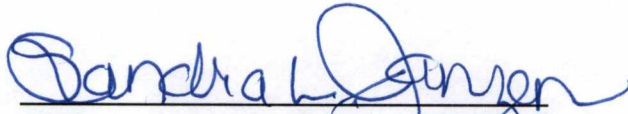
13. General Counsel Elizabeth W. Hull had nothing additional to report. There were no public comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

14. President Scalzitti adjourned the regular board meeting at 4:11 p.m.

  
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Joel A. Scalzitti, President

**ATTEST:**

  
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Sandra L. Janzen, Secretary of the Board