



Setting Standards of Excellence in Public Service

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Wednesday, August 18, 2021 – 3 p.m.
7811 University Avenue, La Mesa, CA 91942-0427
Virtual Meeting**

OPEN MEETING

1. President Scalzitti called the August 18, 2021, regular board meeting to order at 3 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, Bryant, Olney, Miller, Bryant, Ross, Janzen, Berens, Malkin, Solano, Pope, Doubrava, Curtis, Annett, Gutkowski and Uhrhammer. General Counsel Lutfi Kharuf and Alison Alpert of Best Best & Krieger were also present.

Others present: Attendee Mike James.

2. Director McMillan provided an invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. General Manager Carlos V. Lugo requested action item 8 be taken out of order to accommodate a board member's scheduling conflict with no additions or deletions to the agenda. There were no public comments. The motion to approve the agenda's new order carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Motion: Verbeke
Second: McMillan

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: McMillan

Second: Verbeke

- a) Memorandum dated August 18, 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. July 28, 2021, Committee of the Board meeting
 - ii. August 4, 2021, regular board meeting
 - iii. August 7, 2021, special board meeting
- c) The operating account checks submitted for ratification were approved:
 - i. Checks dated August 6, 2021
 - ii. Checks dated August 13, 2021
- d) The board approved the following attendance considerations:
 - i. American Water Works Association webinars Assorted dates in July through December 2021 at the request of Director McMillan. Director McMillan thanked Board Secretary Sandra L. Janzen for adding the attendance consideration to the agenda.

ACTION ITEMS

Item 8 was moved to the top of the action items per the request of General Manager Carlos V. Lugo.

8. The board received notice that General Manager Carlos V. Lugo awarded and executed a contract for the Aqueduct 1 emergency repair project OPS22051; determined by unanimous vote the need to continue with emergency work; determined the project is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act; and approved the project. There were no public comments. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Motion: McMillan

Second: Verbeke

Assistant Director of Engineering Timothy J. Ross provided a PowerPoint presentation and answered all questions with the assistance of General Manager Carlos V. Lugo regarding the age of the pipeline, the project timeline, and inspection for additional potential vulnerabilities, review of the district policies and procedures for emergency work and bid requirements, and cleanup of the surrounding area. Mr. Lugo commended Director of Water Quality/System Operations Brian M. Olney, his staff, and Director of Operations Kevin D. Miller and his staff for their excellent emergency response and collaboration.

The board returned to the agenda's published order:

6. The board authorized General Manager Carlos V. Lugo to execute a two-year contract for as-needed traffic control and flagging services with Robcar Corp. DBA Hudson Safe-T-Lite Rentals in an amount not to exceed \$1,713,000. There were no public comments. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Gracyk
Second: Hedberg

Field Operations Manager Oliver K. Malkin presented the board report and answered all questions regarding the expiration of the current contract, the experienced and proper handling of safety, and detailed the policies and procedures regarding allowable contract terms. Director Verbeke highlighted the training necessary to provide said service and the regional coordination necessary for traffic plan development. Director McMillan pointed out that the contract represents 1% of district revenues; costs not seen by water agencies 40 years ago.

7. The board authorized General Manager Carlos V. Lugo or his designee to execute a two-year contract for as-needed generator reliability inspections and maintenance services with Bay City Electric Works. There were no public comments. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Motion: Verbeke
Second: Hedberg

System Operations Manager Michelle P. Berens presented the board report and answered all questions regarding maintenance schedules, permits and emergency preparedness.

Vice President Hedberg left the meeting at 3:45 p.m. A quorum of the board remained.

9. The board appropriated funds in the amount of \$200,000 and authorized General Manager Carlos V. Lugo to solicit bids, award and execute a contract for the Lake Cuyamaca outlet channel improvements project CIP22006; determined the project is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act; and approved the project. There were no public comments. The motion carried 4-0 by roll call vote.

Motion: McMillan
Second: Verbeke
Ayes: Scalzitti, McMillan, Gracyk, Verbeke
Absent: Hedberg

Assistant Director of Engineering Timothy J. Ross provided a PowerPoint presentation and answered all questions regarding the existing pipe under the dam, the qualified assumption the project will run under \$200,000 and the likeliness of working with an outside consultant for the design of the outlet channel improvements.

10. The board appropriated funds in the amount of \$490,000 from the fiscal year 2021-22 capital budget for the purchase of new and replacement equipment and vehicles; declared vehicles surplus to the needs of the district; and authorized disposal of an Ford F-250 truck, Ford F-150 truck, 2004 International crew truck, treatment plant forklift, and a utility cart and flatbed. There were no public comments. The motion carried 4-0 by roll call vote.

Motion: Scalzitti
Second: Verbeke
Ayes: Scalzitti, McMillan, Gracyk, Verbeke
Absent: Hedberg

Director of Operations Kevin D. Miller provided a PowerPoint presentation and answered all questions regarding expected delivery delays due to the pandemic, the need for a fleet maintenance plan for electric vehicles, and an update regarding the success of the hybrid fleet vehicles averaging 80 miles per gallon.

DISCUSSION

11. President Scalzitti shared that the East County Advanced Water Purification Joint Powers Authority would meet August 19, 2021, at 2 p.m.

Board Secretary Sandra L. Janzen reported the district received a complimentary phone call regarding the helpful and pleasant service provided by Valve Maintenance Technicians Lonny B. Dill and Michael T. Pepin.

12. President Scalzitti, Director McMillan and Director Gracyk provided written reports. In addition, President Scalzitti and Director McMillan reported attending the August 17, 2021, Council of Water Utilities meeting with Assistant Director for the Pure Water Technical Services Branch of San Diego's Public Utilities Department John Stufflebean who spoke on San Diego Pure Water. President Scalzitti also shared that Tim Smith was named Council of Water Utilities chair, effective October 2021. Both President Scalzitti and Director McMillan commended COWU's Chair Meena Westford of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California for her exemplary work finding interesting speakers and topics for the COWU's meetings. Director McMillan reported that he would be attending the California Special District Association meeting on August 19, 2021 and encouraged his fellow board members to wear their district badges. Director Verbeke reported the Water Conservation Garden Joint Powers Authority met August 5, 2021, and reminded the board that they had received the meeting presentations via email. Director Verbeke reported a committee had been formed to look into adding more members to the JPA. President Scalzitti suggested the California Department of Transportation may have an interest in joining the WCGJPA and Director McMillan suggested the executive director of the WCG provide an update at a future board meeting. Director Gracyk reported attending the August 13, 2021, Southern California Water Conference and enjoyed keynote speaker of State Water Contracts Jennifer Pierre regarding the regional effects of limited water conveyance from the Delta.
13. General Manager Carlos V. Lugo reminded the board of the special Water Quality and Resources Committee meeting on August 20, 2021 at 2 p.m., the Committee of the Board meeting on August 25, 2021, immediately followed by a special closed session meeting, and the September 1 and 15 regular board meetings at 3 p.m. In addition, Mr. Lugo reported the presentations from the San Diego County Water Authority Member Agency Managers' meeting were forwarded to the board via email and that the managers are requesting the drought messaging stay away from percentages and focus on using water wisely. There were no public comments.
14. General Counsel Lutfi Kharuf had nothing additional to report.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

15. General Counsel Lutfi Kharuf reviewed the closed session item to be discussed prior to President Scalzitti recessing open session at 4:34 p.m. There were no public comments.

CLOSED SESSION

- A. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS**
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

Agency Designated Representatives: General Manager Carlos V. Lugo

Human Resources Manager Anne D. Solano

Employee Organizations:

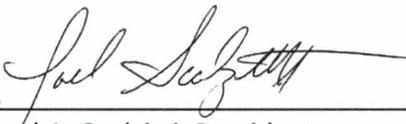
Helix Water District Employees' Association
Helix Water District Middle Management Employees'
Association
Unrepresented Employees

ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION/RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

16. President Scalzitti adjourned closed session and reconvened open session at 6:04 p.m. General Counsel Lutfi Kharuf stated for the record that no reportable action took place in closed session.

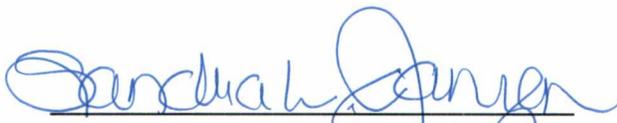
ADJOURNMENT

17. President Scalzitti adjourned the regular board meeting at 6:05 p.m.



Joel A. Scalzitti, President

ATTEST:



Sandra L. Janzen, Secretary of the Board