

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
GROUNDWATER PUBLIC HEARING/BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

MINUTES OF APRIL 26, 2023
1:30 p.m.

President McDonald called the meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 1:43 p.m. by in-person, teleconference, and Zoom meeting; all those in attendance stood for the pledge of allegiance led by President McDonald.

ROLL CALL:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Melody McDonald, President
David E. Raley, Director
John Longville, Director

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Robert Stewart, Vice President
Richard Corneille, Director

GENERAL COUNSEL PRESENT:

David Cosgrove, District Counsel

STAFF PRESENT:

Betsy Miller, General Manager
Athena Laroche, Administrative Specialist
Katelyn Scholte, Principal Engineer

GUESTS PRESENT:

David E. Smith, East Valley Water District
Paul Kielhold, San Bernardino Valley Regional Water Agency

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

President McDonald announced that any person present, who so desired, may make an oral presentation to the Board of Directors. There being none, the meeting continued with the posted agenda items.

2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions or deletions.

3. GUEST RECOGNITION/SELF INTRODUCTION

President McDonald introduced staff, guests, and Board members in attendance.

4. PUBLIC HEARING RELATED TO THE ADOPTION OF THE GROUNDWATER CHARGE

Mr. Cosgrove introduced this item for discussion and reviewed the groundwater rate-setting process. He noted that the notice of the Public Meeting held on April 12 and today's Public Hearing was published in the Redlands Daily Facts and the San Bernardino Sun. President McDonald opened the Groundwater Public Hearing. The recommended increase for the groundwater charge is \$1.68, from the current rate of \$15.27 to \$16.95 per acre-foot for all groundwater production, with the third year of the recommended sustainability component of \$20.00 per acre-foot to be phased in over a five-year period, with the incremental increase for this year of \$12.00 per acre-foot. Staff has not received any oral or written comments on the groundwater rate or sustainability component. President McDonald asked if anyone had comments on Resolution No. 610. She stated that there had been many earlier considerations by the Board of this item, including the Engineering Investigation Report (EI) approved on March 8 and the Groundwater Public Meeting on April 12. There being no public comment, President McDonald closed the Groundwater Public Hearing. Director Longville thanked the staff for their fine work, which is reflected in the supporting documentation and presentation.

It was moved to adopt Resolution No. 610 by Director Longville and seconded by Director Raley. The motion carried 3-0, with all Board members present voting in the affirmative. Vice President Stewart and Director Corneille were noted absent from the vote.

**President McDonald: Yes
Vice President Stewart: Absent
Director Longville: Yes
Director Raley: Yes
Director Corneille: Absent**

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

President McDonald noted that Vice President Stewart and Director Corneille's absences are reported as excused for today's meeting.

It was moved by Director Raley and seconded by Director Longville to approve the Consent Calendar: Item A: Board Minutes, April 12, 2023; and Item B: Report of Excused Absences for Vice President Stewart and Director Corneille. The motion carried 3-0, with all Board members present voting in the affirmative. Vice President Stewart and Director Corneille were noted absent from the vote.

**President McDonald: Yes
Vice President Stewart: Absent
Director Longville: Yes
Director Raley: Yes
Director Corneille: Absent**

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

A. PROJECT CHARTER FOR MILL CREEK DIVERSION AND DEBRIS MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Ms. Scholte introduced this item for discussion, noting its inclusion in the package on pages 44 to 48. She noted that updates have been provided to the Operations Committee as the Mill Creek Diversion and Debris Management Improvement Project permitting has progressed. She stated that the project charter was initially developed in 2014, with the last update in 2018. The current 2023 version incorporates changes to comply with permitting as required by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The 404 and 408 permits are anticipated to be received within the next few months. The FONSI has been signed, the package for the 408 permits is anticipated to be signed soon, and then the 404 will be issued as well. The costs within the project charter have been updated as well.

It was moved by Director Longville and seconded by Director Raley to approve the updated Project Charter for the Mill Creek Diversion and Debris Management Improvement Project. The motion carried 3-0, with all Board members present voting in the affirmative. Vice President Stewart and Director Corneille were noted absent from the vote.

**President McDonald: Yes
Vice President Stewart: Absent
Director Longville: Yes
Director Raley: Yes
Director Corneille: Absent**

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND STAFF TASKS

There were none discussed.

8. UPCOMING MEETINGS

There were none discussed.

9. CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Director Longville and seconded by Director Raley to enter into Closed Session. The motion carried 3-0, with all Directors present voting in the affirmative. Vice President Stewart and Director Corneille were noted absent from the vote.

**President McDonald: Yes
Vice President Stewart: Yes
Director Longville: Absent
Director Raley: Yes
Director Corneille: Absent**

Mr. Cosgrove announced that the meeting would adjourn to a closed session to discuss closed session items one and four.

At 2:52 p.m., the meeting reconvened into an open session. Mr. Cosgrove noted that there was no reportable action during the closed session.

10. ADJOURN MEETING

It was moved by Director Raley and seconded by Director Longville to adjourn. The motion carried 3-0, with all Directors present voting in the affirmative. Vice President Stewart and Director Corneille were noted absent from the vote.

**President McDonald: Yes
Vice President Stewart: Yes
Director Longville: Absent
Director Raley: Yes
Director Corneille: Absent**

At 2:52 p.m., the meeting adjourned to the regular Board of Directors meeting scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on May 17, 2023, via Zoom.



Betsy Miller
General Manager