

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

MINUTES OF APRIL 24, 2024
1:30 p.m.

President McDonald called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 1:30 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
Robert Stewart, Vice President
Richard Corneille, Director
David E. Raley, Director

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

John Longville, Director

STAFF PRESENT:

Betsy Miller, General Manager
David Cosgrove, District Counsel
Angie Quiroga, Senior Administrative Analyst
Laura Torres, Assistant Engineer
Athena Laroche, Administrative Specialist

GUESTS PRESENT:

David E. Smith, East Valley Water District

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

President McDonald announced that any persons 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 and deletions to the posted agenda.

3. GUEST RECOGNITIONS/SELF INTRODUCTIONS

Ms. Miller introduced staff present and President McDonald introduced guests present via Zoom and in-person. Board members made self-introductions.

2. 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 stated that the notice of the Public Meeting held on April 10 as well as today's Public Hearing were published in the Redlands Daily Facts and the San Bernardino Sun. He noted that the draft Engineering Investigation (EI Report) report was presented to the Board on February 14, the final EI Report was approved by the Board on March 13, and offered to present the EI Report again today at the request of the Board or member of the public.

President McDonald opened the Groundwater Public Hearing, noting that there were no requests for the EI presentation. Mr. Cosgrove repeated the Board's solicitation for public comments during the public hearing. Hearing none, staff requested Board feedback on proposed Resolution No. 622. The recommended Groundwater Charge increase will raise the current rate by \$0.85 from \$16.95 to \$17.80 per acre-foot for all groundwater production. Staff has not received any oral or written comments on the groundwater rate or the removal of the sustainability component. There being no public comment, President McDonald closed the Groundwater Public Hearing.

Director Corneille asked for the amount of groundwater enterprise reserves and groundwater rate stabilization reserves that are being used to supplement the groundwater charge increase of 5%. Ms. Miller referenced package page 6, stating that staff recommends use of \$185,000 from the groundwater recharge enterprise reserve in the FY25 budget to conduct significant maintenance following a record recharge year.

It was moved by Director Corneille and seconded by Director Raley to approve Resolution No. 622 as presented. The motion carried 4-0, with all Board members present voting in the affirmative. Director Longville was absent from the vote.

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

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Director Corneille and seconded by Director Raley to approve the Consent Calendar: Item A: Board Minutes, April 10, 2024, with minor revisions. The motion carried 4-0, with all Board members present voting in the affirmative. Director Longville was absent from the vote.

**President McDonald: Yes
Vice President Stewart: Yes**

Director Corneille: Yes
Director Longville: Absent
Director Raley: Yes

4. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND STAFF TASKS

Vice President Stewart discussed a press release or other outreach efforts to notify the public of the change in groundwater charge and the elimination of the sustainability charge.

5. UPCOMING MEETINGS

There were none discussed.

6. CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Director Corneille and a seconded by Vice President Stewart to adjourn to Closed Session. The motion carried 4-0, with all Directors present voting in the affirmative. Director Longville was absent from the vote.

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

General Counsel announced that the meeting would adjourn to a closed session to discuss Items 1 and 4 on the posted agenda.

At 2:45 p.m., the meeting reconvened into an open session. Mr. Cosgrove noted that under Government Code Section 54956.8, the Board authorized District Counsel and the General Manager to enter into a lease with the tenant of Suite G & H. Once finalized, the terms and conditions of the lease will be made available upon request by any person. There was no other reportable action during the closed session.

7. ADJOURN MEETING

It was moved by Director Corneille and seconded by Vice President Stewart to adjourn. The motion carried 4-0, with all Directors present voting in the affirmative. Director Longville was noted absent from the vote.

President McDonald: Yes
Vice President Stewart: Yes
Director Corneille: Yes

Director Longville: Absent
Director Raley: Yes

At 2:46 p.m. the meeting adjourned to the Board meeting scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on May 15, 2024, in-person, teleconference, and Zoom meeting.



Betsy Miller
General Manager