

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
THREE VALLEYS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT  
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

Wednesday, November 3, 2021  
8:00 a.m.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Board meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. via teleconference. The presiding officer was President Bob Kuhn.

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

The flag salute was led by President Kuhn.

**3. ROLL CALL**

Roll call was taken with a quorum of the Board present.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Bob Kuhn, President  
David De Jesus, Vice President  
Carlos Goytia, Secretary  
Brian Bowcock, Treasurer  
Jody Roberto, Director  
Danielle Soto, Director  
Mike Ti, Director

**STAFF PRESENT**

Matthew Litchfield, General Manager  
Steve Kennedy, Legal Counsel  
Nadia Aguirre, Executive Assistant  
Liz Cohn, Senior Financial Analyst  
Freeman Ensign, Operations Supervisor  
Karen Harberson, Compliance Specialist  
Kirk Howie, Chief Administrative Officer  
Steve Lang, Chief Operations Officer  
James Linthicum, Chief Financial Officer  
Kevin Panzer, Assistant Engineer  
Robert Peng, I.T. Manager  
Ben Peralta, Project Manager  
Viviana Robles, Human Resources/Risk Manager  
Esther Romero, Accounting Technician  
Ryan Sonnenberg, Shift Operator  
Marissa Turner, Admin./Communications Assistant

In Person Attendees: Patti Arlt, MWD; Nancy Ferguson, Jericho Systems; Adel Hagekhalil, MWD.

Virtual Attendees: Ray Baca, Engineering Contractors' Association; Resa Barillas, California Environmental Voters; John Bednarski, MWDC; Jordan Brandman, BIASC; Sara Catalan, Catalan Consulting; Luis Cetina, MWD; Ed Chavez, Water Quality Authority; Tom Coleman, Rowland Water District; Courtney Degener, Cadiz Inc.; Neal Desai, National Parks Conservation Association; Thomas Drennan, IUOE Local 12; Matt Gaines, IUOE Local 12; Rick Hansen, Cal Poly Pomona; Kevin Hayakawa, Walnut Valley Water District; Ed Hilden, Walnut Valley Water District; Erik Hitchman, Walnut Valley Water District; Shawn Igoe, City of La Verne; Richard Lambros, Engineering Contractors' Association; Ben Lewis, Golden State Water Company; Tony Lima, Rowland Water District; Szu Lu, Rowland Water District; Myra Malner, Rowland Water District;

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John Mendoza, resident; Dave Michalko, Valencia Heights Water Company; John Monsen, Sierra Club; Toby Moore, Golden State Water Company; Stephanie Moreno, Water Quality Authority; Laer Pearce, Cadiz; Bob Pence, Congresswoman Grace Napolitano – CA Dist. 32; Bill Quisenberry, Liuna; Carlos Rodriguez, BIA Baldy View Chapter; Carolina Sanchez, West Yost; Sherry Shaw, Walnut Valley Water District; C. “Robin” Smith, Sierra Club; Dave Sorem, Mike Bubalo Construction; Marcia Stange, Rebuild SoCal Partnership; Jennifer Stark, City of Claremont; Lisa Tarpin, Southern California Group; De’Andre Valencia, BizFed; Dave Warren, Rowland Water District; Maggie Wheeler, MWD.

#### **4. AGENDA REORDER/ADDITIONS**

No reorder or additions to the agenda were requested.

#### **5. PRESENTATIONS**

##### **A. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA’S GENERAL MANAGER ADEL HAGEKHALIL**

MWD General Manager Hagekhalil provided an update on major projects that MWD is focusing on. MWD will invest in the future of the region and ensure there is a sustainable and reliable water supply during climate change. General Manager Hagekhalil will work with each member agency to create a future of resiliency. The “One Water” plan will commence January 2022 to develop a road map for investments in recycling, storm water capture, storage, and connectivity. Policies will be developed to manage the future of water. General Manager Hagekhalil is honored to partner with each member agency.

##### **B. MWD REGIONAL RECYCLED WATER PROJECT (“CARSON PROJECT”) UPDATE**

Mr. John Bednarski provided an update on the MWD Carson Project. The Carson Project is a development of a new regional water source that will purify water currently going to the ocean, replenish groundwater basins, provide water to industries, and connect to MWD’s water treatment plant. It is the first in-region water supply developed by MWD. Up to 150 million gallons per day or 168,000 acre-feet per year are produced. Benefits of the program are to prepare for earthquakes, drought, groundwater replenishment, meet the needs to the region’s growing economy and use the region’s untapped source of wastewater. Water will be pumped from sea level to approximately 700-800 ft at the highest elevation. The program is currently in the environmental planning process and will move into design and construction 2024-2031. Start up and operation is expected in 2032.

#### **6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ray Baca commented on the Aquilogic status report.

Bill Manis submitted public comment to be read on his behalf.

Marci Stange commented on the Bonanza Springs Study.

Monique Manzanares submitted public comment to be read on her behalf.

Bill Quisenberry commented on the Bonanza Springs study.

Matt Gaines commented on the Bonanza Springs study.

Richard Lambros commented on the Bonanza Springs study.

Carlos Rodriguez commented on the Bonanza Springs study.

Dave Sorem submitted public comment to be read on his behalf.

Thomas Drennan commented on the Bonanza Springs study.

Chris Clarke submitted public comment to be read on his behalf.

C. Robin Smith commented on the Bonanza Springs study.

Deandre Valencia submitted public comment to be read on his behalf.

Neal Desai commented on the Bonanza Springs study.

Resa Barillas commented on the Bonanza Springs study.

John Monsen commented on the Bonanza Springs study.

## **7. PUBLIC HEARING – FINAL PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

President Kuhn opened the public hearing at 9:51 a.m. Consultant Nancy Ferguson provided an overview of the Final Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) and California Environmental Quality Act Documentation for the Six Basins Watermaster Strategic Plan. Six Basins Watermaster developed and completed a Strategic Plan that basin stakeholders will use to help chart future projects and programs. The process required an environmental review that complies with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The draft PEIR was completed on May 26, 2021 and was made available on the TVMWD website for public viewing. The Final PEIR was published on the TVMWD and Six Basins Watermaster website on October 8, 2021. The notice of public hearing was published in the San Gabriel Valley Tribune and Inland Valley Daily Bulletin on October 18 and 25, 2021. The final notice of determination will be filed with the State Clearinghouse and L.A. County Clerk within five days of certification.

Mr. Richard Lambros provided public comment during the hearing.

President Kuhn closed the public hearing at 10:23 a.m.

## **8. ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 21-11-907 TO APPROVE FINAL PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT DOCUMENTATION FOR THE SIX BASINS STRATEGIC PLAN**

Upon motion and second, President Kuhn called for discussion. There being no further discussion, President Kuhn called for a roll call vote.

Moved: Director Soto

Second: Director Roberto

Ayes: Bowcock, De Jesus, Goytia, Kuhn, Roberto, Soto, Ti

Noes:

Absent:

Motion No. 21-11-5338 Adopting Resolution No. 21-11-907

Motion passed 7-0

## **9. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

### **A. CY 2022 MEETING SCHEDULE**

General Manager Litchfield reported the attached CY 2022 meeting schedule contains all board meetings, conferences, and holidays. This item will be brought back to the November 17, 2021 board meeting for consideration of approval.

### **B. EMPLOYEE'S DEFERRED COMPENSATION**

General Manager Litchfield stated a savings of \$17,000 has been identified for the current calendar year. As suggested by President Kuhn, TVMWD will consider increasing the employee's deferred compensation match from \$400 to \$500 per month. General Manager Litchfield stated staff has done a great job throughout the pandemic and President Kuhn is supportive of the increase. This item will be brought back to the November 17, 2021 board meeting for consideration of approval.

### **C. NEW DISTRICT POLICIES**

Human Resources/Risk Manager Viviana Robles reviewed two new policies: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Policy and the Outreach Program Policy. The DEI policy promotes the representation and participation of different groups of individuals. The Outreach Program policy provides a procedure and guidelines for Board members when requested to have TVMWD sponsor a public outreach program. These policies will provide further transparency on pertinent activities that TVMWD is involved with. Upon approval of the DEI policy, directors and staff will be subject to training.

Legal Counsel Kennedy clarified that sponsorships should provide a nexus with the Outreach Program policy so that participation is not seen as a gift of public funds. Directors discussed how to fairly distribute the funds among the divisions while providing a nexus to water awareness, conservation, education, groundwater quality and the protection of related resources. Legal Counsel Kennedy read a statement to incorporate into the policy. The statement will be emailed to the Board and the policy will be redlined and brought back to the next board meeting. Both policies will be brought back to the November 17, 2021 board meeting for consideration of approval.

### **D. OPEB TRUST – CONSIDERATION OF ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION AND INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

Chief Finance Officer James Linthicum discussed Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB), which is paid through a combination of direct payments to JPIA and

reimbursement of premiums paid by retirees via Basic Benefits, LLC. TVMWD's account balance is \$1,142,935 and 97% of the total OPEB obligation is funded. Staff is recommending no additional contributions at this time and to remain in the moderate strategy.

#### **E. PENSION TRUST – CONSIDERATION OF ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION AND INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

TVMWD's total pension liability is \$19,963,000. TVMWD has three funding sources totaling \$16,980,000 to cover pension liability: (1) CalPERS \$15,717,000; (2) TVMWD Reserves \$378,000; and (3) Pension Trust \$885,000. This reflects that TVMWD's total pension obligations are 85% funded. Staff recommends a contribution to the Pension Trust of \$200,000 as was originally planned in the FY 20/21 budget. This item will be brought back to the November 17, 2021 board meeting for consideration of approval.

#### **F. BONANZA SPRINGS STUDY UPDATE**

General Manager Litchfield provided an update on the Bonanza Springs study. At a regularly scheduled monthly conference call on September 15, 2021, the Bureau of Land Management indicated that the Right of Way Entry Permit for the work to be authorized under a Categorical Exemption could not be authorized at this time. No definitive date was given on when the permit will be issued. An Aquilologic status report is included in the staff report. This item can be brought back for further discussion and/or action upon the Board's request.

### **10. CLOSED SESSION**

The Board convened into closed session at 11:22 a.m. to discuss the following item:

#### **A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

- Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)
- One potential case

The Board reconvened to regular session at 12:35 p.m. Legal Counsel Kennedy advised there was no reportable action.

### **11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

No future agenda items were requested.

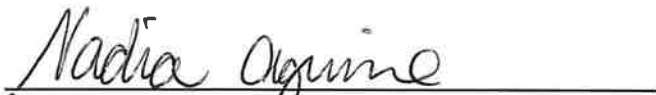
General Manager Litchfield announced the Leadership Breakfast will be held on February 24, 2022. Chief Water Resources Officer Sylvie Lee will commence employment at TVMWD on November 29, 2021.

## 12. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

The Board adjourned at 12:37 p.m. to the next regular meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 17, 2021.



Bob Kuhn  
President, Board of Directors



Recorded by: Nadia Aguirre  
Executive Assistant