



**MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF THE SANTA FE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

May 21, 2020
Santa Fe Irrigation District
5920 Linea del Cielo
Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067

Due to the COVID-19 State of Emergency and pursuant waivers to certain Brown Act provisions under the Governor's Executive Orders, meetings of the Board and Board Committees will be conducted via Zoom Meeting (webinar/teleconference) and there will be no physical location from which members of the public may participate. Instead, the public may listen and/or view the meeting proceedings and provide public comment and comments on specific agenda items by following the posted instructions, including how to submit written comments for inclusion, instructions for viewing or listening to the meeting, and how to participate via Zoom. Additionally, these public comment procedures supersede the District's standard public comment policies and procedures to the contrary.

ROLL CALL - CALL MEETING TO ORDER

President Hogan called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President Michael Hogan and Directors Marlene King, Andy Menshek, and David Petree

STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT: General Manager Albert Lau, Executive Assistant Kim Johnson, Administrative Services Manager Seth Gates, Engineering Services Manager Rania Amen, Distribution System Manager Chris Bozir, Water Treatment Plant Manager Tim Bailey, Associate Civil Engineer Marissa Potter, General Counsel Paula de Sousa, Best Best & Krieger, Greg Gruzdownich, Candidate, and members of the public were present.

Also present were Andy Sells and David Drake, ACWA JPIA.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Hogan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA – None

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None

ITEM TAKEN OUT OF ORDER

PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

2. ACWA JPIA Presentation

GM Lau introduced Andy Sells, ACWA/JPIA Chief Executive Officer, and David Drake, ACWA/JPIA Executive Committee member. Mr. Sells congratulated the District on the sizeable refund, over \$89,000, and contributed that to the employee’s hard work in keeping worker’s compensation and liability claims at a minimum. Mr. Drake commented on the training sessions that the District not only participates in, but also hosts for neighboring agencies, and thanked the District for their support of the JPIA. The Board thanked the members for attending.

ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Interview Candidates and Adopt Resolution No. 20-08 Appointing a Director for Division One

President Hogan described the interview process and introduced Greg Gruzdownich, the sole candidate. Kenneth Wood had withdrawn his request for consideration prior to the Board meeting. He reported that he had five questions he would ask on behalf of the entire Board and that each Director will be given the opportunity to ask a few individually crafted questions.

The candidate’s responses and comments were discussed at length until such time as a motion to appoint was appropriate. A motion was made by Director King, seconded by Director Petree, to appoint Greg Gruzdownich to the Division 1 vacancy. Roll call vote was taken as follows:

- Ayes: King, Petree
- Noes: Menshek, Hogan
- Abstain: None
- Absent: None

The motion failed.

GC de Sousa described the process resulting from the District’s inability to fill the vacancy by appointment, including calling for a Special Election. She noted with the timing, the Special Election could align with the November General election; therefore, not worth the expenditure of public funds. Director King asked that the minutes reflect the Board was not in support of calling for a Special election because it was a waste of ratepayer’s funds.

As a result of the failed motion, Resolution No. 20-08 was not acted upon.

PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

2. ACWA JPIA Presentation – *Item taken out of order. Please see minutes on Page 2.*
3. Employee Recognition
 - a. Marissa Potter, 5 years of service to the District
 - b. James Scott, 5 years of service to the District
 - c. Tim Bailey, 20 years of service to the District

GM Lau reported on the anniversaries of Ms. Potter, Mr. Scott, and Mr. Bailey. The Board congratulated staff on their anniversaries and thanked them for their service to the District.

ACTION AGENDA

CONSENT ITEMS

4. Approval of Minutes - April 16, 2020 Regular Board Meeting
5. Receive and File Monthly Finance Reports
 - a. Budget Performance
 - b. Disbursements
 - c. Monthly Investment Transaction Report
6. Waive Full Reading and Adopt Resolution No. 20-09 Amending Articles 23, 26, and 27 of the District Administrative Code
7. Authorize the General Manager to Approve a Contract Extension with Cal-Chem for the Procurement of Aluminum Chlorohydrate
8. Authorize the General Manager to Amend the Professional Services Agreement with Rodney J. Greek for Accounting Services

President Hogan reported that Director King requested to consider Items 4 and 6 separately from the Consent Calendar. Upon a motion by Director Menshek and second by Director King, the Board unanimously adopted the Consent Calendar. Roll call vote was taken as follows:

Ayes: King, Menshek, Petree, and Hogan
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

4. Approval of Minutes – April 16, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

President Hogan read the proposed revisions to the minutes into the record as Director King stated the minutes as presented were incorrect, specifically that she had not mentioned Mr. Dunford's residency.

Upon a motion by President Hogan and second by Director King, the Board unanimously approved the April 16, 2020 Board meeting minutes as amended.

6. Waive Full Reading and Adopt Resolution No. 20-09 Amending Articles 23, 26, and 27 of the District Administrative Code

Director King expressed concern with Sections 27.2.1.C1 and 27.7.6 which require annual backflow prevention device testing. She took specific issue with Section 27.2.1.C1 which states the District will notify each user when testing is due as Section 27.7.6 states it is the responsibility of the user to have the annual testing performed. Director Menshek agreed with the expressed issues and felt clarifications were needed as there is conflicting information in the Code. The Board directed staff to return Article 27 to the Water Resources Committee for discussion prior to return to the Board for approval.

Upon a motion by President Hogan and second by Director King, the Board unanimously adopted Resolution No. 29-09 Amending Articles 23 and 26 of the District Administrative Code. Roll call vote was taken as follows:

Ayes: King, Menshek, Petree, and Hogan
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

9. Review FY21 Budget and Associated Revisions from April Board Meeting

ASM Gates presented the item and responded to questions from the Board. He noted that the Water Resources Committee had reviewed and agreed with the proposed revisions to the Capital Acquisition Program (CAP) and recommendation to maintain the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) budget as presented to the Board in April. He added that the Joint CIP/CAP had also been presented to the Joint Facilities Advisory Committee on May 14. Mr. Gates reported the San Diego County Water Authority Board will consider a FY21 6.3% “all-in” untreated water rate increase at their May Board meeting, which was less than the 10% projection used in the draft FY21 District Budget. He noted he would include the actual increase when the budget is considered by the Board at their regular June meeting.

After a lengthy discussion, the Board directed staff to revise the SDCWA cost increase in the final budget which will be considered by the Board at their regular June meeting.

DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

10. Directors' Comments

Director King commented she would like to give a belated acknowledgement for the superb job President Hogan did responding to the large numbers of the public who attended the January 16th, 2020 Board meeting. She added that the public comment at that meeting had the highest percentage of participation of citizens desiring to address the Board. Ms. King continued that

President Hogan graciously allowed customers who continued to enter the meeting to provide comment even though those citizens had not been present before the start of the meeting to fill out speaker's slips. She noted it can be a bit of a three ring circus to preside over a public hearing of a cost of service study. Ms. King stated she personally very much appreciated President Hogan's steady and welcoming hand during the public comment agenda item, and she thanks him very much. President Hogan thanked Director King for her comments, stating they were very much appreciated.

11. Directors' Reports on Conferences, Activities, and Events – No report

REPORTS

12. Operations Reports
 - a. R.E. Badger Filtration Plant Report
 - b. Water Resources Report

These reports were provided for the Board's information only. No action was requested or required of the Board.

13. San Diego County Water Authority Board Meeting Report –President Hogan

In addition to the written report included in the agenda materials, President Hogan reported that the SDCWA and MWD are also discussing budget reductions for FY21 and he is highly engaged in each of those agencies' processes.

14. Committee Reports – No meetings held
15. General Manager's Report - No further comments
16. General Counsel's Comments

GC deSousa reported that BB&K is actively tracking activities in Sacramento, and that most legislation is related to COVID-19 activities. She added that the sessions in Sacramento have limited attendance and the operations at the Capitol are much different than in previous sessions also due to COVID-19.

INFORMATION ITEMS – None

CLOSED SESSION

17. Conference with Legal Counsel- Existing Litigation
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1)
Rancho Santa Fe Association v Santa Fe Irrigation District
Case No. 37-2018-00064214-CU-MC-NC

18. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1)
Rancho Del Lago Homeowners’ Association v Santa Fe Irrigation District, San Dieguito Water District, County of San Diego, San Diego County Flood Control District
Case No. 37-2019-00047074-CU-OR-NC
19. Conference with Legal Counsel- Anticipated Litigation
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9
One (1) potential case
20. Public Employee Performance Evaluation
Pursuant To Government Code Section 54957
Title: General Manager

President Hogan adjourned for a brief recess at 11:31 a.m.

President Hogan reconvened the meeting and adjourned into Closed Session at 11:40 a.m.

President Hogan reconvened into Open Session at 11:55 a.m., reported no reportable actions were taken in Closed Session, and immediately adjourned the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

President Hogan adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.



Michael T. Hogan
Board President



Albert C. Lau
Board Secretary/Treasurer