

**SWEETWATER AUTHORITY GOVERNING BOARD  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**

**January 8, 2020**

The Governing Board of Sweetwater Authority held a Regular meeting on Wednesday, January 8, 2020, at the Sweetwater Authority Administrative Office, 505 Garrett Avenue, Chula Vista, California. Chair Castaneda called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

- **Roll Call**

Directors Present: Josie Calderon-Scott, Jerry Cano, Steve Castaneda, José F. Cerda, Hector Martinez, and Alejandra Sotelo-Solis

Directors Absent: Jose Preciado

Management, Staff, and Others Present: General Manager Tish Berge, Assistant General Manager Jennifer Sabine, Legal Counsel Paula de Sousa, and Acting Board Secretary Michael Garcia. Staff Members: Director of Water Quality Justin Brazil, Director of Engineering Ron Mosher, Director of Finance Rich Stevenson, and Director of Administrative Services Dina Yorba. Others present: Sue Mosburg and Mike Sampsel.

- **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

- **Opportunity for Public Comment** (Government Code Section 54954.3)

Mike Sampsel commented on Authority's expenses and fleet maintenance.

- **Chair's Presentation**

KSDY 50 Bilingual Video on Sweetwater Authority's Innovative No Discharge Pipe Flushing Program

**ACTION CALENDAR AGENDA**

1. Adoption of Resolution 20-01 of the Governing Board of Sweetwater Authority Recognizing, Honoring, and Commending Susan (Sue) Mosburg, Program Manager, Upon Her Retirement on December 30, 2019 from Sweetwater Authority

**Upon a motion made by Director Martinez, seconded by Director Sotelo-Solis, the following resolution:**

**RESOLUTION 20-01**

**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF  
SWEETWATER AUTHORITY RECOGNIZING, HONORING, AND COMMENDING  
SUSAN (SUE) MOSBURG, PROGRAM MANAGER,  
UPON HER RETIREMENT ON DECEMBER 30, 2019 FROM SWEETWATER AUTHORITY**

was passed and adopted by the following vote to wit:

Ayes: Directors Calderon-Scott, Cano, Castaneda, Cerda, Martinez,  
and Sotelo-Solis  
Noes: None  
Absent: Director Preciado  
Abstain: None

2. Items to be Added, Withdrawn, or Reordered on the Agenda

There were none.

3. Approval of Minutes

A. Special Board Meeting of December 10, 2019

B. Regular Board Meeting of December 11, 2019

**Director Sotelo-Solis made a motion, seconded by Director Cano, that the Governing Board approve the minutes of the Special Board Meeting of December 10, 2019, and the Regular Board Meeting of December 11, 2019. The motion carried unanimously, with Director Preciado absent.**

**Consent Calendar Items**

**Chair Castaneda recused himself from consideration of Agenda Item 4 (Approval of San Diego Gas & Electric Demands and Warrants – Check numbers 152553, 152569, 152576, 152611, and 152670) due to his contract with Sempra Energy, parent company of SDG&E, which Director Castaneda disclosed on the record.**

**Director Sotelo-Solis made a motion, seconded by Director Cano, that the Governing Board approve consent calendar items four, six, eight, and nine. Chair Castaneda pulled items five and seven for discussion. The motion carried unanimously, with Director Preciado absent.**

4. Approval of San Diego Gas & Electric Demands and Warrants – Check numbers 152553, 152569, 152576, 152611, and 152670

6. Consideration to Approve Proposed Changes to the Rate and Rules and Supplement to the Rates and Rules by Adoption of Resolution 20-02

Recommendation: Approve the proposed changes to the Rates and Rules and the Supplement to the Rates and Rules; and adopt Resolution 20-02

**RESOLUTION 20-02**

**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF SWEETWATER  
AUTHORITY ADOPTING AMENDED RATES AND RULES AS  
STATED IN EXHIBIT “A” TO THIS RESOLUTION AND  
AMENDING THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE SWEETWATER  
AUTHORITY’S RATES AND RULES AS STATED IN EXHIBIT “B”  
TO THIS RESOLUTION**

was passed and adopted by the following vote to wit:

Ayes: Directors Calderon-Scott, Cano, Castaneda, Cerda, Martinez, and Sotelo-Solis  
 Noes: None  
 Absent: Director Preciado  
 Abstain: None

8. Consideration to Approve FY 2020-21 Budget Calendar (Finance and Personnel Committee meeting of 1/2/20, Item No. 4. A.)

Recommendation: Approve the FY 2020-21 Budget Calendar.

9. Consideration to Allow Developers to Pay Costs with a Credit Card (Finance and Personnel Committee meeting of 1/2/20, Item No. 4. B.)

Recommendation: Direct staff to establish a policy to accept credit card payments for developer costs through a Third-Party Fee Based Credit Card Processor.

### Items Pulled from Consent Calendar for Discussion

5. Approval of Demands and Warrants (excluding the San Diego Gas & Electric Demands and Warrants)

**Chair Castaneda made a motion, seconded by Director Cano, that the Governing Board approve the Demands and Warrants (excluding the San Diego Gas & Electric Demands and Warrants). The motion carried unanimously, with Director Preciado absent.**

7. Consideration to Extend the Current Five-year On-call General Construction Services Contract by Six Months (Operations Committee meeting of 1/2/20, Item No. 4. A.)

Recommendation: Authorize an extension of the current On-call General Construction Services contract with El Cajon Grading & Engineering Company, Inc., Lakeside, CA, for six months resulting in a new contract end date of August 1, 2020, and direct staff to begin the competitive process to select the next On-call General Construction Services contractor.

Mike Sampsel commented on the contract extension.

**Director Calderon-Scott made a motion, seconded by Director Cano, that the Governing Board authorize an extension of the current On-call General Construction Services contract with El Cajon Grading & Engineering Company, Inc. Lakeside, CA for six months and directed staff to begin the competitive process to select the next On-call General Construction Service contractor and review the process with the Operations Committee prior to advertisement. The motion carried unanimously, with Director Preciado absent.**

### Action and Discussion Items

10. Review Qualifications for On-call SCADA System Integration Professional Services (Operations Committee meeting of 1/2/20, Item No. 4. B.)

Recommendation: Approve the Operations Committee to conduct interviews as provided by the RFQ and provide input on interview questions.

**Director Sotelo-Solis made a motion, seconded by Chair Castaneda, that the Governing Board approve for the Operations Committee to conduct interviews as provided by**

the RFQ and asked Board Members to provide any input on interview questions to the General Manager. The motion carried unanimously, with Director Preciado absent.

11. New Business

- A. Consideration of Appointment of Division 3 Member and Division 4 Alternate Nominees to the Citizens Advisory Committee

**Director Cano made a motion, seconded by Director Sotelo-Solis, that the Governing Board approve Director Preciado's member nominee for Division 3 and Director Martinez's Alternate nominee for Division 4. The motion carried unanimously, with Director Preciado absent.**

- B. Consideration to Approve Modifications to the General Manager's Employment Agreement – Consideration to Approve Compensation and Adopt Resolution 20-03, Adopting a Revised Salary Schedule for All Employees, Effective July 1, 2019

Legal Counsel de Sousa announced that the amendment to the employment agreement will increase the General Manager's salary by two percent retroactive to July 1, 2019.

Mike Sampsel commented on the transparency of the salary increase.

**Upon a motion made by Director Sotelo-Solis, seconded by Chair Castaneda, the following resolution:**

**RESOLUTION 20-03**

**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF  
SWEETWATER AUTHORITY ADOPTING A  
REVISED SALARY SCHEDULE FOR ALL EMPLOYEES  
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019**

was passed and adopted by the following vote to wit:

Ayes: Directors Calderon-Scott, Cano, Castaneda, Cerda, Martinez, and Sotelo-Solis  
Noes: None  
Absent: Director Preciado  
Abstain: None

- C. Consideration of Performance Metrics for Taste and Odor Complaints (Item Requested by Director Martinez)

**Director Martinez made a motion, seconded by Director Castaneda, that the Governing Board lower the taste and odor complaint performance metric to two customer complaints per 1,000 acre-feet effective immediately and referred the item to the Operations Committee. The motion carried with Directors Calderon-Scott, Cano, Castaneda, Cerda, and Martinez in favor, Director Sotelo-Solis opposing, and Director Preciado absent.**

- D. Consideration of Scope of Work, Meetings, and Transparency for the Working Group with Otay Water District (per Board direction on August 28, 2019)

**Chair Castaneda made a motion, seconded by Director Sotelo-Solis, that the Governing Board direct staff to coordinate with Otay Water District to schedule a meeting with the Ad-hoc Working Group. The motion carried unanimously, with Director Preciado absent.**

- E. Consideration to Study Providing Special Rates to Senior Citizens (Item Requested by Director Martinez) (No Enclosure)

Legal Counsel de Sousa provided an overview of the legal limitations on establishing a Special Rate for Senior Citizens.

**Chair Castaneda made a motion, seconded by Director Martinez, that the Governing Board refer this item to the Finance and Personnel Committee. The motion carried unanimously, with Director Preciado absent.**

12. Approval of Directors' Attendance at Meetings and Future Agenda Items

- A. Council of Water Utilities Meeting, San Diego County – The Butcher Shop Steakhouse, San Diego – Tuesday, January 21, 2020, 8:00 a.m.

No action was required by the Governing Board.

- B. Per diem approval for Directors that wish to attend the Water Education for Latino Leaders (WELL) Conference, San Jose, CA – March 20-21, 2020

**Director Sotelo-Solis made a motion, seconded by Chair Castaneda, that the Governing Board approve per diem for Directors who wish to attend the Water Education for Latino Leaders (WELL) Conference, San Jose, CA – March 20-21, 2020. The motion carried unanimously, with Director Preciado absent.**

## **REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

13. Report of Legal Counsel

There was none.

14. Management Report

Assistant General Manager Sabine reported on the November 2019 monthly dashboard highlighting the recent rainfall.

General Manager Berge reported on her presentation at Frederika Manor; an article in the San Diego County Water Authority's Water News Network highlighting the National City Firefighters receiving education from the Authority; the ACWA-JPIA newsletter mentioning their Leadership Essentials program and graduates Rich Stevenson and Ron Mosher; Fox5 News will do a story on the Authority's outreach regarding utility scams; previewed the Operations and Finance and Personnel Committee agendas for January 15, 2020; reminded the Board of the upcoming Special meetings: January 20, 2020 to review Sand Mining/Materials Dredging Letters of Interest, February 10, 2020 for a strategic planning workshop, and February 11, 2020 to discuss developer issues and the Bayfront Development; the fleet management study will be presented at the February 12, 2020 Regular Board meeting; the Operations Committee is

anticipated to receive the results of the Feasibility Study - Phase One screening at their February 19, 2020 meeting; the initial results of the Flushing Program will be presented at the February 26, 2020 Board meeting.

15. Reports by Directors on Events Attended

A. Council of Water Utilities – November 19, 2019

Directors Cerda, Sotelo-Solis, Martinez, and Castaneda provided a report.

B. San Diego Chapter California Special Districts Association Dinner Meeting – November 21, 2019

Directors Martinez, Sotelo-Solis, Calderon-Scott, Cerda, Castaneda provided a report.

C. Re: Border Binational Conference – November 25-26, 2019

Directors Sotelo-Solis and Martinez provided a report.

D. ACWA Fall Conference – December 3-6, 2019

Directors Castaneda, Calderon-Scott, and Martinez provided a report.

16. Directors' Comments

Director Martinez commented on the monthly dashboard including the Customer Service and Financial metrics; and wished Director Preciado well.

Director Cerda thanked General Manager Berge for visiting Frederika Manor; commented on the Authority being featured in the Water Research Foundation's newsletter for having fewest water leaks in the country; and is looking forward to the high-school photography contest.

Director Sotelo-Solis announced the City of National City will have a City Council meeting on January 21, 2020; thanked staff who works to manage public works and the water system during inclement weather; and on January 14, 2020 the National City will host a recruitment and retention event for the National City Police and Fire Departments.

CLOSED SESSION

At 8:24 p.m., the Board convened to meet in closed session with legal counsel for:

A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Significant Exposure to Litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(2): Two Cases

B. Public Employee Performance Evaluation pursuant to Government Code Section 54957:

Title: General Manager

There was no need for a closed session on item:

C. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation pursuant to Government

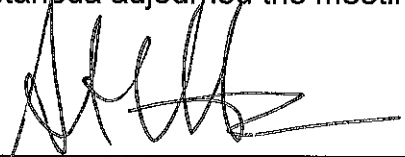
Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1):

United States, et al. ex rel John Hendrix v. J-M Manufacturing Company Inc.,  
and Formosa Plastics Corporation, U.S.A., Case No. ED CV06-00055-GW

There were no minutes taken, and the session was not audio-recorded. At 9:43 p.m., Chair Castaneda declared the meeting to be in open session. No reportable action was taken by the Governing Board.

13. Adjournment

With no further business before the Board, Chair Castaneda adjourned the meeting at 9:43 p.m.

  
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Steve Castaneda, Chair

Attest:

  
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Michael Garcia, Acting Board Secretary