

REVISED

SWEETWATER AUTHORITY GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

February 13, 2019

The Governing Board of Sweetwater Authority held a Regular meeting on Wednesday, February 13, 2019, at the Sweetwater Authority Administrative Office, 505 Garrett Avenue, Chula Vista, California. Chair Castaneda called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

- **Roll Call**

Directors Present: Josie Calderon-Scott, Jerry Cano, Steve Castaneda, José F. Cerda, Hector Martinez, *Jose Preciado (6:05 p.m.), and *Alejandra Sotelo-Solis (6:03 p.m.)

Directors Absent: None

Management, Staff and Others Present: General Manager Tish Berge, Assistant General Manager Jennifer Sabine, Legal Counsel Paula de Sousa Mills, and Board Secretary Ligia Perez. Others present: Mike Sampsel

- **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

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

Mike Sampsel spoke to increases in employee salaries compared to increases in cost of living, inflation, and cost of water for the ten-year period 2006-2015.

(Note: Director Sotelo-Solis entered the meeting at 6:03 p.m.)

(Note: Director Preciado entered the meeting at 6:05 p.m.)

- **Chair's Presentation**

There was none.

ACTION CALENDAR AGENDA

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 Items to be Added, Withdrawn, or Reordered on the Agenda

There were none.

2. Approval of Minutes - Regular Meeting of January 23, 2019

Director Sotelo-Solis made a motion, seconded by Director Cano, that the Governing Board approve the minutes of the January 23, 2019 Regular meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Calendar Items

Director Preciado made a motion, seconded by Director Cano, that the Governing

Board approve the consent calendar. **Director Castaneda recused himself from consideration of warrant numbers 150457, 150500, and 150534 due to his contract with Sempra Energy, parent company of SDG&E, which Director Castaneda disclosed on the record. The motion carried unanimously.**

3. Approval of Demands and Warrants – Check numbers 150425 through 150545 and electronic fund transfers 25937 through 26188
4. Hydrostation Memorandum of Understanding between Sweetwater Authority and Chula Vista Elementary School District (Communications Committee meeting of 1/30/19, Item 4. B)
Recommendation: Enter into the Hydrostation Memorandum of Understanding with Chula Vista Elementary School District

Action and Discussion Items

5. New Business

A. Employee Engagement Survey Results

General Manager Berge presented the results of the annual employee engagement survey.

B. Board Ambassador Pilot Program

Director Preciado made a motion, seconded by Chair Castaneda, to grant the Communications Committee Chair the opportunity to attend and evaluate events and meetings not currently pre-approved per Policy 511 and report back to the Board, using talking points that are relevant to water and prepared by the General Manager; and with the Authority paying any applicable attendance/registration fee, but no per diem. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Discussion on Board Meeting Days and Times

Mike Sampsel commented on meeting times.

Director Calderon-Scott requested that the minutes reflect the following statements: that most of the ratepayers that attend the Board meetings are from Bonita; she decided to poll community members from the Bonita Optimist Club and the Sweetwater Valley Civic Association; comments received expressed a preference to keep the meetings at 3:30 p.m. because many are seniors and don't drive at night; for this reason, she will vote on the side of her constituents and oppose to change the meeting time.

Director Preciado made a motion, seconded by Chair Castaneda, approving to initiate the process to move the meeting time for the second Board meeting of the month to 6:00 p.m. The motion carried, with Director Calderon-Scott opposing.

(Note: Director Martinez left the meeting at 7:40 p.m.)

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

A. Council of Water Utilities Meeting, San Diego County - Hotel Karlan San Diego –

Tuesday, February 19, 2019

- B. California Special Districts Association - San Diego Chapter Quarterly Meeting – Wednesday, February 20, 2019
- C. Per diem approval for Directors who wish to attend the Local Government Commission's Annual Yosemite Leadership and Policy Conference – March 14-17, 2019

Director Preciado made a motion, seconded by Director Cano, that the Governing Board approve per diem for Director's attendance at the Local Government Commission's Annual Yosemite Leadership and Policy Conference - March 14-17, 2019. The motion carried unanimously, with Director Martinez absent.

(Note: Director Martínez reentered the meeting at 7:42 p.m.)

REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

7. Committee Minutes

8. Report of Legal Counsel

There was none.

9. Management Report

A. Report of Assistant General Manager

Ms. Sabine stated that the Quarterly Capital Project Update has been provided in the agenda packet.

B. Report of General Manager

Ms. Berge shared news of a recent meeting with ABM Utilities to review potential efficiency related to AMI/AMR technology; another meeting has been scheduled with ABM Utilities at no cost to the Authority; and Ms. Berge will be volunteering in local elementary schools as part of Junior Achievement Day in South Bay.

10. Reports by Directors on Events Attended

There were none.

11. Directors' Comments

Director Sotelo-Solis asked what the Authority does to recognize and engage the public. General Manager Berge replied that the Authority administers contests that that recognizes students for their artwork and citizens for their landscaping. Director Sotelo-Solis also shared that the City of National City selected their fifth councilmember, Dr. Gonzalo Quintero.

Director Cerda commented on the water main break near Main Street in January; the Authority received commendation from Chula Vista Councilmember Jill Galvez for its quick resolve.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:46 p.m., the Board convened to meet in closed session with legal counsel for:

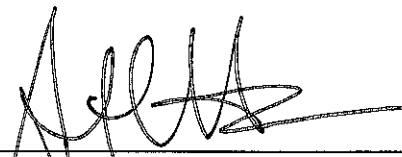
- A., Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Significant exposure to Litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(2): Two Potential Cases

There was no need for a closed session on item B., 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 9:00 p.m., Chair Castaneda declared the meeting to be in open session. No reportable action was taken by the Governing Board.

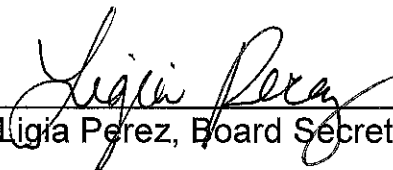
22. Adjournment

With no further business before the Board, Chair Castaneda adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.



Steve Castaneda, Chair

Attest:



Ligia Perez, Board Secretary