

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

April 28, 2021

The Governing Board of Sweetwater Authority held a Regular meeting on Wednesday, April 28, 2021. Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Orders N-29-20 and 33-20, this meeting was held via teleconference. Chair Martinez called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

*(*Note: After calling the meeting to order, Chair Martinez established for the record that all Directors were able to hear the proceedings, that all members of the Board were able to hear the Directors participating by teleconference clearly, and that all votes would be taken by a roll call vote pursuant to the provisions of the Brown Act. Chair Martinez further established for the record the process by which public comments would be received by the Board, which process was also described in the Agenda for the meeting.)*

- **Roll Call**

Directors Present: Josie Calderon-Scott, Steve Castaneda, Hector Martinez, Paulina Martinez-Perez, *Jose Preciado (6:03 p.m.), Mona Rios, and Alejandra Sotelo-Solis.

Directors Absent: None.

Management, Staff, and Others Present: Interim General Manager Jennifer Sabine, Legal Counsel Paula de Sousa, and Board Secretary Ligia Perez. Staff Members: Director of Water Quality Justin Brazil, Engineering Manager Erick Del Bosque, Administrative Assistant Michael Garcia, Distribution Manager Nate Golder, Water Quality Superintendent Mark Hatcher, Program Manager Dan Hayes, Information Services Manager Kevin Kasner, Director of Engineering Ron Mosher, Public Affairs Manager Leslie Payne, Interim Director of Distribution Carl Quiram, Director of Finance Rich Stevenson, and Director of Administrative Services Dina Yorba. Others Present: Pam Meisner and Janelle Wallace of The Water Conservation Garden.

(Note: Director Preciado entered the meeting at 6:03 p.m.)

- **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

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

Russell Walsh submitted written comments regarding the Fishing Program and access at Loveland Reservoir, which were read onto the record by the Board Secretary pursuant to the Authority's established process for public comments.

- **Chair's Presentation**

- A. "The Water Conservation Garden Update," presented by Pam Meisner, Director of Operations & Programs and Janelle Wallace, Director of Development & Membership, The Water Conservation Garden
- B. Comments from the Public Regarding Agency Staff

ACTION CALENDAR AGENDA

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

There was none.

2. Approval of Minutes

- A. Regular Board Meeting of April 14, 2021
- B. Special Board Meeting of April 10, 2021

Director Castaneda made a motion, seconded by Director Martinez-Perez, that the Governing Board approve the minutes of the Regular Board meeting of April 14, 2021, and the Special Board meeting of April 19, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Calendar Items

Director Castaneda recused himself from consideration of Agenda Item 3 (approval of San Diego Gas & Electric Demands and Warrants – check numbers 155222, 155271, 155297, 155335, and 155389) due to his contract with Sempra Energy, parent company of SDG&E, which Director Castaneda disclosed on the record.

Director Preciado made a motion, seconded by Director Rios, that the Governing Board approve the consent calendar. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of San Diego Gas & Electric Demands and Warrants – Check numbers 155222, 155271, 155297, 155335, and 155389
4. Approval of Demands and Warrants (excludes the San Diego Gas & Electric Demands and Warrants) – March 2021
5. Consideration to Award a Construction Contract for the Rehabilitation of Morris and Starr Tanks Project and Adjust the Project Budget to \$743,181 (Operations Committee Meeting of 4/21/21)
Recommendation: Award a Construction Contract to Paso Robles Tank, Hemet, CA, in an amount not to exceed \$576,510; adjust the project budget for the Rehabilitation of Morris and Starr Tanks to \$743,181, and reallocate funding to the project as follows: \$100,000 from the Installation of Pitot Tap and Potential Meter Relocation at the Desal Facility, and \$203,181 from the SCADA Integration for the City of San Diego Direct Transfer Facility.

6. Review of Board Policy 522 – Second Review (Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting of 4/21/21)
Recommendation: Hold on making any changes to Policy 522 pending a future joint meeting of the Governing Board and Citizens Advisory Committee.
7. Request for Input on Janitorial Services Procurement Process (Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting of 4/21/21)
Recommendation: Direct staff to issue the Janitorial RFQ utilizing the vendor outreach plan as presented.

Action and Discussion Items

8. Consideration of Draft FY 2021-22 Five-year Financial Plan for Review and Comments (Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting of 4/21/21)
Recommendation: Defer to the Governing Board.
No action was required by the Governing Board.
9. Approval of Directors' Attendance at Meetings and Future Agenda Items
 - A. Per diem approval for Directors who wish to attend the CSDA 2021 Virtual Special Districts Legislative Days – May 18-19, 2021
 - B. Per diem approval for Directors who wish to attend the Water Education Foundation Lower Colorado River Virtual Tour 2021 – May 20, 2021

Director Calderon-Scott made a motion, seconded by Director Rios, that the Governing Board approve per diem for Directors who wish to attend the CSDA 2021 Virtual Special Districts Legislative Days – May 18-19, 2021 and the Water Education Foundation Lower Colorado River Virtual Tour 2021 – May 20, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

10. COVID-19 Pandemic Delayed Revenue Balance Dashboard
11. Committee Minutes
12. Informational Reports
 - Monthly Financials – March 2021
 - Quarterly Capital Projects Report – Third Quarter FY 2020-21
 - Quarterly Performance Measurement Report – Third Quarter FY 2020-21
 - Quarterly Report on Communications Plan Metrics – Third Quarter FY 2020-21
13. Report of Management

Interim General Manager Sabine reported on:

 - Authority staff participated in an emergency response drill; the drill simulated an earthquake with damage to Authority facilities and infrastructure;

- Participation in the Virtual South Bay Earth Day event sponsored by the City of Chula Vista. The Authority promoted its water efficiency incentive and rebate programs;
- Upcoming participation in the National City Chamber of Commerce’s Virtual Job Fair to promote Authority job opportunities; and
- Previewed the agenda items for the upcoming Special Board meeting, Consultant Selection Committee, Operations Committee, and Finance and Personnel Committee meetings.

14. Report of Sweetwater Authority Director to the Water Conservation Garden Authority

Director Castaneda commented on the recent quarterly meeting and stated that the earlier presentation by The Water Conversation Garden staff during Chair’s Presentation item A. provided a detailed update on the Garden activities.

15. Report of Representatives to the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA)

Director Rios reported the declaration of a “dry year” in central and northern California; the SDCWA water diversification efforts have led to sufficient water supplies during this and additional dry years; and the SDCWA will work on developing partnerships with neighboring regions that need water and potentially generate additional revenue.

Director Preciado reported on the activities of the SDCWA committees; providing input on the Metropolitan Water District’s rate structure and its effect on SDCWA; an update on issues related to the Colorado River; the efforts of the Scripps Institute of Oceanography to provide modeling data to improve reservoir water management; heard a report of the SCOOP program; and a mutually beneficial agreement was reached with the Vallecitos Water District regarding a dispute over the delivery of the source of water.

16. Reports by Directors on Events Attended

A. South County Economic Development Council (SCEDC) Meeting – April 6, 2021
Director Castaneda provided a report.

B. Council of Water Utilities (COWU) Meeting – April 20, 2021
Directors Castaneda, Martinez, and Calderon-Scott provided a report.

C. Other Events Attended – There was none.

17. Directors’ Comments

Director Sotelo-Solis commented on a great meeting; the COVID-19 vaccination efforts and promotion in the City of National City; and proposed infrastructure funding from the Federal level and its impacts locally.

Director Rios commented on the progress of the Bayshore Bikeway, and that the new Chair of Bayshore Bikeway Committee is National City Councilmember Marcus Bush.

Director Calderon-Scott expressed appreciation for staff and the detail of reports.

CLOSED SESSION

At 8:33 p.m. the Board convened in closed session for:

- A. Conference with Real Property Negotiators pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8:

Property: Assessor Parcel Number:
521-040-15-00

Agency Negotiators: Jennifer Sabine, Interim General Manager
Ron Mosher, Director of Engineering
Paula de Sousa, Legal Counsel

Negotiating Party: Lino Iuli

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms

There was no need for closed session on item:

- B. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1):

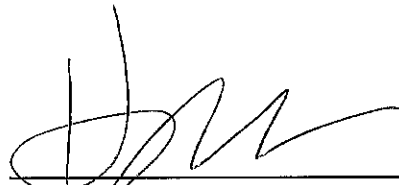
United States, et al. ex rel John Hendrix v. J-M Manufacturing Company Inc., and Formosa Plastics Corporation, U.S.A., Case No. ED CV06-00055-GW

There were no minutes taken, and the session was not audio-recorded.

Legal Counsel de Sousa reported that the Board came out of Closed Session at 8:51 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 8:53 p.m., with Directors Calderon-Scott, Martinez, Martinez-Perez, Preciado, and Rios in attendance. There was no reportable action taken by the Governing Board.

18. Adjournment

With no further business before the Board, Chair Martinez adjourned the meeting at 8:53 p.m.



Hector Martinez, Chair

Attest:



Ligia Pérez, Board Secretary