

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

**May 17, 2023, 5:00 p.m.
Virtual via Zoom and at
Sweetwater Authority Administration Building
505 Garrett Avenue
Chula Vista, CA 91910**

- **Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call**

The Governing Board of Sweetwater Authority held a Special meeting on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at the Sweetwater Authority Administrative Office, 505 Garrett Avenue, Chula Vista, California. Chair Martinez called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Directors Present: Josie Calderon-Scott, Steve Castaneda, Manny Delgado, Hector Martinez, Paulina Martinez-Perez, Ron Morrison, and Ditas Yamane

Staff Present: General Manager Carlos Quintero, Legal Counsel Nicholaus Norvell, Board Secretary Ligia Hoffman, Director of Water Quality Justin Brazil, Director of Engineering and Operations Erick Del Bosque, Assistant Board Secretary Michael Garcia, Environmental Project Manager Israel Marquez, Public Affairs Manager Leslie Payne, Director of Finance Rich Stevenson, and Director of Administrative Services Dina Yorba

Others: Greg Clumpner and Jeremy Tamargo of NBS; John Allen, Mary Davis, Kyle Georgi, Bob Hatton, Karen Henry, Mary Hicks, Robert Kilpatrick, Carolyn McGavock, Elisa Peskin, Mike Sampsel, Tammy, David Thomas, Russell Walsh, Sean Walsh, Annie Wolan, and Karen Wood

- **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

- **Opportunity for Public Comment**

John Allen commented on opening access to the parking lot and trail at Loveland Reservoir.

David Thomas commented on public access to Loveland Reservoir and the environmental and personal impacts of draining of the reservoir.

Mary Hicks commented on the heavy recreation use at Loveland Reservoir and the effects of draining the reservoir, including fire prevention; and broken rules and public trust.

Karen Wood commented on the land swap infringement easement and encouraged to reopen Loveland.

Mary Davis commented on the suppression of public participation under the guise of meeting management; the effects of deadpool levels at Loveland Reservoir; and requested that the Authority reopen access to Loveland Reservoir, no draining of its water below 30 percent, and to continue dialogue with the community and stakeholders.

Carolyn McGavock commented that the reopening of Loveland Reservoir should be a regular meeting agenda item for transparency; and noted there has been a history of cooperation between the Authority and Reservoir stakeholders.

Kyle Georgi commented on access to Loveland Reservoir and the long-term effects of draining the reservoir.

Bob Hatton commented on the plan and intent for draining Loveland Reservoir and ecological devastation to the reservoir.

Tammy commented on access to Loveland Reservoir and familial connections to the area and the use of the reservoir as public property.

Sean Walsh commented on access to Loveland Reservoir and read a letter into the record from Senator Brian Jones.

Russell Walsh commented on the public speaking time; and the reopening of Loveland Reservoir.

Robert Kilpatrick commented on the use of the Reservoir during wildfires; and asked the draining of the reservoir never be done again.

Annie Wolan agreed with Robert Kilpatrick's comments; and the fear that the recent Valley Fire brought with no water in the Reservoir.

Elisa Peskin commented on the Authority's commitment to the community and the integrity of the Authority to do the right thing.

Per the Chair's request, General Manager Quintero provided a statement on the Authority's efforts regarding reopening Loveland Reservoir.

ACTION CALENDAR AGENDA

A. Presentation of Draft FY 2023-24 Budget for Review, Input, and Comment

Karen Henry commented on the Budget document, including the use of acronyms, editing of specific project information, the project delivery system within the Authority's Capital Improvement Projects; and the Clearwell project at the Perdue Water Treatment Plant.

Director of Finance Stevenson provided a presentation.

Motion by: Director Yamane

Seconded by: Director Martinez-Perez

that the Governing Board direct staff to incorporate Board member comments into the Draft FY 2023-24 Budget for completion of the final documents to be presented to the Board at its June 14, 2023 Board meeting for adoption; and direct Board members to submit any further comments to the General Manager by June 5, 2023.

Ayes (7): Director Calderon-Scott, Director Castaneda, Director Delgado, Director Martinez, Director Martinez-Perez, Director Morrison, and Director Yamane

Motion Carried Unanimously (7 to 0)

B. Presentation of 2023 Water Rate Study Water Bill Impacts for Alternative Policy Changes for Review, Input, and Comment

Karen Henry commented on the water rates, and provided some graphics to the Board members explaining tiered water rates.

Mike Sampsel commented on previous and current water rate studies and methodologies.

Jeremy Tamargo of NBS provided a presentation.

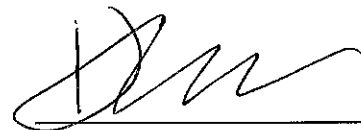
The Governing Board tabled discussion of this item to a future meeting.

C. Presentation of Board Room Improvement Project Alternatives and Technology Update Project for Review, Input, and Comment

The Governing Board tabled discussion of this item to a future meeting.

• Adjournment

With no further business before the Board, Chair Martinez adjourned the meeting at 7:29 p.m.



Hector Martinez, Chair

Attest:



Ligia Hoffman, Board Secretary