

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

June 23, 2021

The Governing Board of Sweetwater Authority held a Regular meeting on Wednesday, June 23, 2021. Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Orders N-08-21, 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 (6:09 p.m.), Steve Castaneda, Hector Martinez, Paulina Martinez-Perez, Jose Preciado, 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, Chief System Operator Carson Dollick, Administrative Assistant Michael Garcia, Water Treatment Superintendent Mark Hatcher, Program Manager Dan Hayes, Environmental Project Manager Israel Marquez, Public Affairs Manager Leslie Payne, Program Specialist Doug Roberts, and Director of Finance Rich Stevenson. Others present: Legal Counsel Alison Alpert of Best Best and Krieger; Special Labor Counsel Kevin Chicas of Liebert Cassidy Whitmore; Cisy Cao, Cheri Pifer, and Brook Whalen of KTUA; and Paul Rodriguez.

- **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

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

There were none.

- **Chair's Presentation**

A. Presentation of Sweetwater Authority's Winner of the 2021 WaterSmart Landscape Contest

(Note: Director Calderon-Scott entered the meeting at 6:09 p.m.)

B. General Sweetwater Authority Video

ACTION CALENDAR AGENDA

1. Items to be Added, Withdrawn, or Reordered on the Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes
 - A. Special Board Meeting of June 8, 2021
 - B. Regular Board Meeting of June 9, 2021

Director Calderon-Scott made a motion, seconded by Director Rios, that the Governing Board approve the minutes of the Special Board meeting of June 8, 2021, and the Regular Board meeting of June 9, 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 155622, 155656, 155697, and 155729) due to his contract with Sempra Energy, parent company of SDG&E, which Director Castaneda disclosed on the record.

Director Martinez-Perez 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 155622, 155656, 155697, and 155729
4. Approval of Demands and Warrants (excludes the San Diego Gas & Electric Demands and Warrants) – May 2021
5. Consideration to Adopt Resolution 21-15, Adopting Addendum No. 1 to the Supplement to the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Sweetwater Reservoir Recreation Master Plan Shoreline Fishing Program and Approving Project Changes (Operations Committee Meeting of 6/16/21)
Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 21-15; direct staff to open the Sweetwater Reservoir Fishing Program on Fridays, the 4th of July, and other holidays, as determined by the Board; and increase outreach efforts to promote the availability of the Fishing Program.

RESOLUTION 21-15

**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF SWEETWATER AUTHORITY
ADOPTING ADDENDUM NO. 1 TO THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE FINAL
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE SWEETWATER RESERVOIR
RECREATION MASTER PLAN SHORELINE FISHING PROGRAM AND APPROVING
PROJECT CHANGES**

was passed and adopted by the following vote to wit:

Ayes: Directors Calderon-Scott, Castaneda, Martinez, Martinez-Perez, Preciado, Rios, and Sotelo-Solis
 Noes: None
 Absent: None
 Abstain: None

Action and Discussion Items

6. ACWA/JPIA Commitment to Excellence Program Update (Information Item) (Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting of 6/16/21)

Recommendation: No action was required by the Governing Board.

No action was required by the Governing Board.

7. Consideration of Phase I Screening for Beautification of Various Authority Facilities (Communications Committee Meeting of 6/7/21)

Recommendation: Add NC Well 2; SDF Wells 1, 2, and 6; and the public spigot at El Toyon to the list of Phase I Screening recommendations.

Director Martinez made a motion, seconded by Director Rios, that the Governing Board approve the Phase I Screening recommendations as presented; add the National City Wells 2 and 3, and the public spigot at El Toyon to the list of Phase I Screening recommendations; and direct staff to bring back the list of Additional Opportunities at a future Board meeting for further discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

Consideration to Award a Contract for On-call SCADA System Integration Professional Services

Director Castaneda made a motion, seconded by Director Preciado, that the Governing Board award a contract for On-call SCADA System Integration Professional Services to Enterprise Automation of Irvine, CA for one year with an option to renew for up to four additional years to include the negotiated rate sheet and terms in the Agreement for Professional Services; transfer the \$100,000, set aside in the FY 2021-22 budget for a new integrator and transition, to the Expense Contingency; and direct staff to present to the Board a full accounting report of all expenses and discounts after one year. The motion carried unanimously.

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

A. Registration approval for Director Calderon-Scott to attend the Bonita Museum's Gala Fundraising Dinner as a representative of Sweetwater Authority – June 25, 2021

B. Per diem approval for Directors wishing to attend the CSDA Leadership Academy, Lake Tahoe – September 26-29, 2021

Director Sotelo-Solis made a motion, seconded by Director Martinez-Perez, that the Governing Board approve the registration for Director Calderon-Scott to attend the Bonita

Museum's Gala Fundraising Dinner as a representative of Sweetwater Authority – June 25, 2021, and per diem for Directors wishing to attend the CSDA Leadership Academy, Lake Tahoe – September 26-29, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

10. COVID-19 Pandemic Delayed Revenue Balance Dashboard

11. Committee Minutes

12. Informational Reports

A. Financials - May 2021

B. Media Reporting for FY 2021-22 (Information Item) (Communications Committee Meeting of 6/7/21)

Recommendation: No action was required by the Governing Board.

13. Report of Management

Interim General Manager Sabine reported on:

- On June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued an Executive Order expiring or winding down the previous COVID-related orders. However, orders related to public meetings and the water service disconnection moratorium remain in effect until September 30, 2021;
- Governor Newsom's proposed 2021-22 Budget proposes \$1 billion to water systems to address customer arrearages and revenue gaps related to the pandemic. Staff has contacted Senator Hueso's office, asking for support; and
- At a future meeting, the Finance and Personnel Committee will discuss outreach to customers regarding bill arrearages and the release of the moratorium on water shut-offs.

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

Director Rios reported on upcoming presentations at the SDCWA meetings, including insurance premium reductions; agricultural water rates; budget adoption, reopening SDCWA facilities; chlorine supply challenges; state legislative bills; project labor agreements; and the introduction of the new Metropolitan Water District general manager.

Director Preciado reported on upcoming presentations at the SDCWA meetings, including the selection of a new federal lobbyist; budget details and outreach; the Authority's status as a financial outlier in SDCWA payments due to the Authority's water diversification efforts; drought conditions and preparations; regional water storage; and commended Director Rios for her leadership at the SDCWA.

15. Reports by Directors on Events Attended

A. Council of Water Utilities Committee – June 15, 2021

Directors Castaneda and Martinez provided a report.

B. Other Events Attended – There was none.

16. Directors' Comments

Director Martinez-Perez commented on the detailed tour of the water treatment plant by Director of Water Quality Justin Brazil.

CLOSED SESSION

At 8:28 p.m. the Board convened in closed session for:

A. Conference with Labor Negotiator pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6:

Agency Negotiator: Kevin Chicas, Special Labor Counsel
Employee Organizations: Sweetwater Authority Employees' Committee
Sweetwater Authority Middle Management Group
Sweetwater Authority Confidential Group

B. Conference with Labor Negotiator pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6:

Agency Negotiators: Alison Alpert, Legal Counsel
Paula de Sousa, Legal Counsel
Unrepresented Employees: Director of Administrative Services
Director of Distribution
Director of Engineering
Director of Finance
Director of Water Quality

C. Conference with Labor Negotiator pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6:

Agency Negotiators: Alison Alpert, Legal Counsel
Paula de Sousa, Legal Counsel
Unrepresented Employees: Assistant General Manager
General Manager

There was no need for closed session on item:

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

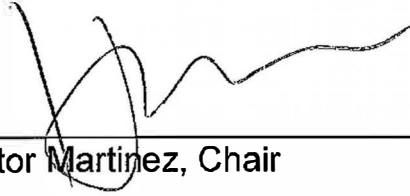
United States, et al. ex rel John Hendrix v. J-M Manufacturing Company Inc., and Formosa Plastics Corporation, U.S.A., Case No. ED CV06-00055-GW

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 9:40 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 9:43 p.m., with Directors Calderon-Scott, Martinez, Martinez-Perez, Preciado, Rios, and Sotelo-Solis in attendance. There was no reportable action taken by the Governing Board.

17. Adjournment

With no further business before the Board, Chair Martinez adjourned the meeting at 9:44 p.m.



Hector Martinez, Chair

Attest:



Ligia Perez, Board Secretary