

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

August 10, 2022

The Governing Board of Sweetwater Authority held a Special meeting on Wednesday, August 10, 2022. Pursuant to provisions provided for by Assembly Bill 361, this meeting was held via teleconference. Chair Sotelo-Solis called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

*(*Note: After calling the meeting to order, Chair Sotelo-Solis 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 Sotelo-Solis 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 (6:07 p.m.), Hector Martinez, Paulina Martinez-Perez, Jose Preciado, Mona Rios, and Alejandra Sotelo-Solis

Directors Absent: Steve Castaneda

Management, Staff, and Others Present: General Manager Carlos Quintero, Legal Counsel Nicholas Norvell, and Board Secretary Ligia Hoffman. Staff Members: Director of Water Quality Justin Brazil, Interim Director of Water Quality Justin Brazil, Director of Finance Rich Stevenson, and Director of Administrative Services Dina Yorba. Others present: Mary D.

- **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

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

Mary D. of Alpine commented on the Loveland Reservoir, concerns on lowering the water level, its effects on fishing, and fire hazards.

(Note: Director Calderon-Scott entered the meeting at 6:07 p.m.)

ACTION CALENDAR AGENDA

1. Findings to Continue Holding Remote/Teleconference Meetings Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361
Recommendation: Make the following findings: 1) The Governor-declared COVID-19 State of Emergency remains in effect and the Board has reconsidered the circumstances of the COVID-19 State of Emergency; 2) State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing; and 3) For the next thirty (30) days, the meetings of the Board, its committees, and any other Authority legislative bodies including the Citizens Advisory Committee, shall be held pursuant to the provisions of Government Code section 54953(e), allowing legislative

body members and members of the public to participate in meetings remotely in accordance with that section.

Mary D. of Alpine spoke against continuing to hold teleconference meetings under AB 361.

Director Preciado made a motion, seconded by Director Rios, that the Board make the following findings:

- 1) The Governor-declared COVID-19 State of Emergency remains in effect and the Board has reconsidered the circumstances of the COVID-19 State of Emergency;
- 2) State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing; and
- 3) For the next thirty (30) days, the meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held pursuant to the provisions of Government Code section 54953(e), allowing legislative body members and members of the public to participate in meetings remotely in accordance with that section.

The motion carried unanimously, with Director Castaneda absent

2. Discussion on Format of Future Board and Committee Meetings (Virtual, In-Person, or Hybrid)

Director Martinez made a motion, seconded by Director Calderon-Scott, that the Governing Board select to hold hybrid Board meetings that allow only Board members and staff the option of meeting in person, while broadcasting the meetings via Zoom and allowing members of the public to participate remotely; and continue holding virtual Committee meetings. The motion carried unanimously, with Director Castaneda absent.

3. Consideration to Adopt Resolution 22-09, Authorizing an Application for Advanced Metering Infrastructure and Customer Engagement Portal Project Watersmart Grant, Committing to Provide Matching Funds, and Authorizing Staff to Accept Grant Funds and Execute Grant Agreement

Upon a motion by Director Rios, seconded by Vice Chair Martinez-Perez, the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 22-09

**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF SWEETWATER AUTHORITY
AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION FOR ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE
AND CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT PORTAL PROJECT WATERSMART GRANT,
COMMITTING TO PROVIDE MATCHING FUNDS, AND AUTHORIZING STAFF TO
ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS AND EXECUTE GRANT AGREEMENT**

was passed and adopted by the following vote to wit:

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

CLOSED SESSION

At 6:52 p.m. the Board convened in closed session for:

- A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(2): Four cases (claims pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (e)(3) filed by Jessy Laine Recklau, Macie Jayde Recklau, Preslie Rose Recklau, and Roxy Lee Recklau)

- B. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(2): 1 potential case

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

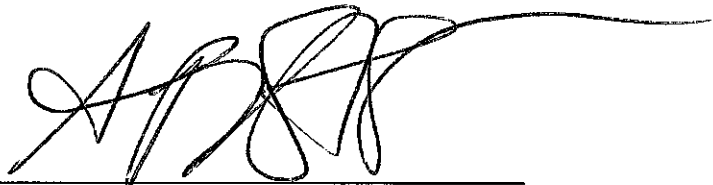
The Governing Board reconvened in open session at 7:07 p.m., with Directors Calderon-Scott, Martinez, Martinez-Perez, Preciado, Rios, and Sotelo-Solis in attendance.

Legal Counsel Norvell reported that during closed session on Agenda Item A, **Director Preciado made a motion, seconded by Chair Sotelo-Solis, that the Governing Board grant the applications for leave to present late claims filed by Jessy Laine Recklau, Macie Jayde Recklau, Preslie Rose Recklau, and Roxy Lee Recklau, and to reject each of those claims. The motion carried unanimously, with Director Castaneda absent.**

There was no reportable action taken by the Governing Board for Agenda Item B.

- Adjournment

With no further business before the Board, Chair Sotelo-Solis adjourned the meeting at 7:08 p.m.



Alejandra Sotelo-Solis, Chair

Attest:



Ligia Hoffman, Board Secretary