

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

August 26, 2020

The Governing Board of Sweetwater Authority held a Regular meeting on Wednesday, August 26, 2020. Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Orders N-29-20 and 33-20, this meeting was held via teleconference. Chair Castaneda called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

*(*Note: After calling the meeting to order, Chair Castaneda 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 Castaneda 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, Jerry Cano, Steve Castaneda, José F. Cerda, Hector Martinez, Jose Preciado, and Alejandra Sotelo-Solis

Directors Absent: None.

Management, Staff, and Others Present: General Manager Tish Berge, Assistant General Manager Jennifer Sabine, Legal Counsel Paula de Sousa, and Board Secretary Ligia Perez. Staff Members: Director of Water Quality Justin Brazil, Administrative Assistant Michael Garcia, Director of Engineering Ron Mosher, Public Affairs Manager Leslie Payne, and Director of Finance Rich Stevenson. Others Present: Bea Fernandez, Sandy Naranjo, Labor Counsel Alison Alpert of Best, Best, & Krieger, Kevin Davis of Black and Veatch, Don MacFarlane of DLM Engineering, Doug Gillingham of Gillingham Water, and Dan Denham, Kelly Rodgers, and Pierce Rossum of the San Diego County Water Authority.

- **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

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

There was none.

- **Chair's Presentation**

A. Citizens Advisory Committee Quarterly Update from Chair Sandy Naranjo

Mike Sampsel submitted written comments regarding the report by CAC Chair Naranjo, which was read onto the record by the Board Secretary pursuant to the Authority's established process for public comments.

Beatrice Fernandez commented on her experience as member of the Citizens Advisory Committee.

B. San Diego County Water Authority's Regional Conveyance System

C. 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 Items to be Added, Withdrawn, or Reordered on the Agenda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 – Regular Board Meeting of August 12, 2020

Director Preciado made a motion, seconded by Director Cerda, that the Governing Board approve the minutes of the Regular Board meeting of August 12, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Calendar Items

Chair Castaneda recused himself from consideration of Agenda Item 3 (approval of San Diego Gas & Electric Demands and Warrants – check numbers 154022, 154040, and 154051) due to his contract with Sempra Energy, parent company of SDG&E, which Chair Castaneda disclosed on the record.

Director Calderon-Scott pulled item 5 for discussion.

Director Preciado made a motion, seconded by Director Cano, that the Governing Board approve consent calendar items 3, 4, and 6. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of San Diego Gas & Electric Demands and Warrants – Check numbers 154022, 154040, and 154051

4. Approval of Demands and Warrants – check number 153981 through 154065 and electronic fund transfers 35854 through 36114 (excluding the San Diego Gas & Electric Demands and Warrants)

6. Energy (NRG) Audit (Item Requested by Director Martinez) (Operations Committee Meeting of 8/19/20)

Recommendation: Proceed with an energy audit sole-sourced to DHK Engineers, and include a specialized report on alternative fuels and electric vehicles.

Item Pulled from Consent Calendar

5. Policy for the Procurement of Services (including Construction), Supplies, and Equipment – Update on Implementation of Preferential Purchasing for Local Businesses (Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting of 8/19/20)

Recommendation: No action was required by the Governing Board.

Director Calderon-Scott made a motion, seconded by Director Preciado, that the Governing Board direct staff to schedule a workshop in October regarding the Policy for the Procurement of Services (including Construction), Supplies, and Equipment. The motion carried unanimously.

Action and Discussion Items

7. Consideration of Additional Subject Area to the List of Relevant Citizens Advisory Committee Issues (Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting of 8/17/20)

CAC Recommendation: Approve the addition of Customer Service and Citizen Engagement to its list of relevant issues.

Director Sotelo-Solis made a motion, seconded by Director Cano, that the Governing Board approve the addition of Customer Service and Citizen Engagement to the Citizens Advisory Committee's list of relevant issues. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Old Business

- A. Consideration of Items Related to Presentation of Demands and Warrants:

- a. Sample Payment Register-Accounts Payable Checks with General Ledger Account
- b. Enhanced Descriptions, Conceptual Companion Document of Contracts and Agreements
- c. Consideration of Resolution 20-15 Authorizing the General Manager or Assistant General Manager to Approve Payment of Demands and Repealing Resolution Nos. 80-07 and 97-14
- d. Consideration of Monthly Presentment

Chair Castaneda made a motion, seconded by Director Martinez, that the Governing Board approve the sample Payment Register-Accounts Payable Checks; the enhanced descriptions, conceptual companion document of contracts and agreements; and the monthly presentment of Demands and Warrants; deferred consideration of adoption of Resolution 20-15 – Authorizing the General Manager or Assistant General Manager to Approve Payment of Demands and Repealing Resolution Nos. 80-07 and 97-14 to a future Board meeting; and directed staff not to implement changes until the consideration of Resolution 20-15. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Per diem approval for Directors who wish to attend the Water Education Foundation Virtual Bay-Delta Tour 2020 – October 8, 2020

Director Preciado made a motion, seconded by Director Cerda, that the Governing Board approve per diem for Directors who wish to attend the Water Education Foundation Virtual Bay-Delta Tour 2020 – October 8, 2020. The motion carried, with Directors

Calderon-Scott, Cano, Castaneda, Cerda, Martinez, and Preciado in favor, and Director Sotelo-Solis opposing.

REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

10. COVID-19 Pandemic Delayed Revenue Balance Dashboard

11. Committee Minutes

12. Financial Reports

- Monthly Financials – June 2020
- Quarterly Capital Projects Report – Fourth Quarter FY 2019-20

13. Report of Management

- Upcoming Community Events (Information Item) (No Enclosures)

General Manager Berge reported on:

- Staff completed the annual Least Bell's vireo census in July.
- The Authority is on the SDG&E wait list for the next funding for the Power Your Drive for Fleets – a program providing funds for charging infrastructure support for Medium- and Heavy-duty electric vehicles.
- Staff have received the proposal from the project proponent for the potential energy storage project at Loveland Reservoir – reviewing with legal to determine path forward on environmental analysis required for CEQA.
- The Citizens Advisory Committee requested information and presentations from staff and consultants in response to specific questions, staff is reviewing requests with the CAC Liaison to determine required resources.
- Postcards inviting vendors to enroll in the Preferential Purchasing Program were mailed out last week. 200 extra postcards are available for Board members, if interested.
- The General Manager will be on PTO September 10-20, 2020.
- Previewed the agenda items for the upcoming Operations Committee, Finance and Personnel Committee, Communications Committee, and regular and special Board meetings.

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

Director Preciado reported on the upcoming agenda of the SDCWA meeting, including the election of officers and closed session negotiations regarding Metropolitan Water District; and the review of the SDCWA Business Plan that implements the strategic plan; and possibility of bringing a presentation of the business plan to a South Bay Irrigation District Board meeting.

15. Reports by Directors on Events Attended

- A. National Water Resources Association Western Water Table Talks – August 6, 13, and 20, 2020

Director Martinez provided a verbal report. It was noted Director Cerda will provide a written report following conclusion of the conference (at the September 23, 2020 Board meeting).

- B. CSDA Virtual Quarterly Meeting – August 20, 2020 – There was none.

- C. Other Events Attended – There were none.

16. Directors' Comments

Director Calderon-Scott commented on being pleased on the progress of Preferential Purchasing for Local Businesses.

Director Cano commented on the businesses effected by the pandemic and encouraged the use of local restaurants.

Director Cerda thanked staff for their assistance in the County of San Diego Sheriff's search for a missing person at Sweetwater Reservoir; and thanked staff for continuing to work hard during the pandemic.

Director Martinez commented on the monthly dashboard and the emergency water storage levels at Loveland Reservoir; and would like to have a discussion of the water levels at a future meeting.

Chair Castaneda commented on the water storage levels at Loveland Reservoir.

Director Preciado commented on food items from local businesses.

CLOSED SESSION

At 8:43 p.m., Chair Castaneda called for a short recess. At 8:47 p.m. the Board convened in closed session with legal counsel for:

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

Agency Negotiators: Tish Berge, General Manager
Jennifer Sabine, Assistant General Manager
Dina Yorba, Director of Administrative Services

Employee Organizations: Sweetwater Authority Employees' Committee
Sweetwater Authority Middle Management Group
Sweetwater Authority Confidential Group

There was no need for closed session on items:

- B. Public Employee Performance Evaluation pursuant to Government Code Section 54957:

Title: General Manager

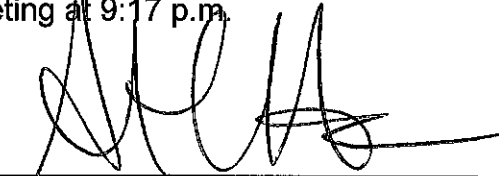
- C. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1):

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 announced on the record that at 9:17 p.m., Chair Castaneda declared the meeting to be in open session. There was no reportable action.

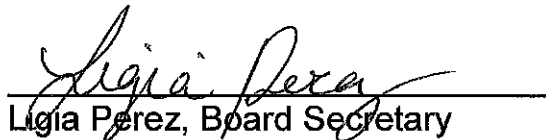
17. Adjournment

Legal Counsel de Sousa announced on the record that with no further business before the Board, Chair Castaneda adjourned the meeting at 9:17 p.m.



Steve Castaneda, Chair

Attest:



Ligia Perez, Board Secretary