

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

**October 9, 2019**

The Governing Board of Sweetwater Authority held a Regular meeting on Wednesday, October 9, 2019, at the Sweetwater Authority Administrative Office, 505 Garrett Avenue, Chula Vista, California. Chair Castaneda called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

- **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 Mills, and Acting Board Secretary Michael Garcia. Staff Members: Director of Engineering Ron Mosher, and Senior Public Affairs Representative Gwyneth Shoecraft. Others present: Beatriz Fernandez, Delfina Gonzalez, Sandy Naranjo, Mike Sampsel, Dave Schlesinger, and Todd Voorhees.

- **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

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

Mike Sampsel commented on the requirement to take an official notarized Oath for involvement in the Citizens Advisory Committee.

- **Chair's Presentation**

Introduction and Administration of Ceremonial Oath for the Citizens Advisory Committee Appointees

**ACTION CALENDAR AGENDA**

1. Determination of Citizens Advisory Committee Appointees' Terms

Per Board Policy 522, the Governing Board selected the Appointees' terms as follows:

Josie Calderon-Scott: January 2021  
Jerry Cano: January 2023  
Steve Castaneda: January 2023  
José F. Cerda: January 2021  
Hector Martinez: January 2021  
Jose Preciado: January 2023  
Alejandra Sotelo-Solis: January 2023

At 6:07 p.m. Chair Castaneda called a short recess for refreshments and photos. The meeting was called back to order at 6:22 p.m., with all Board members present.

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 Items to be Added, Withdrawn, or Reordered on the Agenda

There were none.

3. Approval of Minutes

A. Special Board Meeting of September 24, 2019

B. Special Board Meeting of September 25, 2019

C. Regular Board Meeting of September 25, 2019

D. Special Board Meeting of September 30, 2019

**Director Preciado made a motion, seconded by Director Cano, that the Governing Board approve the minutes of the Special Board Meeting of September 24, 2019, the Special Board Meeting of September 25, 2019, the Regular Board Meeting of September 25, 2019, and the Special Board Meeting of September 30, 2019. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Consent Calendar Items**

**Director Castaneda recused himself from consideration of warrant number 152022 due to his contract with Sempra Energy, parent company of SDG&E, which Director Castaneda disclosed on the record.**

Director Calderon-Scott pulled item 4 for discussion.

*(Note: Director Castaneda left the room at 6:24 p.m.)*

**Item Pulled from Consent Calendar for Discussion**

4. Approval of Demands and Warrants – Check numbers 151988 through 152090 and electronic fund transfers 30067 through 30349

**Director Cano made a motion, seconded by Director Preciado, that the Governing Board approve the demands and warrants. The motion carried unanimously, with Director Castaneda recused.**

*(Note: Director Castaneda reentered the room at 6:32 p.m.)*

**Action and Discussion Items**

5. Consideration of Qualifications for On-call SCADA System Integration Professional Services (Operations Committee Meeting of 9/30/19, Agenda Item 4. A)

Recommendation: Re-issue the RFQ, allowing a response time of 45 days and advertising the RFQ with organizations such as ACWA, AWWA, and CSDA.

**Director Preciado made a motion, seconded by Director Sotelo-Solis, that the Governing Board approve to re-issue the RFQ, allowing a response time of 45 days and advertising the RFQ with organizations such as ACWA, AWWA, and CSDA. The motion carried unanimously.**

6. Consideration of Qualifications to Prepare a Feasibility Study on Maximizing Reservoir Assets and Expanding Local Water Supply (Operations Committee Meeting of 9/30/19, Agenda Item 4. B)

**Recommendation:** Select Gillingham Water as the consultant and direct staff to initiate contract negotiations

**Director Cano made a motion, seconded by Director Martinez, that the Governing Board waive the Attorney-Client Privilege on a communication related to Agenda Item 6. The motion carried, with Directors Calderon-Scott, Cano, Castaneda, Martinez, and Preciado in favor, and Directors Cerda and Sotelo-Solis opposed.**

Following waiver of the Attorney-Client Privilege, Legal Counsel de Sousa Mills stated for the record that there was no legal conflict of interest prohibiting the selection of Gillingham Water or the General Manager's participation in the procurement process for the Feasibility Study under consideration, as a result of the General Manager's past work history (with no financial interest) with members of the Gillingham Water team and its sub-consultants.

**Director Sotelo-Solis made a motion, seconded by Director Cano, that the Governing Board select Gillingham Water as the consultant and direct staff to initiate contract negotiations. The motion carried unanimously.**

7. Approval of Directors' Attendance at Meetings and Future Agenda Items
- A. Council of Water Utilities Meeting, San Diego County – The Butcher Shop Steakhouse, San Diego – Tuesday, October 15, 2019, 8:00 a.m. – Program Title: "State Water Contractors" presented by Jennifer Pierre, General Manager, State Water Contractors

No action was required by the Governing Board.

- B. Per diem approval for Director Martinez to attend the Salute to Navy Luncheon, National City – October 24, 2019

**Director Sotelo-Solis made a motion, seconded by Director Cano, that the Governing Board approve per diem for Director Martinez to attend the Salute to Navy Luncheon, National City – October 24, 2019. The motion carried unanimously.**

## **REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

8. Report of Legal Counsel

There was none.

9. Management Report

A. Report of Assistant General Manager – There was none.

B. Report of General Manager

General Manager Berge reported that notifications will be sent to customers regarding the Authority sharing operational savings to lessen impacts to their water bill; the Authority provided a tour of the water treatment plant to the Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Department; hosted the San Diego County Water Authority Joint Public Affairs and Conservation meeting at the Hydro Station; preparations for the Citizens' Advisory Committee meetings; an article in the San Diego Union-Tribune regarding the Flushing Program; and previewed the agendas of the upcoming Finance and Personnel and Operations Committee meetings.

10. Report of Sweetwater Authority Director to the San Diego River Conservancy Advisory Panel

Director Cerda reported on the Authority's involvement and agency make-up of the Advisory Panel; the availability of funds for maintaining the Sweetwater Watershed; and would like to invite the River Conservancy to present to the Governing Board at a future meeting.

11. Reports by Directors on Events Attended

A. California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Annual Conference – September 25-27, 2019

Directors Calderon-Scott, Cano, and Martinez provided a report.

B. Water Education Foundation (WEF) Northern California Tour – October 2-4, 2019

Directors Calderon-Scott, Cano, and Martinez provided a report.

12. Directors' Comments

Director Sotelo-Solis thanked staff for their work; looks forward to seeing her colleagues at the Salute to the Navy event; and thanked staff for their work on the Flushing Program.

Director Martinez thanked staff for their work implementing the new Citizens Advisory Committee; staff's work on the Flushing Program; the future iron and manganese project that increases National City's water quality; and looks forward to hearing the results of the sand mining study.

Director Preciado commented on seeking the Authority's policy, if any, regarding its use of small business or disadvantaged business enterprises as vendors.

Director Cano commented on his discussion with an Authority employee and education received regarding the Flushing Program in National City; and Dia de los Muertos events in the South Bay area and the potential opportunity for an employee event.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:46 p.m., the Board convened to meet in closed session with legal counsel for:

- A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Significant Exposure to Litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(2): One Case

There was no need for a closed session on item:

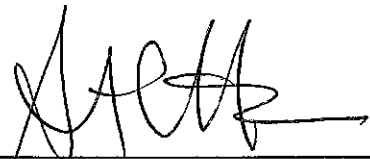
- B. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1):

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

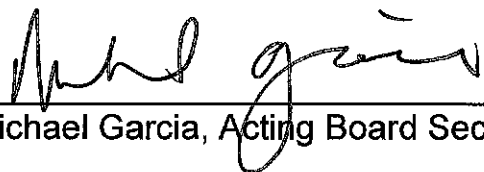
There were no minutes taken, and the session was not audio-recorded. At 8:30 p.m., Chair Castaneda declared the meeting to be in open session. No reportable action was taken by the Governing Board.

13. Adjournment

With no further business before the Board, Chair Castaneda adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

  
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Steve Castaneda, Chair

Attest:

  
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Michael Garcia, Acting Board Secretary