

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Revised*

**Thursday, January 11, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

**1. ROLL CALL:**

Directors Present: Don Amuzie  
Perry Bautista  
Janet Medina  
Julie Richards  
Tom Chambers

Staff Present: Michael Conneran, Attorney  
Wendy Bellinger, Office Supervisor  
Joubin Pakpour, Pakpour Engineer  
Patricia Mairena, General Manager

Visitors Present: Sergio Medina

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Director Bautista.

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR:**

President Chambers asked the Board if there were any issues with the Consent Calendar.

Director Medina moved to approve the Consent Calendar as written, seconded by Director Bautista.

The motion was carried unanimously.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**5. BUSINESS (OLD):** None.

**6. BUSINESS (NEW):**

**A. Appointment of Board Committees by President Chambers.**

General Manager Mairena displayed the list of the current Board Committees. President Chambers asked the Board if there were any comments to the list of the board committees. With no comments, President Chambers made no changes to the list.

**B. Consideration to Authorize Director/Staff Attendance to the ACWA/JPIA Spring Conference, Sacramento, California, May 7 thru May 9, 2024.**

President Chambers reminded the Board that the regular board meeting of May 9<sup>th</sup> would probably need to be rescheduled as it fell on the same week as the ACWA Conference, and suggested moving it to May 2<sup>nd</sup>, as the BAWSCA meeting fell on the following Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.

President Chambers asked if a decision needed to be made today. Attorney Conneran stated this item was agendaized. General Manager Mairena mentioned that for the purposes of registration and hotel reservations, it would be good to do it as soon as possible.

President Chambers inquired if there were any directors who would be interested in attending this event.

Director Medina conveyed her interest in attending this conference. President Chambers expressed that he would like to attend as well. General Manager Mairena also expressed her interest but stated that two people attending was enough and she would need to prioritize whatever was happening in the District first. President Chambers replied that we could sort that out later and for now, just registering two people would be fine.

Director Bautista moved to approve Director Medina and either President Chambers or General Manager Mairena to attend the ACWA/JPIA Spring Conference, Sacramento, California, May 7, thru May 9, 2024, seconded by Director Amuzie.

The motion was carried unanimously.

**7. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None**

**8. ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

Attorney Conneran updated the Board on the Sheetz vs. County of El Dorado case that he brought up at the last board meeting and which was argued in the U.S. Supreme Court this

week. Attorney Conneran explained that the case involved developer fees and what restrictions may be placed by a decision in this case. Attorney Conneran mentioned that the oral arguments presented many different opinions and while there may be a ruling that public agencies cannot simply set any number they want by legislative action, he did not think the plaintiffs that brought up the lawsuit would get their desired outcome, which would be a requirement that fees be set individually, which is not feasible. Attorney Conneran stated that the current system in place in California was satisfactory, as studies on the proper amount of connection fees were already required.

**9. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**A. Report on District's Water Conservation for December 2023.**

General Manager Mairena displayed the comparison charts and reported that water consumption for December 2023 had gone slightly up in comparison to last month's consumption. General Manager Mairena mentioned that the District was entering a period of conservation for January-February and that she expected the usage to decrease.

**B. Update on the 2023 Water and Sewer Rate Study.**

Engineer Joubin Pakpour reminded the Board that, in December 2023, the District had authorized a contract with the rate study consultant, Lechowicz and Tseng (L&T). Engineer Pakpour provided an update on what had been happening. He mentioned that over the last month, even throughout the holidays, L&T had submitted to the District a laundry list of about 25 data items which General Manager Mairena and Office Supervisor Bellinger had sent it on a timely manner. Engineer Pakpour stated that the goal is to meet Prop. 218 and to be able to have a rate adjustment on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Engineer Pakpour mentioned that he had emailed L&T to schedule the first virtual meeting, and once there was a draft report, then a meeting with the Rate Study subcommittee could be scheduled.

**C. Update on the Skyline Tank No. 3 Structural Upgrade Project.**

Engineer Pakpour brought with him exhibits which he shared with the Board. These exhibits showed the proposed work to be done to retrofit the tank. He explained that the seismic analysis done about ten years ago on all three tanks indicated that this tank was the most vulnerable to any seismic event; hence the reason it was the first tank to be retrofitted. Engineer Pakpour mentioned that this tank does not have a foundation, it just sits on the ground, and with seismic activity, the tank could experience a phenomenon called "Elephant's Foot," where the tank would not rupture or spill out the water, but instead the steel would just

pop out. Engineer Pakpour proceeded to review with the Board the measures that will be taken to seismically retrofit this tank.

Director Medina asked if there was any damage to the tanks during the 1989 earthquake. General Manager Mairena replied there was no damage. Engineer Pakpour mentioned that in the historical records, no damage was shown, but they were designing the tanks to be operable with no damage after a maximum credible earthquake. Engineer Pakpour stated that the codes had changed about a year and a half ago, and the new codes would be incorporated into this retrofit.

President Chambers noted that Tank 2 now had some urgent work required and asked if the seismic work had to be included, making the estimated project cost over \$2.5 million. General Manager Mairena replied it was as a result of the SWRCB Sanitary Survey findings due to the painting and coating. Engineer Pakpour mentioned that the seismic work should be done first because it would destroy any new coating, and it would be a waste of money.

**D. Update on the Greendale Dr. Easement Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project.**

Engineer Pakpour brought with him exhibits which he shared with the Board. These exhibits showed the proposed layout of the project to replace the sewer pipe. Engineer Pakpour explained the difficulty of replacing this pipe, especially because of the slope and its location within an easement. Engineer Pakpour reviewed how pipe bursting could have been a good option, but unfortunately, sags were detected on this line, so that was ruled out in this case.

Engineer Pakpour stated that once the design is completed, the project can be shelved until it can be combined with a larger project to get better bids and spread out the fixed costs. Minimal, to no redesign will be needed if the project is shelved for a few years. Engineer Pakpour told the Board that he will come back in the future with recommendations.

Attorney Conneran asked if the project was staying within the District's easement and if we were abandoning the old pipe in place. Engineer Pakpour replied that we surely were and that the old pipe would probably be grouted.

**10. ITEMS FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

President Chambers reported that CSDA was attempting to reactivate the local chapter of the CSDA and there was a meeting scheduled for next Tuesday, and also there was a BAWSCA meeting scheduled for next Thursday.

Five of Five  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Thursday, January 11, 2024

Director Amuzie asked what the CSDA was. Attorney Conneran replied it was the California Special Districts Association, which encompassed all kinds of special districts including, water, fire, community services, sanitary, et cetera, and one of their roles was to appoint two members to LAFCo. President Chambers asked Attorney Conneran if CSDA meeting fell under the Brown Act. Attorney Conneran replied that they did not because it was not a governmental agency.

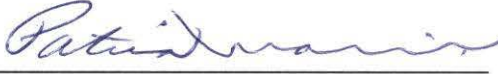
General Manager Mairena asked President Chambers if she should forward the meeting information to Director Richards, since she was also part of the CSDA board committee.

President Chambers agreed and stated the meeting was also virtual.

**11. CLOSED SESSION:** None

**12. ADJOURNMENT:**

Without objection, President Chambers adjourned the meeting.  
Time 8:00 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

*02-08-2024*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date