



MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE EAST ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT (EOCWD)

January 19, 2023

Call to Order. A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the East Orange County Water District was called to order by President DOUGLASS DAVERT at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 19, 2023, with Director JOHN NIELSEN leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e), and related findings of the Board of Directors, public attendance was facilitated via video and teleconference, with public permitted to attend in-person or remotely. JEFFREY HOSKINSON, Secretary, recorded the minutes of the meeting.

The following Directors attended the meeting: DOUGLASS DAVERT, GEORGE MURDOCH, JOHN NIELSEN, JOHN SEARS, and MARILYN THOMS.

Also present were:

DAVID YOUNGBLOOD	General Manager
JEFF SMYTH	Engineering Manager
JERRY MENDZER	Operations Manager
SYLVIA PRADO	Office Manager
JULIAN DE LA O SOLIS	District Staff
RAMON GALLEGOS	GIS Manager
JEFF HOSKINSON	District Secretary and Legal Counsel
FRED BOCKMILLER*	Mesa Water District Director/ACWA-JPIA Board
STACY TAYLOR*	Mesa Water District
JOHN LEWIS	Lewis Consulting
JOHN GUNTHER*	Snyder Langston

(*) attended via videoconference and/or teleconference

Other staff and members of the public may have attended via video- or teleconference that are not listed above.

State of Emergency Virtual Meeting Findings.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion from SEARS, seconded by THOMS, by unanimous roll-call vote, renewed for an additional 30 days its prior Government Code section 54953(e) findings, authorizing the continued use of emergency teleconferencing procedures for all District meetings as (1) the State of Emergency declared by Governor Newsom on March 4, 2020, relative to the COVID-19 emergency, remains in effect; and (2) Orange County public health officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing in connection with such emergency, such that the Board found that while circumstances can be relaxed to allow for in-person attendance, such in-person attendance shall remain optional for members of the Board and public and tele- and videoconferencing options shall remain in effect for an additional 30 days.

Addition of Items Arising After Posting of Agenda Requiring Immediate Action.
(Requires 2/3 vote or unanimous vote if less than 2/3 of members are present).

ACTION TAKEN: None

Public Communications to the Board. None provided.

**** ITEM NO. 13 HEARD OUT OF ORDER**

13. Fred Bockmiller for ACWA/JPIA Executive Committee. Fred Bockmiller, Director from Mesa Water District and Executive Committee Member with the Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Agency (“ACWA-JPIA”), spoke to the Board relative to his re-nomination to the Committee.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by SEARS, seconded by THOMS, approved by unanimous roll-call vote Resolution No. 927, as presented, concurring in the nomination by Mesa Water District of Fred Bockmiller to the ACWA-JPIA Executive Committee.

**** THE BOARD RETURNED TO THE BALANCE OF THE AGENDA IN ORDER**

Consent Calendar. At the request of Director NIELSEN, the Board pulled Item No. 7 for separate consideration. Relative to the balance of the Consent Calendar, the Board, on motion from NIELSEN, seconded by MURDOCH, approved the Consent Calendar items by unanimous roll-call vote from those members present, as follows:

5. **Minutes:** THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 15, 2022 REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD WERE APPROVED AS SUBMITTED;
6. **Schedules of Disbursements:** THE BOARD APPROVED THE SCHEDULES OF DISBURSEMENTS AS SUBMITTED;
8. **Financial Statements:** THE BOARD RECEIVED AND FILED THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS;
9. **Wholesale and Retail Water Usage Report:** THE BOARD RECEIVED AND FILED THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL WATER USAGE REPORT;
10. **Circula Panorama Design Amendment:** THE BOARD AUTHORIZED AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT FOR DESIGN OF THE CIRCULA PANORAMA PIPELINE IN AN AMOUNT OF \$20,203 FOR A TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$272,417 FOR DESIGN;
11. **Treatment Plant Demolition Contract Award:** THE BOARD APPROVED A CONTRACT FOR DEMOLITION OF THE 6MG RESERVOIR TREATMENT PLANT WITH BECKCO IN AN AMOUNT OF \$289,658 AND AUTHORIZED A CONTINGENCY BUDGE OF \$28,965.80 TO ADDRESS UNANTICIPATED ITEMS; and

- 12. Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (“SCADA”) Electrical Contract Award:** THE BOARD AWARDED A CONTRACT TO BIG BEAR ELECTRIC IN AN AMOUNT OF \$181,037 FOR ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION FOR THE SCADA SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.

Following its vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board separately considered:

- 7. General Manager’s Report.** Director NIELSEN inquired as to community outreach on the Capacity, Reliability, and Augmentation (“CRA”) Project No. 1 on Browning Avenue, to which staff responded that notices were going out in the next couple of weeks. General Manager Youngblood also highlighted that the Vista Panorama Reservoir has been demolished.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by NIELSEN, seconded by SEARS, by unanimous roll-call vote received and filed the General Manager’s Report.

Matters for Consideration.

- 14. Urban Water Institute.** General Manager Youngblood briefly introduced the item, and discussed potential appointment of former Director Richard Bell as a volunteer consultant to attend Urban Water Institute (“UWI”) and continue to serve on the UWI Board of Directors. Board discussion focused on the position being volunteer, with reimbursement for travel and lodging, without authority to speak on behalf of the EOCWD Board, with such volunteer position to continue on a year-to-year basis.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by MURDOCH, seconded by SEARS, by unanimous roll-call vote, delegated authority to the General Manager and General Counsel to prepare a volunteer service agreement for Richard Bell to attend the UWI Conference.

**** THE BOARD HEARD ITEM NO. 19 OUT OF ORDER**

- 19. Monthly Legislative & Outreach Report.** Hon. John Lewis provided an overview of his written report, including updates relating to the County Board of Supervisors, weather and drought, and State reservoir status, with brief questioning from the Board.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by SEARS, seconded by MURDOCH, by unanimous roll-call vote, received and filed the report.

**** THE BOARD RETURNED TO THE BALANCE OF THE AGENDA**

- 15. Board Meeting Schedule.** The Board discussed potential modifications to the Regular Board Meeting schedule, with discussion on potential alternative dates. After discussion, the Board settled on a recommendation for meetings to be held on the Fourth Thursday of each month.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by NIELSEN, seconded by SEARS, by unanimous roll-call vote, approved modifying the Board schedule for Regular Meetings to be held on the Fourth Thursday of each month, effective the next Board meeting date of February 23, 2023.

16. Committee Assignments. President DAVERT provided an overview of his committee assignments, per authority delegated to the Board President.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by SEARS, seconded by NIELSEN, by unanimous roll-call vote received and filed the Committee Assignments.

17. Headquarters Building Project. General Manager Youngblood introduced the item and turned the presentation over to Engineering Manager Jeff Smyth, who summarized the proposal received relative to the project. Mr. Smyth summarized the proposal received from Snyder Langston, a respected construction firm. Director THOMS inquired as to whether the Board or Committee can be kept apprised of any aesthetic modifications to the proposed building that may occur during design to develop a project within budget.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by MURDOCH, seconded by THOMS, by unanimous roll-call vote approved (1) a \$7.5 million budget for the Project; (2) the form of contract with Snyder Langston, as presented, with authorization to the General Manager to negotiate non-substantial changes and execute contract with the approved Design-Builder with a \$6 million budget.

Miscellaneous Items.

18. Directors' reports on meetings attended at District expense (Government Code Section 53232.3) and Directors' comments. The Directors reported attendance as set forth in the agenda, as follows:

President Davert

12/14 OC LAFCO Commission Meeting
12/15 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Vice President Murdoch

12/8 EOCWD Engineering & Operations Committee
12/15 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting
12/19 ACWA Region 10 Special Board Meeting

Director Sears

12/9 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO) Meeting
12/15 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Director Thoms

12/8 EOCWD Engineering & Operations Committee
12/9 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO) Meeting
12/15 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Director Nielsen

12/15 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

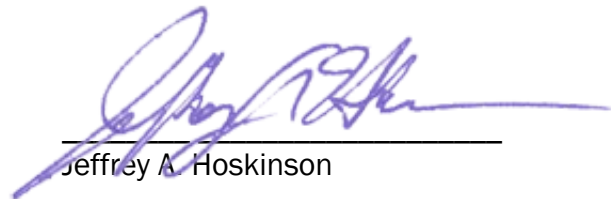


Directors SEARS and THOMS provided updated on the monthly Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (“WACO”) meeting. President DAVERT provided an Orange County Water District (“OCWD”) update, including updates on basin pumping, with substantial price increases pending.

Adjournment.

The Board adjourned the meeting at or around 5:46 p.m. to the next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors on **Thursday, February 23, 2023**, at 5:00 p.m., to be held in the offices of the East Orange County Water District, 185 N. McPherson Road, Orange, California and online pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e).

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey A. Hoskinson