



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

February 23, 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, February 23, 2023, with Director JOHN SEARS 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. Directors NIELSEN, SEARS, and THOMS attended via videoconference.

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
JEFF HOSKINSON	District Secretary and Legal Counsel
JOHN LEWIS	Lewis Consulting
DEVIN SINNER*	Davis Farr LLP
IAN BERG*	Eide Bailly

(*) 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 either an additional 30 days or through the end of the COVID-19 State of Emergency, whichever occurs first, 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 or through the end of the State of Emergency, anticipated to February 28, 2023.

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.

**** THE BOARD HEARD ITEM NO. 17 OUT OF ORDER**

17. Monthly Legislative & Outreach Report. Hon. John Lewis provided an overview of his written report, including updates relating to the County Board of Supervisors, the Colorado River, and weather and drought, with brief questioning from the Board.

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

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

Consent Calendar. The Board, on motion from NIELSEN, seconded by THOMS, approved the Consent Calendar items by unanimous roll-call vote from those members present, as follows:

5. **Minutes:** THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 19, 2023 REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD WERE APPROVED AS SUBMITTED;
6. **Schedules of Disbursements:** THE BOARD APPROVED THE SCHEDULES OF DISBURSEMENTS AS SUBMITTED;
7. **General Manager's Report:** THE BOARD RECEIVED AND FILED THE GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT;
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. **6MG Reservoir Pipeline and Vault Improvements:** THE BOARD APPROVED A PURCHASE ORDER WITH J&R CONCRETE PRODUCTS IN THE AMOUNT OF EIGHTY-ONE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE AND 25/100 (\$81,351.25) FOR A PRECAST METER VAULT AND LID; and

Matters for Consideration.

11. Capital Projects in Progress. General Manager Youngblood and Engineering Manager Jeff Smyth provided an introduction and overview of current projects in progress,



including, but not limited to, the District Office; Crawford Canyon; Capacity, Reliability, and Augmentation (“CRA”) Project No.1; and PFAS Treatment System.

ACTION TAKEN: None taken. Information only.

12. Fiscal Year 2021-22 Annual Audit. General Manager David Youngblood introduced the report, with a brief presentation from Davis Farr LLP.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by SEARS, seconded by NIELSEN, by unanimous roll-call vote, received and filed the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Annual Audit report.

13. Schedule for Potential Water and Sewer Rate Increase Adoption. General Manager Youngblood introduced the item, presenting a general overview of the proposed schedule, with a public hearing to be noticed and held on April 27, 2023, at the Tustin Community Center. The Board made various inquiries and suggestions relative to the notice, location of meeting, and draft Rate Study Report.

ACTION TAKEN: None taken. Information only.

14. Proposition 218 Notice and Protest Procedures. General Manager Youngblood introduced the item, with General Counsel Hoskinson briefly describing the procedures presented. The Board made various inquiries to the General Manager and General Counsel.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by THOMS, seconded by SEARS, by unanimous roll-call vote approved Resolution No. 928, entitled, “Resolution of the Board of Directors of the East Orange County Water District Approving Guidelines for the Submission and Tabulation of Protests in Connection with Rate Hearings Conducted Pursuant to Article XIID, Section 6 of the California Constitution,” as presented, relative to guidelines for the submission and tabulation of protests in connection with Proposition 218 rate hearings.

Miscellaneous Items.

15. Conference and Meeting Requests. General Manager Youngblood discussed the upcoming Association of California Water Agencies (“ACWA”) 2023 Spring Conference to be held on May 9-11, 2023.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by THOMS, seconded by MURDOCH, by unanimous roll-call authorized attendance at the ACWA Spring Conference by all Board members who elect to attend.

16. 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
- 1/11 OC LAFCO Commission Meeting
- 1/19 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting



Vice President Murdoch

- 1/5 ACWA Region 10 Midterm Board Meeting
- 1/18 ACWA Region 10 State Legislative Committee Prep Meeting
- 1/19 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting
- 1/30 ACWA Business Development Subcommittee Meeting

Director Sears

- 1/6 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO) Meeting
- 1/19 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting
- 1/26 ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon
- 1/31 Meet Adan Ortega Reception

Director Thoms

- 1/6 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO) Meeting
- 1/19 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Director Nielsen

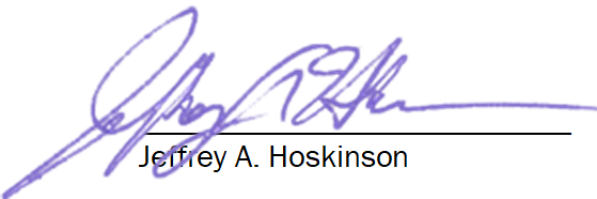
- 1/19 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Directors SEARS provided a summary of the WACO meeting held on February 3, 2023. No other updates were provided.

Adjournment.

The Board adjourned the meeting at or around 5:37 p.m. to the next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors on **Thursday, March 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