

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

May 23, 2024

1. Call to Order. A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the East Orange County Water District held at the District Office, located at 185 N. McPherson Road in the City of Orange, California, was called to order by President DOUGLASS DAVERT at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 23, 2024, with President DAVERT leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Public attendance was permitted in-person only. 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	Administrative Assistant
JEFF HOSKINSON	District Secretary and Legal Counsel
HON. JOHN LEWIS	Lewis Consulting

Other staff and members of the public may have attended in-person that are not listed above.

2. 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.

3. Public Communications to the Board. None received.

Consent Calendar. Director NIELSEN requested that Item No. 5 be pulled from the Consent Calendar. As to the balance of the Consent Calendar, the Board, on motion from MURDOCH seconded by NIELSEN, approved the balance of the Consent Calendar by unanimous vote as follows:

4. Minutes: THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 28, 2024 REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD WERE APPROVED AS SUBMITTED;

6. Wholesale and Retail Water Usage Report: THE BOARD RECEIVED AND FILED THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL WATER USAGE REPORT; and

7. **Schedules of Disbursements:** THE BOARD APPROVED THE SCHEDULE OF DISBURSEMENTS AS SUBMITTED;
8. **Financial Statements:** THE BOARD RECEIVED AND FILED THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS;
9. **OC-43 Vault Repairs & SCE Reimbursement:** THE BOARD RECEIVED THE REPORT FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.

The Board then considered Item No. 5 from the Consent Calendar separately:

5. **General Manager's Report:** Director NIELSEN made an inquiry relative to the cash inflow/outflow for the sewer (ID1) budget, including significant expenditures in the period ending February 29, 2024. General Manager Youngblood addressed the inquiry, referring the final payments for the District Office building.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by NIELSON, seconded by THOMS, by unanimous vote received and filed the General Manager's Report.

Matters for Consideration.

10. **Sharon Lane Lift Station.** General Manager Youngblood introduced the item, discussing the proposal to take over the Sharon Lane Lift Station, which was a private lift station that served sewer pipeline owned by EOCWD both upstream and downstream of the station. EOCWD proposed to take over the lift station in exchange for \$30,000 paid by the homeowners association (HOA) that currently owns the station, to fund approximately half of the upgrades needed to bring the facility up to EOCWD standards. The HOA and relevant property owner would also be granting a needed Bill of Sale and easements for the facility.

It was noted that EOCWD standards are not necessarily reflective of the improvements the HOA would need to make simply to repair the facility, as EOCWD standards would include SCADA-system integration and other elements that the HOA would not necessarily have to do for the facility. It was further noted that if there was a spill at the private lift station, the spill would come from an EOCWD manhole, and thus taking over the facility would reduce a potential liability to EOCWD.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion from THOMS, seconded by MURDOCH, the Board accepted the transfer of the Sharon Lane Lift Station and rehabilitation reimbursement, and approved the execution and acceptance of the Bill of Sale and sewer Easement on Orange County Assessor Parcel No. 503-491-69 from Steven and Katherin Mattessich.

11. **Conference and Meeting Requests.** The Board considered attendance at four identified conferences and meeting, including (1) the CASA Annual Conference on July 31-August 2, 2024; Urban Water Institute Annual Conference on August 21-23, 2024; the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Fall Conference on December 2-4, 2024.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by MURDOCH, seconded by NIELSEN, by unanimous vote authorized the attendance of all Board members the agendized conferences, with direction to coordinate with District staff if they plan to attend.

Miscellaneous Items.

12. 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

- 3/28 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting
- 4/10 MWDOC Annual Elected Officials' Forum

Vice President Murdoch

- 3/21 EOCWD Engineering & Operations Committee
- 3/28 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting
- 4/10 MWDOC Annual Elected Officials' Forum
- 4/29 ACWA Business Development Committee

Director Sears

- 3/1 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO)
- 3/4 Foothill Communities Association Annual Meeting
- 3/8 EOCWD Administration & Finance Committee
- 3/28 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting
- 4/5 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO)
- 4/10 MWDOC Annual Elected Officials' Forum & Dinner
- 4/25 ISDOC Quarterly Meeting

Director Thoms

- 3/1 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO)
- 3/4 Foothill Communities Association Annual Meeting
- 3/21 EOCWD Engineering & Operations Committee Meeting
- 3/28 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting
- 4/5 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO)
- 4/10 MWDOC Annual Elected Officials' Forum & Dinner

Director Nielsen

- 3/8 EOCWD Administration & Finance Committee
- 3/28 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Director SEARS provided an overview of the two attended WACO meetings, with an overview of the Delta Project History discussion and an EPA presentation.

Vice-President MURDOCH complimented staff on the beautiful new facility, and for getting the treatment plant running soon. Vice-President MURDOCH discussed the Elected Officials forum, including proposed Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWDOC) increases. Vice-President MURDOCH also discussed his MET tour of the Orwell and Sites Reservoir Site, the significant Southern California commitments to water storage at Sites, and the high proposed costs of the Delta Project, with the net being high future costs of imported water. Vice-President MURDOCH also discussed the ACWA Conference and Region 10.

President DAVERT briefly commented on MET's need to change its business model, and discussed a tour of the new Orange County Sanitation District building.

13. Monthly Legislative & Outreach Report. President DAVERT referenced the Townsend report in the packet. The Board received an oral report from Honorable John Lewis, with an update from the County budgeting process. Mr. Lewis also discussed El Nino ending, and La Nina projected to begin in August, and provided a LAFCO update as well as an update on other elections.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion duly seconded, by unanimous vote received and filed the reports received.

Adjournment.

The Board adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:31 p.m. to the next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors to be held on **Thursday, June 27, 2024**, at 5:00 p.m., at the District Office located at 185 North McPherson, Orange, California, 92869.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey A. Hoskinson