



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

June 27, 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, June 27, 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
MICAH FROMKIN	Public

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. Mr. Micah Fromkin addressed the Board, indicating that he was currently caught between regulations, between the regional water board requiring him to remove the septic system and trying to connect to the EOCWD sewer. Mr. Fromkin requested that an item be added to the agenda to discuss at a future meeting, indicating that he would send information on his situation to be included. Mr. Fromkin thanked General Manager Youngblood for his discussion of his situation.

Consent Calendar. The Board, on motion from SEARS, seconded by NIELSEN, approved the the Consent Calendar by unanimous vote as follows:

4. Minutes: THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 23, 2024 REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD WERE APPROVED AS SUBMITTED;



5. **General Manager's Report:** THE BOARD RECEIVED AND FILED THE GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT;
6. **Wholesale and Retail Water Usage Report:** THE BOARD RECEIVED AND FILED THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL WATER USAGE REPORT;
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. **Investment Policy Revision:** THE BOARD APPROVED REVISIONS TO THE INVESTMENT POLICY AS PRESENTED;
10. **Annual Water Quality Report:** THE BOARD APPROVED THE ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT;
11. **Surplus Equipment:** THE BOARD APPROVED THE PROPOSED DISPOSITION OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT AS PROPOSED.

**** THE BOARD HEARD ITEM NO. 14 OUT OF ORDER**

14. Monthly Legislative & Outreach Report. Honorable John Lewis of Lewis Consulting briefly addressed the Board, discussing recent Orange County Board of Supervisors meetings, California ocean conditions, EPA warnings relative to Chinese and Russian hackers seeking to sabotage drinking and water systems, and recent events at the Orange County Local Area Formation Commission ("LAFCO") meetings. Mr. Lewis discussed specifically the transformation of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority ("SOCWA") at LAFCO. Mr. Lewis also provided an update on the presidential race.

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

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

Matters for Consideration.

12. Fiscal Year ("FY") 2024-25 Annual Budget. General Manager Youngblood provided a presentation on the budget, with an overview of the wholesale, retail, and sewer systems. General Manager Youngblood discussed a potential sewer to retail zone loan, which will be subject to further discussion in coming months. President DAVERT discussed the rate stabilization reserve. Vice-President MURDOCH appreciated the report, noting that the retail zone had spent a lot of money as was expected. A discussion ensued over Metropolitan Water



District of Southern California (“MET”) costs and PFAS costs. An update on the PFAS well was also provided.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion from MURDOCH, seconded by THOMS, by unanimous vote approved the proposed Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget and adopted Resolution No. 944 determining the appropriations subject to limitation.

Miscellaneous Items.

13. 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

5/23 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Vice President Murdoch

5/7 – 5/9 ACWA Conference in Sacramento

5/14 EOCWD Engineering & Operations Committee

5/23 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Director Sears

5/3 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO)

5/23 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Director Thoms

5/3 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO)

5/14 EOCWD Engineering & Operations Committee Meeting

5/23 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Director Nielsen

5/23 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Director SEARS provided an overview of the June 7, 2024 WACO meeting, which included a presentation on the state of California groundwater from the Department of Water Resources Groundwater Management Office.



Closed Session.

1. *Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation (Govt Code § 54956.9(d)(1))– East Orange County Water District v. Pacific Bell, et. al. (Orange County Superior Ct. Case No. 30-2022-01290371-CU-OR-CJC*

Report Out: General Counsel Jeff Hoskinson reported that the Board met in Closed Session on Item No. 1 as agendized and took no reportable action.

Adjournment.

The Board adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:50 p.m. to the next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors to be held on **Thursday, July 25, 2024**, at 5:00 p.m., at the District Office located at 185 North McPherson, Orange, California, 92869.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey A. Hoskinson