



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

September 26, 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, September 26, 2024, with Director SEARS leading the Pledge of Allegiance. JEFFREY HOSKINSON, Secretary, recorded the minutes of the meeting.

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

Also present were:

DAVID YOUNGBLOOD	General Manager
JEFF SMYTH	Engineering Manager
JERRY MENDZER	Operations Manager
SYLVIA PRADO	Office Manager
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.

Consent Calendar. The Board, on motion duly seconded, approved the Consent Calendar by unanimous vote of all members present, as follows:

- 4. Minutes:** THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 25, 2024 REGULAR MEETING AND SEPTEMBER 6, 2024 SPECIAL 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. **Conflict of Interest Code Adoption:** THE BOARD APPROVED RESOLUTION NO. 947 UPDATING THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY AS PRESENTED;

Matters for Consideration.

10. Monthly Legislative & Outreach Report. Honorable John Lewis of Lewis Consulting briefly addressed the Board, discussing recent Orange County Board of Supervisors meetings and federal, State, and local general election updates.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by SEARS, seconded by NIELSEN, by unanimous vote of those members present received and filed the reports.

11. Urban Water Institute Board Chair's Circle Charter Member. President DAVERT briefly introduced the item, followed by a discussion from the Board relative to the benefits, if any, of the charter membership to the Urban Water Institute (UWI).

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion from SEARS, seconded by NIELSEN, by unanimous vote of those members present approved the renewal of EOCWD's UWI membership as a charter member.

12. SCADA Phase 2 Project Award to WM Lyles. General Manager Youngblood briefly introduced the item, describing the larger project as one consisting of three phases: Phase 1 involved server upgrades, Phase 2 focuses on replacing equipment, and Phase 3 will expand the project to other sites. Phase 1 is complete, and this contract relates to Phase 2, as the District has needed to replace the initial contractor, Tesco, due to issues.

The budget needs to be increased to cover offsets, with proposals received from WM Lyles and Enterprise Automation. The staff recommends awarding the contract to WM Lyles for \$295,000 plus a \$50,000 contingency, coupled with a \$65,000 budget increase. The General Manager will be authorized to administer the contract and emphasized the importance of supporting Jerry Mendzer, who will be supported by the addition of SCADA communication at the Reservoir. Phase 3 is planned for next year's budget.

General Manager Youngblood indicated that the Engineering Committee had reviewed the project and contract.



ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion from MURDOCH, seconded by SEARS, by unanimous vote of those members present approved (1) increasing the SCADA Phase 2 System Improvements Project (“Project”) budget by \$65,000, for a new Project budget of \$950,000; (2) awarding a professional services agreement with W.M. Lyles in the amount of \$295,000; and (3) authorizing and approving the General Manager to exercise at his discretion a \$50,000 contingency for the completion of the Project.

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

7/25 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting
8/13 ACWA Region 9 Event

Vice President Murdoch

7/9 A.C.E. Subcommittee
7/25 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting
8/21-8/23 Urban Water Institute Conference, San Diego

Director Sears

7/7 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO)
7/25 ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon
7/25 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting
8/2 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO)
8/21-/23 Urban Water Institute Conference, San Diego

Director Thoms

7/7 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO)
7/25 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting
8/2 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO)
8/20-8/23 Urban Water Institute Conference, San Diego
8/28 ACWA Water Quality Committee

Director Nielsen

7/25 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting
8/21-8/23 Urban Water Institute Conference, San Diego

Director SEARS provided an overview of the August and September 2024 WACO meetings, which included presentations on the Salton Sea and the Santa Ana Water System.



President DAVERT inquired as to the status of the advanced metering infrastructure (“AMI”) project, to which General Manager Youngblood responded.

Director MURDOCH provided an update on the Association of California Water Agencies (“ACWA”), indicating that he has been asked to fill in as Vice-Chair for Region 10 for the remainder of the term. Director MURDOCH provided a summary of the most recent meetings, including discussions on Proposition 4.

Closed Session

14. Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Govt. Code § 54957)

Title: General Manager

Report Out: The Board met in closed session on Item No. 14, as agendaed, and took no reportable action.

Open Session

15. Consideration of General Manager Contract/Compensation Modifications.

President DAVERT introduced the item, followed by Board discussion.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion duly seconded, by unanimous vote of those members present approved increasing the General Manager’s salary to \$325,000, retroactive to July 1, 2024.

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, October 24, 2024**, at 5:00 p.m., at the District Office located at 185 North McPherson, Orange, California, 92869.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey A. Hoskinson