



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

December 15, 2022

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, December 15, 2022, with Vice-President GEORGE MURDOCH 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
JEFF HOSKINSON*	District Secretary and Legal Counsel
CINDY BYERRUM*	Treasurer/Eide Bailly
JAMES FISLER	Orange County LAFCO Special District Member
JOHN LEWIS	Lewis Consulting
THERESA JUROTICH*	Raftelis
STEVE GAGNON*	Raftelis
MARTIN McINTOSH*	CommunicationsLAB
TIM SHAW	OC Department of Education Board Member

(*) 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.

Administration of Oath of Office. Tim Shaw, Orange County Department of Education Board Member and former Mayor of La Habra, swore-in Vice-President MURDOCH (Division 3) and Directors NIELSEN (Division 4) and THOMS (Division 2), following their appointment in lieu of election by the Orange County Board of Supervisors.

Election of Officers. Following brief discussion, Director MURDOCH nominated Director DAVERT to continue to serve as BOARD PRESIDENT. Director SEARS seconded the nomination. No additional nominations were made. The Board, by unanimous roll-call vote, elected Director DAVERT as President of the Board.



President DAVERT nominated Director MURDOCH to continue to serve as BOARD VICE-PRESIDENT. Director THOMS seconded the nomination. No additional nominations were made. The Board, by unanimous roll-call vote, elected Director MURDOCH as Vice-President of the Board.

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. James Fisler commented to the Board, providing a brief overview relative to the Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission (“LAFCO”) and noted that EOCWD’s next schedule MSR review was scheduled for 2024, though LAFCO was approximately a year behind. Director SEARS and President DAVERT made brief responses.

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

17. Monthly Legislative & Outreach Report. Hon. John Lewis provided an overview of his written report, giving an update relative to LAFCO proceedings related to the Orange County Water District (“OCWD”) and Municipal Water District of Orange County (“MWDOC”), 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 IN ORDER**

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

- 7. Minutes:** THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 17, 2022 REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD WERE APPROVED AS SUBMITTED;
- 8. Schedules of Disbursements:** THE BOARD APPROVED THE SCHEDULES OF DISBURSEMENTS AS SUBMITTED;

9. **General Manager's Report:** THE BOARD RECEIVED AND FILED THE GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT;
10. **Financial Statements:** THE BOARD RECEIVED AND FILED THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS; and
11. **Wholesale and Retail Water Usage Report:** THE BOARD RECEIVED AND FILED THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL WATER USAGE REPORT; and
12. **Account Signature Authorizations:** THE BOARD APPROVED RESOLUTION NO. 926 RELATIVE TO AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES FOR ALL ACCOUNTS AND RESCINDING PRIOR RESOLUTION.

Matters for Consideration.

13. Rate Study Presentation. General Manager Youngblood briefly introduced the item, turning the presentation over to Theresa Jurotich of Raftelis. Mr. Jurotich presented proposed rates for the water, sewer, and wholesale system, and received input and questions from the Board.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by SEARS, seconded by MURDOCH, by unanimous roll-call vote, approved the financial plan as proposed and authorized the preparation of Proposition 218 notices for a future hearing on such rates.

14. OC-43 Construction Contract. General Manager Youngblood introduced the item, relative to the construction project to replace the OC-43 Vault with the City of Tustin.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by NIELSEN, seconded by SEARS, by unanimous roll-call vote, approved the proposed construction contract and contingency budget for the OC-43 Vault Replacement Project.

Miscellaneous Items.

15. Conference and Meeting Requests. The Board conferred relative to the MWDOC Policy Dinner on February 9, 2022.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by MURDOCH, seconded by NIELSEN, by unanimous roll-call, approved the attendance of all members of the Board to attend the MWDOC Policy Dinner.



14. 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

11/09 OC LAFCO Commission Meeting

11/17 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Vice President Murdoch

11/3 ACWA Member Recruitment & Retention Plan Workgroup

11/17 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

11/29 - 12/1 ACWA Fall Conference

11/29 ACWA Membership Committee Meeting at Fall Conference

11/29 ACWA Member Mixer Meeting at Fall Conference

11/30 ACWA Region 110 Membership Meeting at Fall Conference

Director Bell

11/2 MWDOC Workshop Board Meeting

11/14 Urban Water Institute Zoom Meeting - Spring Conference Planning

11/17 EOCWD Engineering & Operations Committee

Director Sears

11/4 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO) Meeting

11/17 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

11/29 - 12/1 ACWA Fall Conference

Director Thoms

11/4 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO) Meeting

11/17 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

11/29 - 12/1 ACWA Fall Conference


Director NIELSEN thanked the District for its help and for welcoming him. Director SEARS provided a brief update on the Water Advisory Committee of Orange County ("WACO") meeting and presentation. Director THOMS also referenced the WACO meeting. General Counsel Hoskinson briefly mentioned changing teleconferencing rules relative to Assembly Bill ("AB" 2449 with the pending end of the State of Emergency on February 28, 2023. President DAVERT briefly requested a future agenda item to discuss Crown Castle site leases.



Adjournment.

The Board adjourned the meeting at or around 6:08 p.m. to the next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors on **Thursday, January 19, 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey A. Hoskinson", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jeffrey A. Hoskinson