

MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
of the
WEST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
March 4, 2021

Attendee Name	Present	Excused	Absent
Board of Directors			
Channing Hawkins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael Taylor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> remote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kyle Crowther	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> remote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clifford Young	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> remote Joined Meeting at 7:08 p.m.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gregory Young	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff			
Shamindra Manbahal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Van Jew	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Naseem Farooqi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Haydee Sainz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Peggy Asche	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda Jadeski	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jon Stephenson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jose Velasquez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Albert Clinger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rosa Gutierrez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal Counsel			
Robert Tafoya	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> remote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

OPENING CEREMONIES

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance - Led by Director Greg Young
Opening Prayer - Led by Pastor Elder Thompson, Sunrise Church
Roll Call of Board Members

ADOPT AGENDA

Director Greg Young motioned to adopt the agenda as presented and Director Dr. Michael Taylor second the motion. Hearing no discussion, the following vote was taken.

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RESULT:	APPROVED [4 TO 0]
MOVER:	Gregory Young, Director
SECONDER:	Michael Taylor, Director
AYES:	Channing Hawkins, Michael Taylor, Kyle Crowther, Gregory Young
AWAY:	Clifford Young

Note: Director Dr. Clifford Young joined the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Naseem Farooqi, Public Affairs Manager, reported that he received an email from Director June Hayes, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District requesting to speak to the Board. Director June Hayes reported that there is a potential bill that is being introduced to the State, AB 377, California Clean Water Act. If approved, it will require all surface waters in California to be fishable, swimmable, and drinkable by Jan. 1, 2050. Director Hayes encourages the Board to review this bill and to oppose it. Mr. Naseem Farooqi read a letter to the Board that was received from Mr. Hardy Brown. There were no other comments via Zoom.

PRESENTATION

- **Mark Norton, P.E., Water Resources & Planning Manager - Cloud Seeding Program.**

Mr. Norton presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding a program that is under study called the Santa Ana River Watershed Weather Modification Program. What this involves is cloud seeding and it is the process of adding a specific chemical agent into an already existing cloud mass that causes the cloud to thicken and/or water vapor to condense and fall as rain or snow. Cloud seeding programs have proven successful in many locations throughout Northern California and neighboring states. There are 150 programs in 40 countries, which are: Ski areas, power utilities, insurance companies, water resource agencies, conservation, irrigation districts, and research institutes. The cost is \$4-40/acre feet, which includes planning. The next step of this program is conducting briefings and educating people on the cloud seeding program. Mr. Norton asked if there were any questions. Director Dr. Michael Taylor inquired if he has examples of other water agencies like ours that he could provide. Mr. Norton stated that this is a watershed approach. Hearing no further comments or questions, this concluded the presentation.

- **Special District Leadership Foundation - Board of Directors and Staff Certifications.**

Mr. Naseem Farooqi, Public Affairs Manager, reported that he would like to congratulate those who completed the four modules with the Special District Leadership Foundation Academy. These modules varied from Human Resources to Finances to helping ensure employees and Board of Directors improve the operations and overall understand the role to making the District successful. The following are who completed these modules and will receive a certificate:

Channing Hawkins, President
 Dr. Michael Taylor, Director
 Shamindra Manbahal, Acting General Mngr.
 Rudy Olguin, Chief Water System Opr.

Albert Clinger, Business Systems Manager
 Rosa Gutierrez, Senior Engineer
 Joe Schaack, Production Supervisor
 Cynthia Birts, Public Affairs Analyst

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Note: there are make-up courses for those who missed and once completed they will receive a certificate as well.

- **Oliver P. Roemer Water Filtration Facility Expansion Update.**

Linda Jadeski, Engineering Services Manager, provided an update on what has transpired since her last report. The District's Consultant and Staff have been working to collect general, technical, environmental, financial information and data for the preparation of a loan package for the SRF Loan Funding. Request for proposals was posted on PlanetBids for experience in progressive design-build project delivery, contract drafting, negotiations, understanding of SRF and WIFIA legal issues, CEQA compliance and provide legal advisory services as it relates to a design-build contract. Three (3) proposals were received and management as well as Consultants will be reviewing these proposals and once completed the Board of Directors will review for their consideration. The Division of Drinking Water (DDW) has been engaged for their approval as well. An Industry announcement was listed on PlanetBids to notify design build firms, consultants, and contractors for the project. A virtual presentation by GHD was provided on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, and there were 92 in attendance virtually. Currently, site visits are scheduled for both entities interested in providing services for the project. This concluded her presentation.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Greg Young motioned to adopt the Consent Calendar moving Item No. 4 for separate discussion and Director Dr. Clifford Young second the motion. Hearing no discussion, the following vote was taken:

RESULT:	ADOPTED [3 TO 2]
MOVER:	Gregory Young, Director
SECONDER:	Clifford Young, Director
AYES:	Kyle Crowther, Clifford Young, Gregory Young
NAYS:	Channing Hawkins, Michael Taylor

1. FEBRUARY 4, 2021 – REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
2. REJECTION OF CLAIM - FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS VS. WEST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT; CLAIM NO. 21-0560.
3. REJECTION OF CLAIM - FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS VS. WEST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT; CLAIM NO. 21-0561.
4. RESOLUTION NO. 2021-4 - CONCURRING IN NOMINATION OF MELODY A. MCDONALD TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF ACWA/JPIA.

Item No. 4 was moved to Business Matters for discussion during the adoption of the Consent Calendar.

5. **APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO LIEBERT CASSIDY WHITMORE, FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED IN JANUARY 2021, INV. NO. 1514873; \$1,880.00.**

BUSINESS MATTERS

4. **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-4 – CONCURRING IN NOMINATION OF MELODY A. MCDONALD TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF ACWA/JPIA.**

Vice President Kyle Crowther motioned to approve Melody A. McDonald to the Executive Committee of ACWA/JPIA and Director Dr. Michael Taylor second the motion. The following vote was taken:

RESULT:	ADOPTED [3 TO 2]
MOVER:	Kyle Crowther, Vice President
SECONDER:	Michael Taylor, Director
AYES:	Kyle Crowther, Michael Taylor, Channing Hawkins
NAYS:	Gregory Young, Clifford Young

6. **REVIEW OF SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY AND UTILIZATION OF DISTRICT RESOURCES BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**

The Board of Directors discussed and reviewed the Social Media Policy amongst themselves. After discussion, per the Board of Directors interpretation, this item was for discussion only, therefore, no action was taken.

REPORTS - LIMITED TO 5 MINUTES MAXIMUM (Presentations or handouts must be provided to Board Members in advance of the Board Meeting).

1. **Board Members - None**

2. **Interim General Manager**

- Shamindra Manbahal congratulated all Engineers at the District stating that last week was Engineers' week. Thanked them for a job well done. Also, had a meeting with the Operations staff to discuss enhancing the District's infrastructure and staff's ability to perform to ensure that the District is in a better position for providing for our ratepayers.

Mr. Naseem Farooqi reported on the District hosting its first State of the District and stated that it was very efficient providing a video that highlighted the operations at the District over the past year. Also, on March 1st the District hosted the IEWORKS Virtual Summit and there were over 600 participants invited to participate. This event is dedicated to strengthening the water/wastewater workforce in the Inland Empire.

3. **Legal Counsel**

- Mr. Robert Tafoya reported out of Closed Session that the Board of Directors voted unanimously 5 to 0 to appoint Shamindra Manbahal as Interim General Manager. The following vote was taken:

Channing Hawkins -Yes
Kyle Crowther – Yes
Dr. Clifford Young – Yes
Greg Young – Yes
Dr. Michael Taylor – Yes

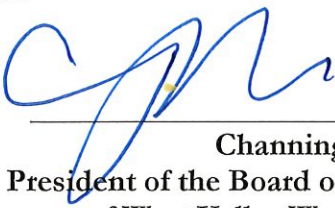
No other final actions were taken.

CLOSED SESSION

- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION – Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: Number of Cases: Four (4).
- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT - Pursuant to Government code Section 54957, Title(s): Interim General Manager.
- CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (54957.6) DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS; Shamindra Manbahal, Robert Tafoya, Union Negotiators; re: International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 12.
- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION - Naisha Davis v. West Valley Water District et al. Case No. 20TCV0323.

ADJOURN

Hearing no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.



Channing Hawkins
President of the Board of Directors
of West Valley Water District

ATTEST:



Peggy Asche, Board Secretary

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