MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TWENTYNINE PALMS WATER DISTRICT 72401 HATCH ROAD, TWENTYNINE PALMS, CA 92277

March 27, 2019 / 6:00 P.M.

Call to Order and Roll Call

President Giannini called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., 72401 Hatch Road, Twentynine Palms, California. Those responding to roll call were Directors Bob Coghill, Carol Giannini, Suzi Horn, and Randy Leazer. Also present were General Manager Ray Kolisz, Maintenance Superintendent Matt Shragge, Financial Consultant Cindy Byerrum, and District Secretary Cindy Fowlkes. Treatment/Production Superintendent Mike Minatrea was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Director Giannini led the pledge.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

None

Public Comments

Mr. Jeffrey Johnson, of Twentynine Palms, spoke against a joint use wastewater facility, as recommended in the 2014 Salt Nutrient Plan in the Wastewater Management Plan.

Mr. Ed Vallerand, of Twentynine Palms, spoke in favor of placing AMI/AMR meters in remote unincorporated areas first. He would also like the Board to consider selling old water meters to ratepayers.

Consideration of Resolution 19-05 Intention to Continue Currently Existing Water Availability
 <u>Assessments of the Twentynine Palms Water District in the Upcoming Fiscal Year</u>
 2019/2020

Staff recommends approving Resolution 19-05. The assessments are used to pay for capital improvement projects, operational expenses, and costs associated with maintenance of the system and facilities.

Director Coghill made a motion to adopt Resolution 19-05 intention to continue currently existing water availability assessments for the fiscal year 2019/2020, seconded by Director Horn, and approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes:

Directors Coghill, Horn, Leazer, and Giannini

Noes:

None None

Abstain: Absent:

None

2. <u>Consideration of Platinum Consulting Agreement</u> Staff recommends accepting the proposal.

Director Horn made a motion to accept the proposal from Platinum Consulting Group and authorize the General Manager to execute a professional service agreement, seconded by Director Leazer, and approved unanimously.

3. <u>Discussion of Current Board Meeting Time and Consideration to Modify</u>
The Board was in agreement to change the meeting time to 4:00 pm. A resolution will be brought back to the Board next month.

4. Appoint Applicant for Vacant Board Seat

- 1.1 Neal Stephenson
- 1.2 Angela Wolkow

Ed Vallerand, of Twentynine Palms, spoke in favor of appointing someone with a financial background versus someone with a fire background, since there are seated board members with fire experience.

Director Coghill made a motion to appoint Neal Stephenson, seconded by Director Leazer, and approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes:

Directors Coghill, Leazer, and Giannini

Noes:

Director Horn

Abstain:

None

Absent:

None

5. Consent Calendar

- Minutes of a Regular Meeting held on February 27, 2019 and Special Meeting held on March 12, 2019
- Audit List

Director Coghill, moved to approve the Minutes and Audit List, seconded by Director Horn, and approved unanimously.

6. <u>Items Removed from the Consent Calendar for Discussion or Separate Action</u> None

7. Management Reports

7.1 Maintenance

Matt Shragge reported that the District responded to 21 Underground Service Alerts, had 0 water main leaks, 3 water meter leaks, 0 service line leaks, 2 fire hydrant repairs, performed 4 customer pressure checks, replaced 11 meters, replaced 8 customer gate valves, and installed 2 new services. 0 water waste inquiries were received. 432 work orders were generated and performed during the month. The District received reimbursement for the hydrant at Adobe and Buena Vista. The District purchased an extended warranty for the new dump truck. Ray was wished a happy birthday.

7.2 Water Quality

Ray Kolisz reported Water production was down 27.94% as compared to the same month in 2013. 38 routine and 8 special water samples were taken. All samples tested negative for Colilert. The Treatment Plant has been online for 16 years this month. The plant runs very efficiently with low water loss.

7.3 Finance

Ms. Byerrum reported that the District's expenses are at 58%. The District was reimbursed by insurance companies and the sale of recycles have kept the District ahead.

7.4 General Manager

Mr. Kolisz informed the Board that the District closed on the AMI/AMR loan this past Monday. Director Coghill and Ray traveled to Sacramento for three days last week and met with 11 assembly members and senators to discuss the proposed water tax. They stressed the point that all agencies serving disadvantage communities are not failing but may find themselves in that predicament as additional fees are being

mandated. Senator Caballero is proposing taking money and setting it aside in a trust fund to help fund disadvantage communities. A new bill is being proposed to tack on an additional fee to mandatory permits to help fund the water initiative. A logo presentation will be brought to the Board next month for consideration.

- 8. <u>Future Agenda Items and Staff Tasks/Directors' Comments and Reports</u> None
- 9. Adjournment

On motion by Director Horn, seconded by Director Coghill, and approved by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at: 7:08 p.m.

Carol Giannini, President Board of Directors

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Attest:

Ray Kolisz Board Secretary
Twentynine Palms Water District