

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

December 16, 2020 / 4:00 P.M.

In accordance with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, in an effort to protect the public health and prevent the spread of COVID-19, there was no public location for attending the meeting. The meeting was held telephonically with members of the Board present and the public calling in.

Call to Order and Roll Call

President Giannini called the Board meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. Those responding to roll call were Directors Michael Arthur, Bob Coghill, Suzi Horn, Carol Giannini, and Randy Leazer. Also present were General Manager Ray Kolisz, Maintenance Superintendent Matt Shragge, Financial Consultant Cindy Byerrum, and District Secretary Cindy Fowlkes. Treatment and Production Superintendent Mike Minatrea was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Director Leazer led the pledge.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

None

Public Comments

Jeff Johnson, of Twentynine Palms, spoke in favor of the rate increase and voiced concerns about the Salt Nutrient management plan, should the base put in a sewer system.

1. Election of Officers

Director Coghill nominated Director Giannini to serve as President, seconded by Director Horn, and unanimously approved.

Director Giannini nominated Director Horn to serve as Vice-President, seconded by Director Leazer, and unanimously approved.

The General Manager, Ray Kolisz, will serve as the Board Secretary, which is common practice with most Districts.

2. Review of Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2019/2020 by Eadie and Payne

Brandon Ferrell and Eden Casareno with Eadie and Payne presented the audit via teleconference. The District had no deficiencies with internal control, and the financial statements presented fairly in accordance to GAAP. The financial statements were presented as a comparison with last year's audit. Due to COVID-19 and the uncertainty of delinquent accounts, a mid-year review was recommended.

Director Coghill made a motion to receive and file the 2019/2020 audited financial statements, seconded by Director Horn, and unanimously approved.

3. Review and Consideration of Resolution 20-06 Opt-Out Policy for the District's Advanced Meter (AMI)

Staff recommends adopting Resolution 20-06 establishing an opt-out policy for AMI meters for resident owners of single family residential houses, with associated fess becoming effective after approval at a noticed public hearing.

Director Arthur made a motion to adopt Resolution 20-06 AMI Opt-Out policy, seconded by Director Leazer, and approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Directors Arthur, Coghill, Horn, Leazer, and Giannini
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

4. Consideration to Adopt Ordinance 99 Authorizing the Board of Directors to Adopt Fees and Charges by Resolution or Ordinance and Taking Certain other Actions Relating Thereto
Staff recommends adopting Ordinance 99 allowing the Board to adopt fees and charges by ordinance or resolution.

Director Horn made a motion to adopt Ordinance 99 allowing the Board flexibility in adopting fees and charges either by ordinance or resolution, seconded by Director Leazer, and approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Directors Arthur, Coghill, Horn, Leazer, and Giannini
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

5. Consideration to Approve Funding to the City of Twentynine Palms for the Construction of Monitoring Wells and to Draft an Agreement to Assist the City with Sampling
Staff recommends the Board authorize the General Manager to contribute \$30,000 to the City of Twentynine Palms for the construction of monitoring wells and develop an agreement to provide labor to collect samples. Data collected from the monitoring wells can be used to meet Salt Nutrient Management Plan requirements, as part of the Waste Water Master Plan, imposed by the Colorado River Regional Water Quality Control Board. The data will help the District in assessing the impact septic systems have on groundwater in high density areas such as Project Phoenix. City Manager, Frank Luckino was on the phone to answer questions.

Director Horn made a motion to approve \$30,000 in funds to the City of Twentynine Palms for monitoring wells and enter an agreement for sampling labor costs, seconded by Director Coghill, and approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Directors Arthur, Coghill, Horn, Leazer, and Giannini
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

6. Review Bid for Well TP-2
The District received one bid for the equipping of Well TP-2 in the amount of \$1,318,375.42, exceeding the Engineer's Estimate of \$700.00. Due to discrepancies with the electrical portion, the District recommends that the lone bid be rejected and the project go back out for bid.

Director Leazer made a motion to reject the bid and advertised again for Well TP-2, seconded by Director Arthur, and unanimously approved.

7. Consent Calendar
- Minutes of a Regular Meeting held on November 18, 2020
 - Audit List

Director Arthur, moved to approve the Minutes and Audit List, seconded by Director Leazer, and unanimously approved.

8. Items Removed from the Consent Calendar for Discussion or Separate Action
None

9. Management Reports

9.1 Maintenance

Matt Shragge reported that the District responded to 86 Underground Service Alerts, had 0 water main leaks, 0 water meter leaks, 1 service line leak, 0 fire hydrant repairs/maintenance, installed 12 new services, replaced 2 customer gate valves, performed 2 leak audits, painted 87 fire hydrants, performed 3 customer pressure checks, replaced 0 meters Tested and exercised emergency generators and sounded wells for November. 1 water waste inquiry was received. 355 work orders were generated and performed during the month. There were no shut offs due to COVID-19. 0 AMI/AMR meters were installed.

9.2 Water Quality

Mike Minatrea was absent.

9.3 Finance

Ms. Byerrum reported expenses are on target and revenues are up, as expected this time of year.

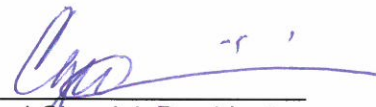
9.4 General Manager

Mr. Kolisz reported. Prop 218 notices were mailed out. The public hearing will be held on January 27th. Protests must be in writing. District staff is on a split schedule as some employees have been exposed to COVID-19. Ray wished the Board a Merry Christmas.

7. Future Agenda Items and Staff Tasks/Directors' Comments and Reports
None


8. Adjournment

On motion by Director Horn, seconded by Director Arthur, and approved by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at: 4:45 p.m.



Carol Giannini, President
Board of Directors

Attest:



Ray Kolisz, Board Secretary
Twentynine Palms Water District