

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

April 28, 2021 / 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, this meeting was open to the public with limited seating due to social distancing restrictions in an effort to protect public health and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Call to Order and Roll Call

President Giannini called the Board meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Those responding to roll call were Directors Bob Coghill, Carol Giannini, and Randy Leazer. Director Suzi Horn was absent. Director Michael Arthur was late. Also present were Treatment/Production Superintendent Mike Minatrea, Maintenance Superintendent Matt Shragge, Financial Consultant Cindy Byerrum, and District Secretary Cindy Fowlkes. General Manager Ray Kolisz was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Director Leazer led the pledge.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

None

Public Comments

Steven Reyes, of Twentynine Palms, spoke to the increase in illegal pot farms in the area and his concern over the copious amounts of water used for irrigation purposes.

Lake Hoffman, of Twentynine Palms, spoke in opposition to his cost notification for new Service(s).

1. Review and Consideration to Approve Proposal from Kennedy Jenks for Professional Services

Kennedy Jenks submitted construction specifications for the recoating of the reservoir at the Fluoride Treatment Plant. Director Giannini advised the Board that Director Horn was in favor of approving the proposal.

Director Leazer moved to adopt Kennedy Jenks proposal for treated water reservoir improvements in the amount of \$47,920, seconded by Director Coghill, and approved unanimously by all present. Directors Arthur and Horn were absent.

2. Presentation of Draft Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Annual Budget

The Board was presented with a draft budget for review. The following expenditures and capital improvement projects were noted:

- There is a 10% rate increase included in this budget which is offset by a projected 10% decrease in consumption
- Interest rates are plummeting with the LAIF account
- Revenues are projected to decrease by 4%
- Expenses are projected to increase 3% due to inflation
- Treatment expenses are expected to go up \$130,000 due to a scheduled media purchase
- OPEB expenses are projected to be \$202,000
- Total salaries and benefits is expected to increase 8% in part to retirements, the transition for training purposes, and the addition of a customer service representative position.
- Workers compensation is expected to increase
- CIP improvements will draw down \$1.7 million with projects such as Well TP-2 and hazard mitigation
- The District is looking to procure more land around Campbell Reservoir
- A shade structure is also included in the budget to protect equipment

A finalized budget will be presented for adoption at the May Board meeting.

3. Consent Calendar

- Minutes of a Regular Meeting held on March 24, 2021
- Audit List

Director Arthur, moved to approve the Minutes and Audit List, seconded by Director Leazer, and unanimously approved by all present. Director Horn was absent.

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

5. Management Reports

5.1 Maintenance

Matt Shragge reported that the District responded to 133 Underground Service Alerts, had 1 water main leak, 0 water meter leaks, 0 service line leaks, 3 fire hydrant repairs/maintenance, installed 37 new services, replaced 3 customer gate valves, performed 4 leak audits, painted 62 fire hydrants, performed 7 customer pressure checks, replaced 4 meters, Tested and exercised emergency generators and sounded wells for March. 0 water waste inquiries were received. 390 work orders were generated and performed during the month. There were no shut offs due to COVID-19. 0 AMI/AMR meters were installed. Employee Austin Murphy was acknowledged by a ratepayer for his politeness and kindness.

5.2 Water Quality

Matt Shragge reported Water production was down 9.4% as compared to the same month in 2013. 48 routine and 13 special water samples were

taken. All samples tested negative for Colilert. The fluoride variance of 3.0 mg/L will expire in 2023. All current wells meet the 2.0 mg/L standard variance set by the State Water Resource Control Board.

5.3 Finance

Ms. Byerrum reported the District expenses are at 65% with an 83% revenue increase due to insurance re-imbursements, scrap metal sales, and new meter installations.

5.4 General Manager

Mr. Kolisz was absent.

6. Future Agenda Items and Staff Tasks/Directors' Comments and Reports

Director Leazer would like staff to look into any discrepancies in water usage as it pertains to the illegal pot farms.

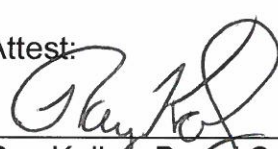
7. Adjournment

On motion by Director Arthur, seconded by Director Coghill, and approved by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at: 4:43 p.m.



Carol Giannini, President
Board of Directors

Attest:



Ray Kolisz, Board Secretary
Twentynine Palms Water District