

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

November 15, 2023 / 4:00 P.M.

Call to Order and Roll Call

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Karalee Hargrove led the pledge.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

None

Public Comments

None

1. Consent Calendar

- Minutes of a Regular Meeting held on October 25, 2023
- Audit List

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

2. Items Removed from the Consent Calendar for Discussion or Separate Action

None

3. Management Reports

3.1 Maintenance

Mike Minatrea reported that the District responded to 107 Underground Service Alerts, had 0 water main leaks, 0 water meter leaks, 1 service line leak, 0 fire hydrant repairs/maintenance, installed 2 new services, replaced 5 customer gate valves, performed 5 leak audits, painted 0 fire hydrants, performed 4 customer pressure checks, replaced 2 water meters, Tested and exercised emergency generators and sounded wells for October. 0 water waste inquiries were received. 0 AMI/AMR meters were replaced. There was a total of 775 work orders that were processed during the month.

3.2 Water Quality

Robert reported water production was down 5.71% as compared to the same month in 2013. 50 routine and 11 special water samples were taken. All special samples tested negative for Colilert. All current wells meet the 2.0 mg/L standard fluoride variance set by the State Water Resource Control Board. All samples tested were below the variance.

3.3 Finance

Cindy Byerrum reported on the first quarter of the year's financials. Water sales are at 31% for the first quarter, up compared to most Districts. This could be due in part to evaporative coolers. PARS Trusts are producing unsteady returns. Therefore money was invested in a CLASS account with returns at a steady 5.6%.

3.4 General Manager

Matt took Director Woods on a District tour. He attended a meeting at the Elk's Lodge for a proposed new development. Larry Bowden was recognized as the interim City Manager. Matt took Larry on a tour of the District. The update to the District's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) will begin in December. Customers were reminded that the District will be closed on November 23rd and 24th for the Thanksgiving holiday.

4. Conference with Legal Counsel-Existing Litigation (Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)

Name of case: In re: Aqueous Film-Forming Foams Products Liability Litigation, Case No. 2:18-mn-2873-RMG

Director Woods moved to enter closed session at 4:13 p.m. for Agenda items #4 and #5, seconded by Director Leazer, and unanimously approved by all those present. Director Arthur was absent.

5. Closed Session – Conference with Labor Negotiations Pursuant to Government Code Section §54957.6

Agency Negotiators: Board President

Unrepresented Employee: General Manager

The Board returned to open session at 5:01 p.m. Vice President Coghill announced the District will be opting out of the PFAS class action lawsuit with 3M and DuPont. The General Manager will have the authority to sign all legal documents regarding this action.

Vice President Coghill announced reportable action on Agenda item #5. 1) The term was extended to April 5, 2027. 2) Salary was adjusted to \$181,627.15, which is a 7% increase in annual salary. 3) Agreement to extend the contract one year for each year there is a satisfactory evaluation (Evergreen Clause).

Director Leazer made a motion to approve Amendment #1 to the General Manager contract, seconded by Director Giannini, and approved by the following roll call vote:

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

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

Director Woods commented that she enjoyed the tour and was impressed by the District.

Director Leazer thanked staff for his birthday card.

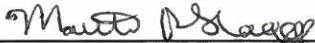
7. Adjournment

On motion by Director Woods, seconded by Director Leazer, and approved by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at: 5:05 p.m.



Carol Giannini, President
Board of Directors

Attest:



Matthew Shragge, Board Secretary
Twentynine Palms Water District