

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT, AUGUST 26, 2024:

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District was held Monday, August 26, 2024, at 2029 East Avenue Q, Palmdale, California, in the Board Room of the District Office. President, Kathy Mac Laren-Gomez, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1) Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence.

At the request of President Mac Laren-Gomez, Director Dino led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence in honor of our troops.

2) Roll Call.

Attendance:

Kathy Mac Laren-Gomez, President
Scott Kellerman, Vice President
Don Wilson, Treasurer
Vincent Dino, Secretary
Cynthia Sanchez, Assistant Secretary

Others Present:

Dennis LaMoreaux, General Manager
Pam Lee, General Counsel
Scott Rogers, Acting Assistant General Manager
Dennis Hoffmeyer, Finance Manager
Judy Shay, Public Affairs Director
Angelica Garcia, Human Resources Director
Danielle Henry, Executive Assistant
1 member of the public

3) Adoption of Agenda.

It was moved by Director Dino, seconded by Director Wilson, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting to adopt the agenda, as written.

4) Public Comments for Non-Agenda Items.

There were no public comments.

5) Presentations:

5.1) None at This Time.

There were no presentations.

6) Action Items – Consent Calendar: (The Public Shall Have an Opportunity to Comment on Any Action Item on the Consent Calendar as the Consent Calendar is Considered Collectively by the Board of Directors Prior to Action Being Taken.)

6.1) Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting held August 12, 2024.

6.2) Payment of Bills for August 26, 2024.

6.3) Approval of Site Host Agreement with EV Charging Solutions, Inc. (No Budget Impact – Facilities Manager Wall)

6.4) Approval of Consulting Services Agreement with TerraVerde Energy, LLC for Services regarding the Management of the Tesla Battery Systems. (\$7,080.00 – Budgeted – Facilities Manager Wall)

6.5) Approval of Resolution No. 24-9 being a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District Approving the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association USGS Program Restricted Budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025. (\$4,962.00 – Budgeted – Finance Manager/AVSWCA Controller Hoffmeyer)

6.6) Approval of Reclassification of the Plant Operator III Position to Operations Supervisor. (No Budget Impact – Human Resources Director Garcia/Personnel Committee)

President Mac Laren-Gomez announced the items included in the Consent Calendar after which it was moved by Director Kellerman, seconded by Director Sanchez, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting to approve those items included in the Consent Calendar.

Resolution No. 24-9 is hereby made a portion of the minutes of this meeting.

7) Action Items - Action Calendar (The Public Shall Have an Opportunity to Comment on Any Action Item as Each Item is Considered by the Board of Directors Prior to Action Being Taken.)

7.1) Consideration and Possible Action on Approval of Amendment No. 1 to Professional Services Agreement with SoCal SCADA for the SCADA Master Planning Project. (\$93,196.00 – Not-to-Exceed – Non-Budgeted – Project No. 24-616 – Acting Assistant General Manager Rogers)

Acting Assistant General Manager Rogers provided an overview of the proposed Amendment for the upgrade of the District's radio communication and network

system, and after a brief discussion of the existing radio communication system and the proposed upgrades, it was moved by Director Kellerman, seconded by Director Sanchez, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting to approve Amendment No. 1 to Professional Services Agreement with SoCal SCADA for the SCADA Master Planning Project in the not-to-exceed amount of \$93,196.00.

7.2) Consideration and Possible Action on Approval of New Method to Calculate the District's Coverage of Benefit Premiums. (No Budget Impact – Human Resources Director Garcia/Personnel Committee)

Human Resources Director Garcia reviewed in detail the District's current policy for calculating the coverage of benefit premiums and staff's recommendation to implement a new standardized method of calculating coverage based on the addition of the blended average of the non-high deductible medical plan premium increases to the prior year's coverage up to 10%, excluding any decreases, and full coverage of dental and vision at the lowest family tier plan, and after a brief discussion of benefit and salary comparisons with similar agencies, it was moved by Director Sanchez, seconded by Director Kellerman, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting to approve this new method to calculate the District's coverage of benefit premiums.

7.3) Consideration and Possible Action on Authorization of the Following Conferences, Seminars, and Training Sessions for Board and Staff Attendance Within Budget Amounts Previously Approved in the 2024 Budget:

a) Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM) Annual Conference & Expo to be held June 29 – July 2, 2025 in San Diego, CA.

General Manager LaMoreaux provided a brief overview of the early registration cost savings for this conference after which it was moved by Director Dino, seconded by Director Wilson, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting to approve the following conferences, seminars, and training sessions for Board and staff attendance within budget amounts previously approved in the 2024 Budget: Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM) Annual Conference & Expo to be held June 29 – July 2, 2025 in San Diego, CA.

8) Information Items:

8.1) Reports of Directors:

a) Standing Committees; Organization Appointments; Agency Liaisons:

**1) Antelope Valley East Kern Water Agency (AVEK) – August 13.
(Director Dino, Board Liaison/President Mac Laren-Gomez, Alt.)**

Director Dino reported that on August 13, he attended the AVEK Board Meeting where they approved a purchase order with International Water Screens to repair the east moss screen at the Quartz Hill Water Treatment Plant.

**2) Special Districts Association of North Los Angeles County
(SDANLAC) Board Meeting – August 14. (Director Dino, CSDA Chapter President)**

Director Dino reported that on August 14, he attended the SDANLAC Board Meeting and that a written report has been distributed.

**3) Palmdale Fin & Feather Club Meeting – August 17. (Director
Wilson/Director Kellerman, Alt.)**

Director Kellerman reported that on August 17, he attended the Palmdale Fin & Feather Club Meeting where they discussed formalizing memberships for District employees, fish counts, and the total number of Fin & Feather memberships being 1,753.

**4) Finance Committee Meeting – August 20. (Director Wilson,
Chair/Director Kellerman/Director Sanchez, Alt.)**

Director Wilson reported that on August 20, he attended the Finance Committee Meeting and that a written report has been distributed.

b) General Meetings Reports of Directors.

Director Kellerman reported that on August 17, he attended the Palmdale Fin & Feather Club Meeting; that on August 20, he attended the Finance Committee Meeting; that on August 22, he attended a Board Briefing; and that on August 25, he attended the Palmdale Fin & Feather Club Annual BBQ.

Director Wilson reported that on August 20, he attended the Finance Committee Meeting and that on August 22, he attended a Board Briefing.

Director Sanchez reported that on August 22, she attended a Board Briefing; that on August 25, she attended the Palmdale Fin & Feather Club Annual BBQ; and that on August 26, she is attending the Palmdale Water District Regular Board Meeting.

Director Mac Laren-Gomez reported that on August 15, she attended and Agenda Review Briefing; that on August 22, she attended a Board Briefing; that on August 24, she attended a public safety town hall with Assemblyman Lackey where they discussed local theft; and that on August 26, she attended a Public Water Suppliers Meeting where they discussed the next Watermaster Meeting agenda.

Director Dino reported that on August 13, he attended the AVEK Board Meeting; that on August 14, he attended the SDANLAC Board Meeting; that on August 19, he completed a CSDA Webinar regarding Prevailing Wage; that on August 21, he completed a CSDA Webinar regarding Rate Assistance; that on August 22, he attended a Board Briefing; and that on August 26, he is attending the Palmdale Water District Regular Board Meeting.

8.2) Report of General Manager.

a) Department Activity Updates:

1) Engineering Department. (Acting Assistant General Manager Rogers)

Acting Assistant General Manager Rogers provided a detailed update of the Engineering Department's current and projected activities including capital projects, development projects, and staffing and then stated that the District will hold a Palmdale Ditch Conversion Project Introduction in mid-September for interested contractors followed by a brief discussion of grant applications and the competitive market for engineering positions.

b) August 2024 Written Report of Activities through July 2024.

General Manager LaMoreaux stated that a written report was provided with the agenda packet and highlighted the return of pre-drought water use behaviors by customers followed by a brief overview of the Antelope Valley Watermaster Advisory Committee report and the Watermaster Board agenda.

He then stated that the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association (AVSWCA) will hold a Special Board Meeting on August 28 to discuss grant opportunities to help fund culvert projects for recharge in cooperation with Los Angeles County Waterworks; that the Palmdale Fin & Feather Club Board approved Club memberships for District employees with a minimum of one year employment and that this will be presented to the Board for consideration as an amendment to their lease; that the District-sponsored Palmdale State of the City will be held on August 27 at the Palmdale Playhouse; and that on August 24, AVEK held a celebration of life in honor Alisha Semchuck where the City of Palmdale and Assemblymember Carrillo presented proclamations in her memory and requested that the District and AVEK display the certificates on an rotating basis.

8.3) Report of General Counsel.

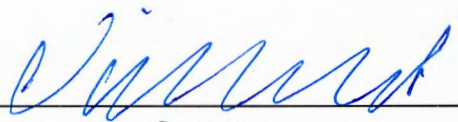
General Counsel Lee provided brief legislative updates on SB 2631 regarding funding to upgrade the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) website and resources to continue free Ethics training and on AB 2182 regarding proposed updates to Prevailing Wage laws allowing more access to job sites, semi-annual updates, and the ability to challenge decisions on prevailing wage rate updates.

9) Board Members' Requests for Future Agenda Items.

There were no requests for future agenda items.

10) Adjournment.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.



Secretary