

Minutes

Sacramento Suburban Water District

Finance and Audit Committee

Monday, August 10, 2020

Location:

Video and Audio Conference Only at 1-669-900-6833, or Zoom at Meeting Id #816 5474 4319

Call to Order – Videoconference/Audioconference Meeting

Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Directors Present: Kevin Thomas and Robert Wichert.

Directors Absent: None.

Staff Present: General Manager Dan York, Director of Finance and Administration Jeff Ott, Assistant General Manager Mike Huot, Lynn Pham, and Heather Hernandez-Fort.

Public Present: Craig Locke.

Announcements

General Manager Dan York (GM York) announced that Director Locke was present at the meeting, but that he was not permitted to comment, as he was not a committee member.

Public Comment

None.

Consent Items

1. Minutes of the June 30, 2020, Finance and Audit Committee Meeting

Director Wichert moved to approve the minutes of the June 30, 2020, Finance and Audit Committee meeting, Chair Thomas seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

AYES:	Thomas and Wichert.	ABSTAINED:	
NOES:		RECUSED:	
ABSENT:			

Items for Discussion and/or Action

2. New Auditing Firm

Jeff Ott (Mr. Ott) presented the staff report.

The committee requested a copy of the evaluation ranking spreadsheet be sent to them.

Mr. Ott answered several clarifying questions on the evaluation ranking spreadsheet.

Director Wichert noted he was happy with any of the top three ranked firms, and that he was additionally ok continuing to use Richardson & Company. with a new lead person.

Chair Thomas commented that although he was very happy with Richardson & Company, he thought it might be good to get a new set of eyes for next year's audit.

The committee agreed to recommend Maze & Associates to the full Board with a recommendation to approve them as the audit firm for 2020.

3. 2021 Budget Assumptions

Mr. Ott presented the staff report.

Director Wichert requested to update the budgeted cost for the City of Sacramento water (item 4b) to the expected rate and change Footnote (B) of the Key Assumptions to reflect the actual contract amount.

GM York expressed he would contact the City of Sacramento to try to solidify the rate for 2021.

Discussion ensued regarding the price and amount of water.

Director Wichert inquired why the COLA was only projected to be 0.8%.

Mr. Ott expressed that 0.8% was what the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics reported as the 12 month figure for June 2020 for the West – Size Class B/C category.

Director Wichert inquired why the merit increase was estimated at 5%.

GM York explained that the Employee Benefits Ad Hoc Committee recommended to review the rate further, and staff proposed to use what staff research indicated to be a public works standard, which is 5%. He explained that the Employee Benefits Ad Hoc Committee was reviewing the item at their next meeting.

The Committee recommended to provide the staff recommendations to the full Board at the next regular Board meeting with support to approve what is recommended. Director Wichert just noted to modify the City of Sacramento Footnote section as discussed.

Adjournment

Chair Thomas adjourned the meeting at 5:36 p.m.

Dan York
General Manager/Secretary
Sacramento Suburban Water District