

Minutes

Sacramento Suburban Water District Regular Board Meeting Monday, December 21, 2020

Location:

Video and Audio Conference Only at 1-669-900-6833, or Zoom at Meeting Id #825 8466 5644

Call to Order – Videoconference/Audioconference Meeting

President Thomas called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Election of District Officers

1. Election of District Officers

Director Thomas nominated Director Wichert for president; Director McPherson seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

AYES:	Jones, Locke, McPherson, Thomas, and Wichert.	ABSTAINED:	
NOES:		RECUSED:	
ABSENT:			

President Wichert nominated Director Locke for Vice President; Director Jones seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

AYES:	Jones, Locke, McPherson, Thomas, and Wichert.	ABSTAINED:	
NOES:		RECUSED:	
ABSENT:			

Pledge of Allegiance

President Wichert led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Directors Present: Dave Jones, Craig Locke, Kathleen McPherson, Kevin Thomas, and Robert Wichert.

Directors Absent: None.

Staff Present: General Manager Dan York, Assistant General Manager Mike Huot, Heather Hernandez-Fort, Jeff Ott, Dana Dean, Matt Underwood, Julie Nemitz, and Todd Artrip.

Public Present: William Eubanks, Paul Helliker, Matt Edling, Tim Sloane, and Josh Horowitz.

Public Comment

William Eubanks (Mr. Eubanks) expressed that he believed the COVID situation has made it more difficult for the general public to attend District meetings.

President Wichert requested feedback from the Board on how to solicit public participation in the Zoom meeting environment.

Director McPherson recommended staff include messages in the bills that encouraged members of the public to join District meetings and possibly list some of the topics as well.

Director Thomas inquired about holding in person meetings again in the future.

General Manager Dan York (GM York) noted that staff has already put safety measures in place to hold in person meetings, however, due to the increased cases of COVID, in person meetings were not an option at this time.

Director Jones recommended to include quarterly messaging in the customer bills.

Director McPherson noted that she was interested in including a message in every bill, and/or any additional messaging to get the public interested in attending meetings.

President Wichert suggested staff contact El Camino High School, as they used to encourage their students to attend meetings, to solicit student participation again. He additionally requested to highlight the District meetings in the bill inserts as well.

GM York expressed he would work with the Community Outreach Committee to implement messaging going forward which would include Zoom information, including phone numbers.

Mr. Eubanks suggested to emphasize that members of the public can dial in by phone to participate in the meetings as well.

Paul Helliker (Mr. Helliker) noted that San Juan Water District (SJWD) has actually seen an increase in public participation since moving to video/audio meetings.

Announcements

GM York announced:

- January 8, 2021, at 9:00 am, the Regional Water Authority Awards Presentation and 2021 Issues Preview, noting he would send the information to all Directors;
- Happy Holidays to all from District staff.

Consent Items

2. **Minutes of the November 16, 2020, Regular Board Meeting**
3. **Minutes of the November 24, 2020, Special Board Meeting**

4. **Minutes of the December 15, 2020, Special Board Meeting**

5. **Buildings and Structures Asset Management Plan**

Director Locke moved to approve all Consent Items; Director Thomas seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

AYES:	Jones, Locke, McPherson, Thomas, and Wichert.	ABSTAINED:	
NOES:		RECUSED:	
ABSENT:			

Items for Discussion and/or Action

6. **Committee and Liaison Appointments for 2021**

President Wichert made the following appointments for 2021. GM York commented that the January 2021 RWA Board would determine if he would be elected to the RWA Executive Committee:

Committees

Regulatory Compliance Committee.....Bob Wichert, Chair
(Standing: no regularly assigned meeting time)Dave Jones

Facilities and Operations Committee.....Kathleen McPherson, Chair
(Standing: no regularly assigned meeting time)Dave Jones

Finance and Audit CommitteeKevin Thomas, Chair
(Standing: no regularly assigned meeting time)Bob Wichert
.....Dave Jones, Alternate

SJWD/SSWD Water Management/Re-organization Committee.....Kevin Thomas, Chair
(Ad Hoc: no regularly assigned meeting time)Bob Wichert
.....K. McPherson, Alternate
.....Dave Jones, Alternate

Employee Benefits Ad Hoc Committee.....Craig Locke, Chair
(Ad Hoc: no regularly assigned meeting time)Bob Wichert
.....K. McPherson, Alternate

Ad Hoc General Manager Performance Review Committee.....Bob Wichert, Chair
(Ad Hoc: no regularly assigned meeting time)Kevin Thomas

Ad Hoc Water Banking and Transfer Committee.....Kevin Thomas, Chair
(Ad Hoc: no regularly assigned meeting time)Kathleen McPherson
.....Craig Locke, Alternate

Liaison Assignments

ACWA/JPIA	Kathleen McPherson
.....	Staff Position: D. York
ACWA General Election Voting Delegate	Kathleen McPherson
ACWA Groundwater Committee	Dave Jones
.....	Kevin Thomas
.....	Craig Locke
.....	Kathleen McPherson
.....	Dan York
ACWA Water Quality Committee.....	Kathleen McPherson
.....	Dave Jones
ACWA Energy Committee	Bob Wichert
ACWA Communications Committee	Kevin Thomas
ACWA Legal Affairs Committee	Ryan Bezerra
California Special Districts Association	Kathleen McPherson
.....	Dave Jones
LAFCo Special District Advisory Committee.....	Kathleen McPherson
Regional Water Authority.....	Dave Jones
.....	Dan York
Regional Water Authority Executive Committee	Staff Rep: Dan York
Sacramento Groundwater Authority	Bob Wichert, Board Rep.
.....	Dan York, Staff Rep.
.....	K. Thomas, Alternate
.....	Craig Locke, Alternate
.....	Dave Jones, Alternate
.....	K.McPherson, Alternate
Sacramento Water Forum Successor Effort.....	Staff Rep: Dan York
.....	Bob Wichert
.....	Craig Locke, Alternate
.....	K. Thomas, Alternate
.....	Dave Jones, Alternate
.....	K.McPherson, Alternate

7. **COVID-19 Update**

(Jeff Ott) Mr. Ott presented the staff report and PowerPoint presentation.

Discussion ensued regarding current standings of delinquent accounts.

Mr. Helliker provided information on what SJWD was doing regarding their delinquent accounts.

General Manager's Report

8. **General Manager's Report**

GM York presented the staff report.

a. *Grant of Easement and Right of Way*

GM York presented the staff report.

b. *Risk and Resilience Assessment and Emergency Response Plan*

GM York presented the staff report.

c. *Aquifer Storage and Recovery Program Partnership*

GM York presented the staff report.

Mr. Helliker confirmed that SJWD was looking forward to working together with the District on the partnership.

President Wichert requested for GM York to bring the item to the full Board as an action item for the Board to discuss and provide direction.

d. *Voting Division Update*

GM York presented the staff report.

Assistant General Manager's Report

9. **Assistant General Manager's Report**

Assistant General Manager Mike Huot (Mr. Huot) presented the staff report.

a. *Water Transfers – United States Bureau of Reclamation Comment Letter*

AGM Huot presented the staff report.

Department/Staff Reports

10. **Financial Report**

Mr. Ott presented the staff report.

a. *Financial Highlights – November 2020*

A written report was provided.

- b. *Financial Statements – November 2020*
A written report was provided.
- c. *Investments Outstanding and Activity – November 2020*
A written report was provided.
- d. *Cash Expenditures – November 2020*
A written report was provided.
- e. *Credit Card Expenditures – November 2020*
A written report was provided.
- f. *District Reserve Balances – November 2020*
A written report was provided.
- g. *Information Required by LOC Agreement*
A written report was provided.
- h. *Financial Markets Report – November 2020*
A written report was provided.

11. **District Activity Report**

A written report was provided.

12. **Engineering Report**

A written report was provided.

- a. *Major Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Projects*
A written report was provided.
- b. *Planning Documents*
A written report was provided.
- c. *Other*
A written report was provided.

Director’s Reports (Per AB 1234, Directors will report on their meeting activities)

- 13. a. Regional Water Authority (Director Jones)
None.

Regional Water Authority Executive Committee (GM York)
The agenda for the December 8 and 14, 2020 meetings were provided.

- b. Sacramento Groundwater Authority (Director Wichert)
The agenda for the December 10, 2020 meeting was provided.

President Wichert provided an update of the meeting.

- c. Director Reports – AB 1234

Director Jones provided an oral report on the meeting he had with Director Locke on October 27, 2020.

Director Thomas provided an oral report on the AeroJET CAG meeting he attended on November 18, 2020; the Water Forum Steering Committee meeting he attended on November 19, 2020; and the SGA Board meeting he attended on December 10, 2020.

Committee Reports

- 14. a. Facilities and Operations Committee (Director Jones)
Draft notes from the December 9, 2020 meeting were provided.

Information Items

- 15. **Correspondence received by the District**
A written report was provided.
- 16. **Upcoming Water Industry Events**
A written report was provided.

Director's Comments/Staff Statements and Requests

None.

Closed Session (Closed Session Items are not opened to the public)

Mr. Eubanks inquired why the Closed Session items were taking so long to complete.

President Wichert expressed that due to the privacy of Closed Session discussions, he was unable to comment, however, he expressed that the Board was working on finalizing the items.

The Board convened in Closed Session 7:40 p.m. to discuss the following:

- 17. Conference with legal counsel--existing litigation; Government Code sections 54954.5(c) and 54956.9(a) and (d)(1); *Sacramento Suburban Water District v. United States*, United States Court of Federal Claims case no. 1:17-cv-00860-RHH, and *Sacramento Suburban Water District v. United States, et al.*, United States District Court for the Eastern District of California, case no. 2:17-cv-01353-TLN-AC.

18. Conference with legal counsel--anticipated litigation; Government Code sections 54954.5(c) and 54956.9(a) and (d)(4); consideration of initiating litigation involving claims related to TCP contamination.
19. Public Employee Performance Evaluation Involving the General Manager Under Government Code Section 54954.5(e) and 54957.
20. Conference to provide the District's labor negotiator, Director Kevin Thomas, with direction concerning changes to the General Manager's compensation and benefits; Government Code sections 54954.5(f) and 54957.6.

Return to Open Session

The Board convened in Open Session at 9:08 p.m.

Adjournment

President Wichert adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Dan York
General Manager/Secretary
Sacramento Suburban Water District