

Cabazon Water District 14618 Broadway Street • P.O. Box 297 Cabazon, California 92230

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

Meeting Location: 14618 Broadway St. Cabazon, CA 92230

Teleconference: Dial-in #: 978-990-5321 Access Code: 117188 Email: info@cabazonwater.org

Meeting Date: Tuesday, November 16, 2021 - 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE REMEMBRANCE OF OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN **ROLL CALL**

Director Martin Sanderson - Present Director Diana Morris - Present Director Terry Tincher - Present Director Sarah Wargo - Present **Director Robert Lynk - Present**

Calvin Louie, General Manager - Present Evelyn Aguilar, Board Secretary - Present Steve Anderson, Best Best & Krieger Law Firm - Absent Chuck Krieger, Krieger & Stewart Engineering- Absent for Roll Call (joined later)

Note: This meeting was recorded by the District

CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters in this category are considered to be consistent with the Board/District goals, District Policies and Regulations adopted and/or approved by the Board of Directors, and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is required, items may be removed from the consent calendar and will be considered separately.

- 1. Approval of:
 - Finance and Audit Committee Meeting Minutes and Warrants of October 19, 2021
 - b. Regular Board Meeting Minutes and Warrants of October 19, 2021

Motion to approve following consent calendar item(s) (a.) Finance and Audit Committee Meeting Minutes of October 19, 2021, and (b.) Regular Board Meeting Minutes of October 19, 2021 made by Director Morris and 2nd by Director Tincher.

Director Sanderson - Aye Director Morris - Aye Director Tincher - Aye Director Wargo - Aye **Director Lynk - Aye**

- 2. Warrants None
- 3. Awards of Contracts None

UPDATES

1. Update:

San Gorgonio Pass Regional Water Alliance Update (Director Morris)

- Nothing to report.
- GM Louie's Manager Report was postponed until later in the meeting, so the Board could address the other items and Public Comments first.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion/Action:

Audited Financial Statements for FY 20/21 as presented by Fedak & Brown LLP (by Andy Beck, Fedak & Brown)

- The District received an unmodified "CLEAN" opinion from Fedak & Brown.
- The Board had no questions or comments for Mr. Beck. They thanked him for his presentation.
- Public comments were held at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any person may address the Board of Directors at this time on any matter within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Cabazon Water District that is not listed on the agenda; however, any matter that requires action will be referred to staff for investigation and reported at a subsequent Board of Directors meeting. The Board of Directors is prohibited by law from discussing or taking immediate action on items during this public comment period. To comment on specific agenda items, please advise the Board secretary prior to the meeting. Each public comment will be limited to three (3) minutes. Individuals may not give their time away to another spokesperson. After two (2) minutes, the speaker will be notified that he/she has one (1) minute remaining. AB 1234 ORAL REPORTS (Gov. Code Sec. 53232.3(d))

- > Charles Ripps explained that he had met with the Engineers at Krieger & Stewart's office, as was instructed in the September board meeting. He said he had not heard back from the Engineers, but was under the impression that they approved his property for the test well.
- > Director Wargo stated that the Board was unable to discuss this or take any action, considering it was during Public Comments.
- > Mr. Kreiger chimed in, stating that Engineering has not made a formal report yet, as they were still reviewing the reports on Mr. Ripps' property and wells. Mr. Krieger stated that his office would be in touch with Mr. Ripps after this review was complete.
- 2. Discussion/Action:

DWR IRWM Implementation Grant - Subgrantee Agreement (by GM Louie, Steve Anderson of BBK, and others)

- > GM Louie gave a rundown on the over \$1 million grant for the Isolation Valve Improvement Project. One concern is the timing of reimbursements from the State. If the State takes over a year to pay back the District for the project costs, it could bankrupt the District. The District's Financial Consultant recommended against taking out a Bridge loan, due to the risk of bankruptcy in case this project fails.
- > Art Vela from the city of Banning was present, and gave a summary of discussions he had with DWR and Lance Eckhart of the Pass Agency. Mr. Vela asked DWR about some of the concerns the District brought up. They were flexible on some, but firm on others. In Mr. Vela's conversation with Mr. Eckhart, a bridge Loan was discussed. According to Mr. Vela, Mr. Eckhart had expressed his support in granting the District a Bridge Loan, although it would have to be approved by the Pass' Board. Mr. Vela also stated that there is little to no chance of the project failing.
- > Director Tincher asked what the timeline is for this project. Mr. Vela said the deadline for the project to be completed is December 2022.

There was no motion made. The Board directed GM Louie to reach out to Art Vela and Lance Eckhart to find out more about the Bridge Loan terms.

3. Discussion/Action:

Recommendations to fill the vacant Full-Term seat on the Board of Directors (by the Board)

> The deadline for the CWD Board to appoint someone had passed, but Director Wargo had asked the registrar of voters if the District could send a letter of recommendation for the Board of Supervisors to consider when making their decision.

Motion to send a letter of recommendation for Alan Davis to fill the vacant Full-Term seat on the Board of Directors made by Director Lynk and 2nd by Director Tincher.

Director Sanderson - Ave Director Morris - Aye Director Tincher - Aye Director Wargo - Aye Director Lynk - Aye

4. Discussion/Action:

Resolution 04-2021 – Resolution for virtual meetings under AB 361 (By the Board)

Approval of Resolution 04-2021 would acknowledge that there is a state of emergency regarding COVID-19, and therefore would allow the use of virtual meetings under AB 361.

Motion to adopt Resolution 04-2021, allowing the use of virtual meetings made by Director Tincher and 2nd by Director Sanderson.

Director Sanderson - Aye Director Morris - Ave Director Tincher - Aye Director Wargo - Aye Director Lynk - Aye

5. Discussion:

LAIF Account return update (by Director Wargo)

Director Wargo wanted to make the rest of the Board aware of how low the LAIF returns have gotten, considering most of the District's money is in that account. BAA Aguilar had consulted with the District's CPA and was told the only other investment options are long term, which would not be affordable for the District.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussion/Action:

Lamas - Ana Maria St. - Water Bill Concern (by

Lamas and the Board)

Mr. and Mrs. Lamas once again expressed their concerns on why their water bill was so low during July, but normal in other months. Director Morris pointed out that according to their usage history, it was not uncommon for the Lamas' usage to fluctuate throughout the year, and that they likely only noticed the fluctuation due to the rate changes in March, 2021. After a long discussion, GM Louie suggested changing out the Lamas' meter to ensure it is displaying the correct read, and that a blue tag is left at their residence to confirm the meter has been read each month.

Motion to exchange Lamas' meter with a brand new one. If Lamas' usage still fluctuates during the next 12 months, they will inspect their side of the meter. Each time the meter is read, a blue tag will be placed at the residence. If in 12 months, the usage does not show the same fluctuations, the Lamas' may return in November 2022 to re-petition the Board on this bill made by Director Sanderson and 2nd by Director Tincher.

Director Sanderson - Aye Director Morris - Aye Director Tincher - Aye Director Wargo - Aye Director Lynk - Aye

2. Discussion/Action:

Oshideri – Broadway St. – Prior water bill concern (from 2019)

- Mr. Oshideri was not present for the second month in a row.
- > A break was taken from 7:42 pm until 7:50 pm.

CLOSED SESSION at 7:50 PM

1. Discussion/Action:

Conference with Labor Negotiators (Pursuant to Government Code

section 54957.6)

Agency Designated Representative

General Manager

Labor Association:

SEIU Local 721

Business (951) 849-4442 • FAX (951) 849-2519

OPEN SESSION at 7:57 PM

- No reportable actions were taken during closed session.
- The GM gave his report at this time.
- 2. Update:

Manager's Operations Report (by GM Louie)

- GM Louie is establishing a report writing format, which will go into effect January 1, 2022.
- > The GM is working with District staff to organize the Work Order codes.
- > There was a leak on Esperanza. The GM decided to waive the after-hours response fee, due to the resident likely not receiving the blue tag that was left at the house. Blue tags notify residents of a potential leak.
- Legend and other contractors started up Well #1. A Pressure Switch needs to be added. Tess Electric has a cheaper PS available, but the GM opted to wait for the higher quality switch to be available.
- > The GM shared concerns about traffic control while work is being performed by District staff on busy streets. He brought up the costs of hiring contract traffic control and said he is looking into a procedure that could save the District money, but would still keep staff safe.
- During the September board meeting, the Board approved Legend's \$31,786 quote for the Well #1 repairs. The GM was directed to ask Legend for a discount. Legend said if the materials cost was lower for them, they would pass it on. The total cost ended up being \$7,434 less than the original quote.

GENERAL MANAGER/BOARD COMMENTS

1. Future Agenda Items

The Board Chair or the majority of the Board may direct staff to investigate and report back to an individual(s) and the Board on matters suggested or direct the General Manager/Board Secretary to place the matter on a future Board meeting.

- Suggested agenda items from the Public.
- Suggested agenda items from Management.
- Suggested agenda items from Board Members.

2. Management Comments

Staff members may speak on items of information not requiring comment or discussion to the Board and public. Topics which may be included on a future meeting agenda may be presented but cannot be discussed. (3 minutes)

3. Board Member Comments

Board members may speak on items of information not requiring comment or discussion to the Board and public. (3 minutes)

- Director Wargo thanked Director Sanderson for his time on the Board.
- > Director Lynk instructed GM Louie to research if it would be financially reasonable to switch from paper to electronic tablets for Board Members to view their Board packets.

MISCELLANEOUS

- 1. Future Board Items/Next Board Meeting Date(s)
 - a. SGMA GSP Workshop Thursday November 18, 2021, 4:00 pm
 - b. Finance & Audit Workshop Tuesday December 21, 2021, 5:00 pm
 - c. Regular Board Meeting Tuesday December 21, 2021, 6:00 pm
 - d. Personnel Committee None
 - e. San Gorgonio Pass Regional Water Alliance-Meeting-Wednesday, January 26, 2022, 5:00 pm

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:17 PM made by Director Sanderson and 2nd by Director Tincher.

Director Sanderson - Aye Director Morris - Aye **Director Tincher - Aye** Director Wargo - Aye Director Lynk - Aye

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM on Tuesday, November 16, 2021

MNV , Board Chair

Board of Directors Cabazon Water District **Board of Directors**

Cabazon Water District

ADA Compliance Issues

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act & Government Code Section 54954.2, if special assistance is needed to participate in a Board meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (951) 849-4442. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to meeting time will assist staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide access.