



LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
4232 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas CA 91302

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING

9:00 AM

July 23, 2019

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Ana Schwab.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at **9:00 a.m.** by Board President Lewitt in the Board Room at Las Virgenes Municipal Water District headquarters at 4232 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas, CA 91302. Josie Guzman, Clerk of the Board, conducted the roll call.

Present: Directors Charles Caspary, Jay Lewitt, Lynda Lo-Hill, Len Polan, and Lee Renger.

Absent: None

Staff Present: David Pedersen, General Manager
Joe McDermott, Director of Resource Conservation and Public Outreach
Don Patterson, Director of Finance and Administration
John Zhao, Interim Director of Facilities and Operations
Josie Guzman, Clerk of the Board
Keith Lemieux, District Counsel

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Caspary moved to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Director Renger. Motion carried unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Polan requested that Items 4B and 4C be pulled for discussion.

A List of Demands: July 23, 2019: Ratify

D Business H2O Water Innovation Summit: Board Member Attendance

Authorize Board Member attendance and per diem compensation for the Business H2O Water Innovation Summit on September 12, 2019, in Snowbird, Utah.

Director Polan moved to approve Consent Calendar Items 4A and 4D. Motion seconded by Director Lo-Hill. Motion carried unanimously.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR – SEPARATE ACTION ITEMS

B Minutes: Regular Meeting of July 9, 2019: Approve

Director Polan moved to approve Item 4B. Motion seconded by Director Caspary.

Director Polan referred to the Minutes, Item 6, Treasurer's Report, where it referenced that bees were removed and relocated from meter boxes in accordance with the District's Policy, and he inquired whether the District had such a written policy. General Manager David Pedersen confirmed that the District has a written policy related to the removal and relocation of bees from District facilities.

Motion carried unanimously.

C Monthly Cash and Investment Report: June 2019

Receive and file the Monthly Cash and Investment Report for June 2019.

Director Polan moved to approve Item 4C. Motion seconded by Director Caspary.

Director Polan inquired regarding the safety of the District's investments in governmental bond issues. Don Patterson, Director of Finance and Administration, responded that the District's investment in United States Agency bonds are backed by the United States Government and these types of investments are the safest to the District. He reviewed the composition of the District's portfolio to ensure proper diversification of the District's investments.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. ILLUSTRATIVE AND/OR VERBAL PRESENTATION AGENDA ITEMS

A MWD Representative Report

MWD Representative Glen Peterson reported that the MWD Board met on July 9th, where actions included approving the naming of the Lake Mathews Multiple Species Reserve in honor of former MWD Board Chairwoman Lois B. Krieger; authorized amendments to the Administrative Code regarding deliveries of member agency water supplies in the MWD system in an emergency; and authorized payment for participation in the State Water Contractors Association. He also reported that the MWD Board met in Closed Session regarding security awareness training, and the Legal and Claims Committee reviewed the settlement proposal regarding San Diego County Water Authority v. MWD. He also reported that the MWD Board presented him with an award in recognition of his participation in the Colorado River Drought Contingency Plan. He noted that the MWD Board would hold a workshop regarding transmittal of the White Paper on Implementation and Delivery of the Regional Recycled Water Program. He also noted that he asked the Special Committee on Bay-Delta for a future agenda item regarding subsidence.

Director Caspary inquired regarding designating aquifer recharge as a beneficial use. Mr. Peterson responded that there were conflicting laws in California relating to water storage and recovery, and that in his opinion it was important to recognize aquifer recharge as a beneficial use. He noted that Arizona stores upwards of four to five million gallons of water and has no way to recover the water.

Director Lo-Hill inquired regarding the reason that water storage is not recoverable in Arizona. Mr. Peterson responded that in the past California received the surplus water not being used by Arizona, and subsequently Arizona began a program to store water in its groundwater basins with no plans to retrieve it. He noted that part of the Drought Contingency Plan includes a plan to retrieve this water.

B Review Proposal for LV Tap Campaign

Mike McNutt, Public Affairs and Communications Manager, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding a proposal for the LV Tap campaign, promoting residents to "Drink from the Sink."

Director Polan expressed concern with the slogan "Drink from the Sink." He inquired regarding microplastics at MWD's F.E. Weymouth Treatment Plant. General Manager David Pedersen responded that he was unable to reach a representative from MWD; however, the California State Water Resources Control Board is working on regulations related to microplastics. He noted that SB 1422 (Portantino), the California Safe Drinking Water Act: Microplastics, was approved in September 2018 and would require the State Water Board to adopt a definition of microplastics in drinking water by July 1, 2020, as well as adopt a standard methodology to be used in testing drinking water for microplastics, quantitative guidelines, and certification process in laboratories by July 1, 2021. He stated that microplastics, and other items found in nature, would lead to new and updated drinking water standards.

A discussion ensued regarding support for the slogan "Drink from the Sink" and promoting the LV Tap campaign.

C Legislative and Regulatory Updates

Syrus Devers, lobbyist representing Best Best & Krieger, presented the State Legislative Report, which included updates to AB 402 (Quirk), Funding Stabilization Program; SB 1 (Atkins), the California Environmental Public Health and Workers Defense Act; and SB 200 (Monning), establishing the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund in the State Treasury.

Ana Schwab, lobbyist representing Best Best & Krieger, presented the Federal Legislative Report, which included updates to the Federal budget and appropriations, potential legislation related to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), H.R. 1764 that would extend the NPDES permit period from five years to ten years, and an amendment to H.R. 1764 that would allow agencies that have received Title XVI funds to be eligible to apply for the U.S. EPA Alternative Water Source Program.

D Water Supply Conditions Update

Joe McDermott, Director of Resource Conservation and Public Outreach, presented the report. He noted that he attended the MWD Managers' Meeting last week, where they were informed that the State Water Project allocation was increased to 75 percent. He also noted that the State and MWD are maximizing reservoir storage, and MWD is instituting a Cyclic Storage Cost Offset Program to deliver larger than typical quantities of water to local surface or groundwater storage.

6. TREASURER

Director Lo-Hill stated that the Treasurer's Report for the July 9th and July 23rd Board meetings were in order.

7. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A CASA Annual Business Meeting: Board of Directors Election and Dues Resolution

Designate and authorize a Board Member to cast the District's vote in favor of the four-member slate of directors and approval of the dues resolution for Fiscal Year 2020 for the California Association of Sanitation Agencies.

General Manager David Pedersen presented the report.

Director Caspary moved to designate and authorize Board President Jay Lewitt to cast the vote in favor of the four-member slate of directors and approval of the dues resolution for Fiscal Year 2020 for the California Association of Sanitation Agencies. Motion seconded by Director Renger. Motion carried unanimously.

8. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

A Policy for Handling Insufficient and Excess Deposits

Pass, approve and adopt proposed Resolution No. 2559, relating to insufficient and excess deposits.

RESOLUTION NO. 2559

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2468 (ADMINISTRATIVE CODE) AS IT RELATES TO INSUFFICIENT AND EXCESS DEPOSITS

(Reference is hereby made to Resolution No. 2559 on file in the District's Resolution Book and by this reference the same is incorporated herein.)

Don Patterson, Director of Finance and Administration, presented the report.

Director Lo-Hill moved to approve Item 8A. Motion seconded by Director Caspary. Motion carried unanimously.

B Claim by Daniel G. Snyder

Deny the claim by Daniel G. Snyder.

General Manager David Pedersen presented the report.

Darrell Johnson, Customer Service Manager, reviewed the billing cycle and the steps taken to discontinue water service in accordance with the District's policy.

Director Renger moved to deny the claim by Daniel G. Snyder. Motion seconded by Director Caspary.

Director Lo-Hill stated for the record that the Board has the responsibility to spend the ratepayers' money diligently, there is a cost to the District when customers pay their bills late, under certain circumstances a first notice should be taken into consideration and on a case-by-case basis, and in this case there were three notices issued in six months. She also stated that it was not fair to ask the ratepayers to subsidize customers' late fees.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Caspary, Lewitt, Lo-Hill, Renger

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Polan

ABSENT: None

9. RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

**A Automatic Meter Reading/Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMR/AMI)
Project: Request for Proposals**

Authorize the General Manager to issue a request for proposals for the Automatic Meter Reading/Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project.

Joe McDermott, Director of Resource Conservation and Public Outreach, presented the report.

Director Caspary moved to approve Item 9A. Motion seconded by Director Renger.

Mr. McDermott responded to several questions posed by the Board regarding the number of AMR/AMI meter manufacturers, AWWA meter standards, and salvaging and recycling the old meters.

Director Caspary suggested that the RFP include an option to replace and/or retrofit the existing meters due to emerging technology.

A discussion ensued regarding financing options and the approach for deploying and installing the new meters.

Motion carried unanimously.

10. INFORMATION ITEMS

A Quarterly Employee Safety Report

General Manager David Pedersen presented the report.

11. NON-ACTION ITEMS

A Organization Reports

Director Caspary reported that he attended the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) State Legislative Committee Meeting on July 12th, where they discussed proposed legislation for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances. He noted that there were over 5,000 PFAS; however, only 15 of the compounds have been studied for notification levels. He also noted that ACWA requested a copy of the study; however, they have not been able to obtain a copy and are considering filing a public records request. He also reported that he received an alert from ACWA recommending that districts contact their legislators during the August recess regarding the voluntary settlement agreements and solutions for species protection and water supply reliability. He also reported that he attended the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission Executive Committee meeting on July 18th, where they discussed the Governing Board's agenda and the Annual Work Plan. He also reported that he attended the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Authority Governing Board meeting where they received project updates and discussed the possibility of additional funding and projects.

B Director's Reports on Outside Meetings

Director Lo-Hill reported that she attended the California Special Districts Association Leadership Academy for Board Members.

C General Manager Reports

(1) General Business

General Manager David Pedersen noted that the first round of interviews for the position of Director of Facilities and Operations would occur on July 25th, and a second round of interviews would occur at a later date. He reported that staff is proposing that the District join the Coalition for Fire Protection Accountability. He noted that Governor Gavin Newsom commissioned a panel study to look at catastrophic loss from wildfires and liability issues.

(2) Follow-Up Items

General Manager David Pedersen noted that an item would be brought forth at the August 20th Board meeting for a discussion regarding earthquakes and safety, the Las Virgenes Reservoir Dam and the potential use of accelerometers.

D Directors' Comments

Director Polan expressed an interest in the use of milkweed plants in the District's general landscaping to attract Monarch butterflies, as well as pursuing a variety of California native plants to support fauna.

12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Director Polan moved to have a future agenda item for the Board to discuss a policy to promote native plants fostering fauna at District properties. Motion seconded by Director Lo-Hill.

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

14. CLOSED SESSION

None.

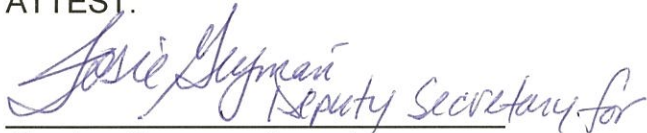
15. OPEN SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was duly adjourned at **11:31 a.m.**



Jay Lewitt, President
Board of Directors
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

ATTEST:



Charles Caspary, Secretary
Board of Directors
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

(SEAL)