



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

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

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9:00 AM

August 6, 2019

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Ivo Nkwenji.

**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 Jay Lewitt, Lynda Lo-Hill, Len Polan, and Lee Renger  
Absent: Director Charles Caspary  
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 Polan moved to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Director Renger.  
Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Lewitt, Lo-Hill, Polan, Renger  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Caspary

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Joe McDermott, Director of Resource Conservation and Public Outreach, introduced newly hired Customer Service Office Supervisor Ursula Bosson.

Don Patterson, Director of Finance and Administration, introduced newly hired Information Systems Manager Ivo Nkwenji.

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A List of Demands: August 6, 2019: Ratify**

**B Minutes: Regular Meeting of July 23, 2019: Approve**

**C Directors' Per Diem – July 2019: Ratify.**

Director Renger moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion seconded by Director Polan. Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Lewitt, Lo-Hill, Polan, Renger

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Caspary

**5. ILLUSTRATIVE AND/OR VERBAL PRESENTATION AGENDA ITEMS**

**A Legislative and Regulatory Updates**

Joe McDermott, Director of Resource Conservation and Public Outreach, reported that SB 200 (Monning), which implements the Safe Affordable Drinking Water Fund, was signed by Governor Gavin Newsom on July 24th. He noted that the newly adopted State budget included funding for safe drinking water for non-compliant systems through the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, in the amount of \$130 million annually. He also provided updates regarding SB 332 (Hertzberg), Wastewater Treatment: Recycled Water, SB 414 (Caballero), the Small System Water Authority Act of 2019, and AB 756 (Garcia), Public Water Systems: Perfluoroalkyl Substances and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). He noted that the District sent a letter in opposition unless amended regarding SB 1 (Atkins), the California Environmental, Public Health, and Workers Defense Act of 2019 due to concerns with circumventing the California Administrative Procedures Act. He responded to a question regarding whether the detection of PFAS would affect the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo by stating that employees were currently testing the wastewater stream for PFAS. He noted that PFAS would be removed through ultrafiltration and reverse osmosis in the advanced water treatment process. He also responded to a question regarding the types of products that contain PFAS.

General Manager David Pedersen stated that staff would develop a sample testing plan for PFAS for the wastewater influent to the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility and for the final treated water. He noted that PFAS could also be present in biosolids and compost. He also noted that the focus of AB 756 was for testing of PFAS in drinking water, which has not been detected in the drinking water provided to the District by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Board President Lewitt suggested that information regarding testing for PFAS in the District's potable water and wastewater be included on the District's website.

## **B Water Supply Conditions Update**

Joe McDermott, Director of Resource Conservation and Public Outreach, presented the report and noted that Lake Powell was at 57 percent capacity.

## **6. TREASURER**

Director Lo-Hill stated that the Treasurer's report was in order. She noted that the District received an award from the Government Finance Officers Association for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

## **7. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **A ACWA Committee Appointment Nominations for 2020-2021 Term**

**Select candidates for ACWA committee appointment or re-appointment consideration, and authorize the General Manager to sign and return the completed Committee Consideration Form to ACWA no later than September 30, 2019.**

Board President Lewitt moved to table this item to the August 20, 2019 Board meeting. Motion seconded by Director Renger. Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Lewitt, Lo-Hill, Polan, Renger

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Caspary

## **8. FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS**

### **A Rondell Oasis Hotel: Easement Encroachment Agreement**

**Authorize the General Manager to execute the Easement Encroachment Agreement with Rondell Hotel, LLC, authorizing an encroachment for construction of improvements associated with the Rondell Oasis Hotel at 26300 Rondell Road, Calabasas**

John Zhao, Interim Director of Facilities and Operations, presented the report.

Director Renger moved to approve Item 8A. Motion seconded by Director Polan.

Mr. Zhao responded to questions regarding the depth of the water main, the proposed landscaping materials, and the easement encroachment agreement, which would be recorded by the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Lewitt, Lo-Hill, Polan, Renger

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Caspary

**B Liberty Canyon Emergency Fire Hydrant Repair: Ratification of Emergency Declaration**

**Pass, approve, and adopt proposed Resolution No. 2560, ratifying the General Manager's declaration of an emergency that requires immediate action without delay to perform sidewalk and asphalt pavement repair on Liberty Canyon Road.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2560**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT FINDING THAT AN EMERGENCY WOULD NOT PERMIT A DELAY RESULTING FROM A COMPETITIVE SOLICITATION FOR SIDEWALK AND ASPHALT REPAIR RESULTING FROM A FIRE HYDRANT BREAK ALONG LIBERTY CANYON ROAD NEAR THE AGOURA ROAD INTERSECTION IN AGOURA HILLS**

(Reference is hereby made to Resolution No. 2560 on file in the District's Resolution Book and by this reference the same is incorporated herein.)

General Manager David Pedersen presented the report.

Director Renger moved to approve Item 8B. Motion seconded by Director Lo-Hill.

John Zhao, Interim Director of Facilities and Operations, responded to questions regarding the pipe corrosion, which was caused by cracks in the pipe's protective coating.

A discussion ensued regarding detecting water leaks by receiving notification from customers, by utilizing SCADA trending data for tank levels, and by utilizing advanced metering infrastructure technology.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Lewitt, Lo-Hill, Polan, Renger

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Caspary

**9. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

**A Financial Analysis and Rate Study: Award**

**Accept the proposal from Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc., and authorize the General Manager to execute a professional services agreement, in the amount of \$99,171, for preparation of a financial analysis and rate study.**

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

Director Lo-Hill moved to approve Item 9A. Motion seconded by Director Renger.

Mr. Patterson responded to questions regarding adoption of new rates prior to January 1, 2021, and the initial steps taken within the sanitation rate structure to increase the pay-go amount available for the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Lewitt, Lo-Hill, Polan, Renger

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Caspary

**B Financial Advisory Services: Award**

**Accept the proposal from Piper Jaffray, and authorize the General Manager to execute a five-year professional services agreement, in the amount of \$100,000, with one five-year renewal option for financial advisory services.**

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

Director Polan moved to approve Item 9B. Motion seconded by Director Lo-Hill.

Greg Swartz, Senior Vice President of Piper Jaffray, responded to several questions posed by the Board regarding debt financing for government-owned water and wastewater facilities and the utilization of different solutions for financing capital improvement projects.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Lewitt, Lo-Hill, Polan, Renger

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Caspary

**10. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**A GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting and Award for Popular Annual Financial Report**

General Manager David Pedersen presented the report.

**11. NON-ACTION ITEMS**

**A Organization Reports**

None.

**B Director's Reports on Outside Meetings**

None.

**C General Manager Reports**

(1) General Business

General Manager David Pedersen reported that staff was in the process of repairing a small water leak on Driver Avenue in Old Agoura. He also reported that Calleguas Municipal Water District would hold a public hearing on August 7, 2019, regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Calleguas/Las Virgenes Municipal Water District Interconnection Project. He stated that District staff would attend the meeting to provide comment and respond to questions.

(2) Follow-Up Items

General Manager David Pedersen noted the following items would be included on the August 20th agenda:

- Earthquake preparedness, emergency response plan, dam safety requirements, Dam Inundation Study, Las Virgenes Dam Settlement Report, and information regarding accelerometers;
- Policy on planting native plants to support local fauna, flora and habitat; and
- ACWA Committee appointments.

**D Directors' Comments**

Director Polan noted that he reported a leak in the recycled water system at White Oak Elementary School and acknowledged staff for responding quickly to make the repairs.

Board President Lewitt reported that Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel and City of Calabasas Mayor David Shapiro contacted him and District staff regarding the possibility of using the Rancho Las Virgenes Farm Sprayfields for a soccer field. He noted that a

letter was sent to Assemblymember Gabriel and Mayor Shapiro indicating that the District would be preparing a long-term land management plan for the District-owned property along the Las Virgenes Road Scenic Corridor and would solicit input from the City, state agencies, and key stakeholders. He also asked the Board to be mindful of conversations held with other Board members before and after Board meetings, and to only discuss items that are on the agenda during Board meetings in accordance with the Brown Act.

**12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**13. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

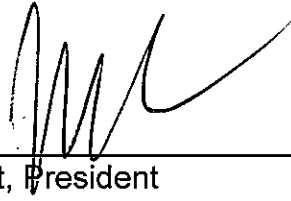
None.

**14. CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**15. OPEN SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT**

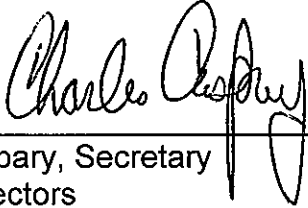
Seeing no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was duly adjourned at **10:19 a.m.**



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

ATTEST:



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

(SEAL)