



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

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

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9:00 AM

September 17, 2019

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Josie Guzman.

**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 Engineering and External Affairs  
Don Patterson, Director of Finance and Administration  
John Zhao, Director of Facilities and Operations  
Josie Guzman, Clerk of the Board  
Keith Lemieux, District Counsel

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- A List of Demands: September 17, 2019: Receive and file**
- B Minutes: Regular Meeting of September 3, 2019 and Special Meeting of September 9, 2019: Approve**
- C Directors' Per Diem: August 2019: Ratify**
- D 12th Biennial Colorado River Symposium: Board Member Attendance**

**Authorize Board Member attendance and per diem compensation for the 12th Biennial Colorado River Symposium to be held September 18 through 20, 2019, in Santa Fe, New Mexico.**

Director Lo-Hill moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion seconded by Director Polan. Motion carried unanimously.

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

**A MWD Representative Report**

Glen Peterson, MWD Representative, reported that the MWD Board approved a 30-year lease agreement with the Riverside County Regional Parks and Open Space District for the operation of the public relations facility at Lake Skinner, and authorized \$5 million for a Stormwater for Direct Use Pilot Program for developing and monitoring of stormwater capture for direct-use projects. He also reported that the MWD Board reviewed the General Manager and General Counsel's goals for the coming year, and that the MWD Board would hold a two-day workshop in October to discuss the future of MWD. He noted that former Senator Fran Pavley and Agoura Hills Councilmembers Illece Buckley Weber and Deborah Klein Lopez would be attending the MWD State Water Project Inspection Trip scheduled at the end of October. He also noted that Governor Gavin Newsom was planning to veto SB 1, the California Environmental, Public Health, and Workers Defense Act of 2019.

**B Legislative and Regulatory Updates**

Joe McDermott, Director of Engineering and External Affairs, reported that the deadline for the State Legislature to pass bills was September 13th. He noted that AB 402 (Quirk), the State Water Resources Control Board Local Primacy Delegation Funding Stabilization Program, and AB 292 (Quirk), Recycled Water, Raw Water and Groundwater Augmentation, did not pass and would become two-year bills. He also reported that AB 1180 (Friedman), Water: Recycled Water, which would update recycled water standards, was sent to Governor Gavin Newsom for his signature. He also reported that Governor Newsom was planning to veto SB 1 (Atkins) due to his support of voluntary settlement

agreement efforts. He noted that staff was working on a legislative proposal to send to the California Municipal Utilities Association to consider sponsoring legislation related to existing testing limitations for potable and fixed emergency generators.

**C Water Supply Conditions Update**

Joe McDermott, Director of Engineering and External Affairs, presented the report.

**6. TREASURER**

Director Lo-Hill stated that the Treasurer's report was in order.

**7. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

**A Fiscal Year 2020-21 Proposed Sanitation Rate for Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District: Topanga Tax Zone**

**Approve a monthly billing rate of \$53.50 per Equivalent Residential Unit for the Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District, Topanga Tax Zone, for Fiscal Year 2020-21.**

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

Director Caspary moved to approve Item 7A. Motion seconded by Director Lo-Hill.

Mr. Patterson responded to a question regarding sewer service billing for a small area outside of the District's boundaries in Calabasas near Mulholland Highway by stating that these customers are billed directly by the District. John Zhao, Director of Facilities and Operations, noted that these customers are currently included in a development services agreement and are going through the annexation process with the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO).

Motion carried unanimously.

**8. ENGINEERING AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**A Jim Bridger Road Temporary Pipeline Installation: Declaration of Emergency**

**Pass, approve, and adopt proposed Resolution No. 2562, declaring an emergency that requires immediate action without delay to install a temporary above-ground pipeline on Jim Bridger Road from Jed Smith Road to the nearest valve and appropriate an additional \$100,000 for the work to avoid further disruptions of water service in the City of Hidden Hills.**

General Manager David Pedersen presented the report and noted that another water main break occurred on Long Valley Road over the weekend. He stated that staff would include asbestos cement pipe replacement projects focusing on the Hidden Hills area in

each fiscal year's budget and in the next Infrastructure Investment Plan.

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

Director Caspary noted that a revised resolution was provided to the Board, which included minor corrections.

A discussion ensued regarding taking a more aggressive approach to replacing the asbestos cement pipeline and having staff provide information on the cause of the pipeline failure on Long Valley Road.

Motion carried unanimously.

**B Twin Lakes Pump Station Pipeline Project: Approval of Scope Change**

**Authorize the General Manager to execute a Change in Scope, in the amount of \$62,040, to Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, Inc., for additional professional services on the Twin Lakes Pump Station Pipeline Project.**

Joe McDermott, Director of Engineering and External Affairs, presented the report.

Director Caspary moved to approve Item 8B. Motion seconded by Director Renger.

A discussion ensued regarding avoidance of lead-contaminated areas, the additional tree study for impacts to trees, and the two additional borings under the Santa Suzanna Channel for additional geotechnical information.

Motion carried unanimously.

**C Updated Greater Los Angeles County Region Integrated Regional Water Management Plan: Adoption**

**Pass, approve, and adopt proposed Resolution No. 2561, adopting the 2017 Updated Greater Los Angeles County Region Integrated Regional Water Management Plan and authorize the submittal of a grant funding application and, if successful, execution of a grant funding agreement for the AMR/AMI Project.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2561**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT ADOPTING THE 2017 UPDATED GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGION INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN**

(Reference is hereby made to Resolution No. 2561 on file in the District's Resolution Book and by this reference the same is incorporated herein.)

Dave Roberts, Resource Conservation Manager, presented the report.

Director Polan moved to approve Item 8C. Motion seconded by Director Caspary.

A discussion ensued regarding the inclusion of the Monterey/Modelo Formation to the plan and recommending the use of materials from stormwater runoff and sediment basins for replenishment of beaches and other areas.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### **D Native Landscapes Policy: Adoption**

##### **Approve and adopt the proposed Native Landscapes Policy.**

Dave Roberts, Resource Conservation Manager, presented the report.

Director Polan moved to approve Item 8D. Motion seconded by Director Lo-Hill.

A discussion ensued regarding the use of drought resistant plants that are compatible with native plants, and concerns with the word "native" in the sections related to plant suitability and habitat value due to the possibility of not allowing the use of non-native plants.

Keith Lemieux, District Counsel, suggested replacing the word "native" with "climate-appropriate" when describing plant materials and forage for local wildlife and insect communities.

General Manager David Pedersen suggested that the motion for the proposed policy be amended as follows: "Goal 1, Plant Suitability – Use environmentally suitable plant materials that are non-invasive;" and "Goal 2, Habitat Value – Utilize plant materials that provide high wildlife foraging value, providing forage for local wildlife and insect communities by prioritizing plantings of vegetation that provide forage for native bird species and pollinators."

Joe McDermott, Director of Engineering and External Affairs, suggested amending Goal 1, Plant Suitability, as follows, "Use climate appropriate and/or environmentally suitable plant materials that are non-invasive, which includes but is not limited to native plants."

A discussion ensued regarding renaming the proposed policy "Climate Appropriate Landscapes Policy."

Director Polan amended his motion as revised with the changes noted above. Motion seconded by Director Renger.

Motion carried unanimously.

## **9. INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **A Claim by Mairead MacMullan and Liam Lynch**

**B Claim by Sharon Woods**

**10. NON-ACTION ITEMS**

**A Organization Reports**

None.

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

Director Polan reported that he attended the WateReuse tours of the San Diego Pure Water Project and Padre Dam East County Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Facility. He suggested that the Board and staff visit both of these facilities.

Director Lo-Hill reported that she attended the Special Board Meeting on September 9th for the SoCal visit by the Israeli delegation.

Board President Lewitt reported that he also attended the Special Board Meeting on September 9th for the SoCal visit by the Israeli delegation. He stated that the purpose of the visit was to address Southern California's water challenges and consider innovative Israeli water technologies. He noted that other attendees included Director Polan, Triunfo Water & Sanitation Director Leon Shapiro, Westlake Village Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Honig, Agoura Hills Councilmember Deborah Klein Lopez, and Jeremy Wolf from Senator Henry Stern's office. He stated that the tour included a visit with staff from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and staff from Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. He acknowledged General Manager David Pedersen for his efforts in coordinating the visit. He also reported that he attended the Business H2O Water Innovation Summit in Snowbird, Utah, on September 12th.

**C General Manager Reports**

(1) General Business

General Manager David Pedersen stated that the October 1, 2019 Regular Board Meeting would be canceled, and a Special Board Meeting would be held on October 3, 2019. He noted that the unveiling of the Hal Helsley Memorial would be held on October 5th at the Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility at 10:00 a.m. He recognized the District's float-building team and participants, including Directors Caspary and Lo-Hill, for their efforts on the Hidden Hills Fiesta Parade Float. He noted that a Special Board Meeting would be held on September 26, 2019, at 3:30 p.m., to discuss the District's property and liability insurance policy renewal.

(2) Follow-Up Items

**D Directors' Comments**

Director Caspary commended the District's float-building team and participants for their efforts on the Hidden Hills Fiesta Parade Float. He noted that the float was well received

by the residents.

Director Lo-Hill reported that she participated in the Hidden Hills Fiesta Parade, which included the villain "Climate Change" and the "League of Water Warriors: Wastewater Woman, Purple Piper, Captain Compost, Thunder Tap, Conservation Cowgirl, and Super Drop." She noted that she recently had a weather-based irrigation controller installed at her home, which pairs up well with her smart phone.

**11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**12. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

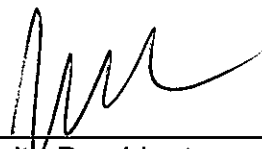
None.

**13. CLOSED SESSION**

None.

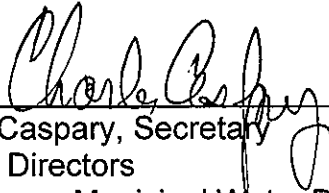
**14. OPEN SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT**

Seeing no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was duly adjourned at **10:22 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)