

**LAS VIRGENES – TRIUNFO
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING**

5:00 PM

March 7, 2022

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Charles Caspary.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at **5:00 p.m.** by Vice Chair Shapiro in the Board Room at Las Virgenes Municipal Water District headquarters at 4232 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas, CA 91302. The meeting was conducted via teleconference pursuant to the provisions of Assembly Bill 361, which suspended certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act to support social distancing guidelines associated with response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. Susan Brown, Administrative Assistant, conducted the roll call.

Present: Directors Caspary, Lo-Hill, Nye, Orkney, Renger (via teleconference), Shapiro, Tjulander, and Wall.

Absent: Lewitt and Polan.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Orkney moved to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Director Wall. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Caspary, Lo-Hill, Nye, Orkney, Renger, Shapiro, Tjulander, Wall

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lewitt, Polan

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

A Minutes: Regular Meeting of February 7, 2022: Approve

**B Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position:
January 2022**

Director Lo-Hill moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion seconded by Director Caspary. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Caspary, Lo-Hill, Nye, Orkney, Renger, Shapiro, Tjulander, Wall

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lewitt, Polan

5. ILLUSTRATIVE AND/OR VERBAL PRESENTATION AGENDA ITEMS

A State and Federal Legislative Update

Ana Schwab, federal lobbyist for the JPA with Best Best & Krieger LLP (BBK), presented the federal legislative update, and noted that Congress set a deadline of March 11th for approval of federal appropriations bills. She stated that the House of Representatives would likely pass an omnibus spending bill for all 12 appropriation bills later in the week, which would then be considered by the Senate.

Lowry Crook, federal lobbyist for the JPA with BBK, stated that there was an expectation that a \$15 billion COVID-19 relief bill and \$12 billion in relief aid to Ukraine would be considered by the end of the week.

Ms. Schwab noted that the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Title XVI grant funding was receiving bipartisan support, and the forecasted WaterSMART Grant Programs funding schedule was included in the agenda packet. She stated that BBK staff was working on obtaining letters of support from Congressional representatives for the JPA's Title XVI grant funding application. She also noted that staff was continuing to reach out to the Congressional delegation to schedule tours of the Pure Water Demonstration Facility.

Syrus Devers, state lobbyist for the JPA with Best Best & Krieger LLP (BBK), presented the state legislative update. He noted that Senator Hertzberg introduced SB 1157 regarding indoor water use efficiency standards. He stated that SB 1157 would set the 2025 standard to 47 gallons per capita daily (GPCD), and would set the 2030 standard to 42 GPCD. He noted that there was much concern that there was no data to support the proposed 42 GPCD standard, and advocacy efforts were to oppose unless amended until a true study was completed. He also noted that the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) acknowledged that it had not reviewed the costs for the proposed water use efficiency standards. He suggested pursuing opposition to SB 1157 unless amended.

Administering Agent/General Manager responded to a question regarding the data used by DWR for setting the GPCD standards by stating that he would share a copy of DWR's report.

Mr. Devers responded to a question regarding SB 1219 (Hurtado), State Water Resources Control Board Dissolution: Blue Ribbon Commission, by stating that he did not believe this bill would move forward. He also provided an update regarding the Delta Conveyance Project, and noted that there was much effort regarding the State Water Project, State Water Project Contractors, and issues relating to water transfers in Northern California.

B Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo: Update

Oliver Slosser, Engineering Program Manager, presented the report. He noted that a Special JPA Board meeting would be held on May 18th at 5:00 p.m. for a Strategic Planning Workshop where staff would share the preliminary civil and architectural concepts for the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo (Pure Water Project) and address setting design criteria for the design-build procurement. He stated that media training for the JPA Board Members regarding the Pure Water Project was still pending. He also stated that a Pure Water Coffee Brew event would be held on May 14th from 9:30 a.m. to noon, which would showcase pure water as a resource to local coffee vendors. He responded to a question regarding the availability of a report regarding the focused meetings related to the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility (Tapia) influent and effluent flows, recycled water demands, and potential available flow to the advanced water purification facility (AWPF) by stating that the Jacobs Team held a discovery session with staff to discuss how water would travel from Tapia to Reservoir No. 2 and then to the AWPF. He stated that he would follow up on whether a report would be prepared.

6. ACTION ITEMS

A Tapia Water Reclamation Facility: Flood Protection Update

Authorize the issuance of a Request for Proposals for an updated, comprehensive analysis of the level of flood protection provided for the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility, including recommendations and estimates for required flood protection enhancements.

Administering Agent/General Manager David Pedersen provided introductory remarks.

Brett Dingman, Water Reclamation Manager, presented the report and a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the history of the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility (Tapia) flood wall.

John Zhao, Director of Facilities and Operations, summarized the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Malibu Canyon Road Bridge Hydraulic Analysis Preliminary Results for the construction of a new bridge. He noted that the Floodplain Evaluation Study for Malibu Creek near Tapia that was prepared in 1990 assumed 52,500 cubic feet per second (CFS) in Malibu Creek, and the flood wall elevation was set accordingly. He also noted that the County's preliminary study used a 100-year flood scenario, which would generate 40,544 CFS, and a capital flood scenario when the ground is saturated and a 50-year storm occurs, which would generate 69,400 CFS. He also noted that the County's preliminary study looked at the 100-year flood water surface elevation of 475 feet at the east end and 478 feet at the west end. He stated that the flood water surface elevation would be three feet over the flood wall for a 100-year flood, and the flood water surface elevation would be eight feet over the flood wall for a capital flood. He referred to the FEMA 100-year Flow Rate Chart, which compared the Tapia flood wall elevation to the flood water surface elevation for a 100-year flood with the proposed bridge, and the Capital Flood Flow Rate Chart, which compared the Tapia flood wall elevation to the capital flood water surface elevation with the proposed bridge.

A discussion ensued regarding conducting a risk assessment of critical facilities and their elevations, the County's plan to place the new bridge two feet higher than the existing bridge, and the original study's recommendation regarding willow tree removal in the creek, which would be difficult due to environmental concerns.

Mr. Zhao responded to a question regarding an arrangement for helicopter service for access to the treatment plant when the road is impassable by stating that staff would discuss this internally.

Director Caspary moved to approve Item 6A. Motion seconded by Director Tjulander. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Caspary, Lo-Hill, Nye, Orkney, Renger, Shapiro, Tjulander, Wall

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lewitt, Polan

B Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo: Grant Application for U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Water SMART Title XVI WIIN Act Funding

Pass, approve, and adopt proposed Resolution No. 17, authorizing the submittal of a grant funding application and execution of a grant funding agreement, if awarded, to the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation for the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo.

RESOLUTION NO. 17

TRIUNFO JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTERING AGENT/GENERAL MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO APPLY FOR, RECEIVE FUNDS, ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT AND ADMINISTER A GRANT FOR THE WATERSMART: TITLE XVI WIIN ACT WATER RECLAMATION AND REUSE PROJECTS GRANT

(Reference is hereby made to Resolution No. 17 on file in the JPA's Resolution Book and by this reference the same is incorporated herein.)

Joe McDermott, Director of Engineering and External Affairs, presented the report and noted that a corrected version of Resolution No. 17 was provided to the Board. He responded to a question regarding the number of recycled water projects nationwide in various stages of design by stating that there were approximately two dozen projects, and a map of project locations was displayed at the Pure Water Demonstration Facility. Administering Agent/General Manager David Pedersen added that the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo was further along than many other agencies' projects, and Congress approved two funding sources under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act for recycled water projects. He noted that a portion of funding was for the Water SMART Title XVI WIIN Act Funding Program and the other portion was for large projects over \$500 million, and the JPA would not directly compete with large projects proposed by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California or the City of Los Angeles' Operation NEXT.

Director Orkney moved to approve Item 6B. Motion seconded by Director Wall. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Caspary, Lo-Hill, Nye, Orkney, Renger, Shapiro, Tjulander, Wall

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lewitt, Polan

7. BOARD COMMENTS

Director Orkney stated that she was pleased to return to in-person meetings without having to wear a facemask. She noted that the COVID-19 pandemic began two years ago, and she expressed her hope that the Board would continue to meet in-person.

8. ADMINISTERING AGENT/GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Administering Agent/General Manager David Pedersen, who was participating via teleconference, noted that he, Director Polan, and Chair Lewitt were attending the WaterReuse Symposium in San Antonio, Texas. He expressed his appreciation to the Board for approving the issuance of a Request for Proposals for the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility (Tapia) Flood Protection Update. He stated that staff would explore interim flood protection measures to protect Tapia. He also stated

that staff would evaluate the assumptions in the County's preliminary hydraulic analysis and how the water surface profile was developed. He noted that funding was available from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for this type of study, and staff would work collaboratively with Los Angeles County Public Works and the California State Department of Parks and Recreation. He asked the Board whether they felt comfortable with having the plastic barriers removed from the dais due to the relaxed COVID-19 restrictions. The Board agreed to have the barriers removed and placed in storage.

Administering Agent/General Manager David Pedersen also reported that the flow in Malibu Creek measured 23.3 cubic feet per second, and staff was discharging to the creek. He noted that a Special JPA meeting would be held on May 18th for a Strategic Planning Workshop.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

10. INFORMATION ITEMS

A Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility: Biofilter Maintenance for Zone Nos. 1 to 4

Administering Agent/General Manager David Pedersen responded to a question regarding the reason no proposals were received in response to the Request for Proposals for replacement of biofilter media by stating that the work involved was specialized. He noted that Viramontes Express was consistently the exclusive provider of biofilter media and they provided good value. John Zhao, Director of Facilities and Administration, added that there were issues with not receiving proposals due to the COVID-19 pandemic, supply issues, and labor shortages.

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was duly adjourned at **6:04 p.m.**

JML

Jay Lewitt, Chair

ATTEST:

LE Shapiro

Leon E. Shapiro, Vice Chair