



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

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING

9:00 AM

October 6, 2022

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Andy Coradeschi.

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. 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 Charles Caspary, Jay Lewitt, Lynda Lo-Hill, and Lee Renger

Absent: Director Len Polan

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
Susan Brown, Administrative Assistant
Josie Guzman, Clerk of the Board
Paul Early, Legal Counsel

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF FINDINGS OF RESOLUTION NO. 2609 (AB 361)

Director Caspary moved to approve the agenda and findings of Resolution No. 2609 (AB 361). Motion seconded by Director Renger. Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Caspary, Lewitt, Lo-Hill, Renger

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Polan

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

Paul Early, Legal Counsel, introduced himself and noted that was a partner with Aleshire & Wynder.

John Zhao, Director of Facilities and Operations, introduced new employee Jonathan Carpenter, Water Reclamation Plant Operator in Training. The Board welcomed Mr. Carpenter to the District.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

A List of Demands: October 6, 2022: Receive and file

B Minutes Regular Meeting of September 20, 2022: Approve

C Continuation of Local State of Emergency Due to Water Shortage from Statewide Drought

Approve the continuation of a local emergency declaration due to water shortage from the statewide drought.

D Monthly Cash and Investment Report: August 2022

Receive and file the Monthly Cash and Investment Report for August 2022.

E Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position: July 2022

Receive and file the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position for the period ending on July 31, 2022.

F Proposed Insurance Provider Plan Changes and Renewals

Accept the proposals from Beam Dental, in the annual amount of \$129,465, for employee dental insurance with a three-year rate guarantee, BBP Admin, in the annual amount of \$2,425, for employee flexible spending accounts, and Anthem Blue Cross, in the annual amount of \$79,195, for employee life and accidental death/dismemberment insurance, and short- and long-term disability coverage.

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

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

5. ILLUSTRATIVE AND/OR VERBAL PRESENTATION AGENDA ITEMS

A Proclamation in Recognition of Water Professionals Week

Board President Lewitt read the proclamation in recognition of Water Professionals Week.

Director Lo-Hill acknowledged District staff on their efforts.

Director Caspary suggested that the proclamation be shared with the local City Managers.

B Legislative and Regulatory Updates

Joe McDermott, Director of Engineering and External Affairs, reported that September 30th was the last day for Governor Gavin Newsom to sign or veto bills. He noted that the Federal and State Legislative updates would be provided at the October 12th JPA Special Board Meeting.

C Drought and Water Supply Conditions

Joe McDermott, Director of Engineering and External Affairs, reported that the new water year began on October 1st. He noted that the District's Drought Committee formed a Task Force to consider water use restrictions in the event that the District might need to activate Stage 4 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan should the MWD Board implement a prohibition on all outdoor watering on December 1st.

A discussion ensued regarding District-wide water conservation efforts, which was averaging 35 percent; continuing discussions with MWD regarding the water supply allocation to the District; informing customers not to plant any landscaping until December; and considering adjusting water budgets when customers replace their lawns with artificial turf.

D Briefing on Strategic Drought Messaging and Outreach

Mike McNutt, Public Affairs and Communications Manager, provided a PowerPoint presentation that highlighted the outreach efforts and media response received to date.

Joe McDermott, Director of Engineering and External Affairs, noted that the District was selected as a finalist for the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Excellence in Communications Huell Howser Award for its ongoing emergency drought response.

A discussion ensued regarding showcasing a variety of well-groomed, brown lawns in outreach messaging.

General Manager David Pedersen acknowledged staff on their efforts to encourage water conservation.

6. **TREASURER**

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

7. **FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS**

A Tapia Carbon Tower Media Replacement: Authorization

Authorize the General Manager to issue a purchase order to Carbon Activated Corporation, in the amount of \$55,597.16, for carbon tower media replacement at the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility and Lift Station Nos. 1 and 2.

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

Director Caspary moved to approve Item 7A. Motion seconded by Director Renger.

Mr. Zhao responded to a question regarding the possibility of recycling the media as part of the contract by stating that this could be included as part of future request for quotes.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Caspary, Lewitt, Lo-Hill, Renger

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Polan

B Tapia Tertiary Filter Media Replacement: Authorization

Authorize the General Manager to execute a service agreement with Karbonous, Inc., in the amount of \$115,526, for the replacement of media in Tertiary Filter Nos. 9 and 10 at the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility

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

Director Renger moved to approve Item 7B. Motion seconded by Director Lo-Hill.

A discussion ensued regarding considering using the media as a base or soil amendment, and including these options in future requests for quotes.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

8. FINANCE

A Financial Review for Fiscal Year 2021-22

Receive and file the financial review for Fiscal Year 2021-22, and adopt the updated Capital Improvement Program Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23.

Brian Richie, Finance Manager, presented the report and a PowerPoint presentation.

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

A discussion ensued regarding including penalty revenues in the budget, which would be used for water conservation-related expenses.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

9. ENGINEERING AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

A 2022 Las Virgenes Reservoir (Westlake) Dam Settlement Report

Receive and file the 2022 Las Virgenes Reservoir (Westlake) Dam Settlement Report.

Veronica Hurtado, Assistant Engineer, presented the report.

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

John Zhao, Director of Facilities and Operations responded to a question regarding changes or slumping after taking water from the dam by stating that the dam material expands throughout the day, and any changes in dam settlement from the previous year would be noted in the Dam Settlement Report.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

B LVUSD 4th and 5th Grade Science Team Water-Related Curriculum: Two-Year Grant Agreement

Authorize the General Manager to execute a two-year grant agreement with Las Virgenes Unified School District, in the total amount of \$214,000, and appropriate an additional \$107,000 in the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget for the 4th and 5th Grade Science Team water-related curriculum.

Riki Clark, Public Affairs Associate II, presented the report.

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

A discussion ensued regarding the need for the additional \$107,000 appropriation to allow for payment of the second installment in early 2023.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Caspary, Lewitt, Lo-Hill, Renger

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Polan

10. NON-ACTION ITEMS

A Organization Reports

None.

B Director's Reports on Outside Meetings

Director Lo-Hill reported that she attended the Colorado River Symposium in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She noted that this year was the 100th anniversary of the Colorado River Compact. She also noted that the basin was only at approximately seven to ten million acre-feet as opposed to the originally estimated 15.5 million acre-feet. She also noted that reducing the allocation from the Colorado River Basins was discussed, and an update was provided regarding the Salton Sea.

C General Manager Reports

(1) General Business

General Manager David Pedersen noted that the JPA would meet on October 12th and the agenda would include an update on cost and financing for the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo. He stated that the JPA Board would be asked to approve a project budget in order to use seek project funding, and authorize submittal of the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) application. He also noted that the next LVMWD Board meeting would be held on October 19th. He stated that he and Board President Lewitt would be attending the US-Israel Collaboration on Water Reuse

Delegation Visit in late October, and they would suggest that the November 1st Board meeting be canceled. He also noted that the State Water Project Inspection Tour would take place October 14th through 16th, which would be a joint inspection tour with the District and Calleguas Municipal Water District. He also reported that the flow in Malibu Creek measured 5.4 cubic feet per second (CFS).

(2) Follow-Up Items

None.

D Directors' Comments

Board President Lewitt noted that he met with Lindsay Horvath and Bob Hertzberg, candidates for Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Third District. He also noted that he and General Manager David Pedersen met with Monica Parmar, candidate for City of Calabasas City Council.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

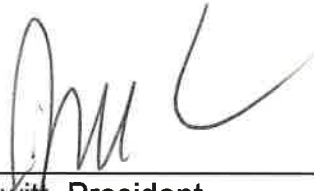
None.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was duly adjourned at **11:15 a.m.**



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

ATTEST:



Lee Renger, Secretary
Board of Directors
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

(SEAL)