

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

5:00 PM

June 3, 2024

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Debbie Rosales.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at **5:00 p.m.** by Chair Jay Lewitt in the Board Room at Triunfo Water & Sanitation District headquarters at 370 N. Westlake Boulevard, Westlake Village, California, 91362. Josie Guzman, Clerk of the Board, conducted the roll call.

Present: Directors Burns, Caspary, Coradeschi, Jarecky, Lewitt, Nye, Polan, Shapiro, Tjulander (arrived at 5:12 p.m.), and Wall
Absent: None

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Wall moved to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Director Polan. Motion carried 9-0 by the following vote:

AYES: Burns, Caspary, Coradeschi, Jarecky, Lewitt, Nye, Polan, Shapiro, Wall
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Tjulander

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

A Minutes: Special Meeting of May 13, 2024: Approve

Director Caspary moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion seconded by

Director Coradeschi. Motion carried 9-0 by the following vote:

AYES: Burns, Caspary, Coradeschi, Jarecky, Lewitt, Nye, Polan, Shapiro, Wall

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Tjulander

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), accompanied by Madeline Voitier, Chris Keosian, and Lowry Crook, reported that there would be very few days for legislation to be passed for the Fiscal Year 2025 appropriations due to Legislators' attendance at political conventions, and a continuing resolution was expected to be passed prior to the November 5, 2024 Presidential Election. She stated that the Legislature would need to pass tax provisions that would sunset at the end of the year, and a year-end tax package was expected. She noted that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was working with the Department of Homeland Security to develop best practices for cybersecurity safety of water and wastewater systems. She mentioned that the House of Representatives would be out in August and October, and there were concerns with passing farm bills that have a provision to give an exemption to use fire-fighting foam, which has a large containment of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). She stated that the exemption would allow the use of fire-fighting foams and be free of liability from regulations.

Lowry Crook, federal lobbyist for the JPA with BBK, provided an update regarding the Water Resources Development Act, which is usually passed biannually and would likely pass after Election Day.

Ms. Schwab responded to a question regarding H.R. 7525, Special Districts Grant Accessibility Act, by stating that the bill would codify the definition of a special district for the purposes of federal grants and provide for equity when applying for federal grants.

Director Tjulander arrived at 5:12 p.m.

Ms. Schwab also responded to a question regarding possible impacts from H.R. 872, FISH Act, and H.R. 873, Water Quality and Environmental Innovation Act, by stating that this bill would be codified by Fish and Wildlife Service over anadromous species. She noted that the bill was introduced; however, it had not been taken up by the House Natural Resources Committee. She also responded to a question regarding an artificial intelligence requirement in H.R. 873 regarding emerging technologies by stating that this bill had not yet been taken up by Committees. She noted that this bill would create a new Water Quality and Innovation Act Fund. She

also responded to a question regarding the status of the EPA extending the National Pollution Discharge Elimination Program (NPDES) permit terms for public works from five years to ten years by stating that this provision was attached to H.R. 7023, Creating Confidence in Clean Water Permitting Act, which passed in the House of Representatives; however, the bill would not have viability in the Senate and the provision would need to be moved to another bill. She also responded to a question regarding the status of H.R. 4052, National Infrastructure Bank Act, by stating that this bill was introduced over one year ago; however, it had not yet been taken up by Committees.

Syrus Devers, state lobbyist for the JPA with Syrus Devers Advocacy LLC, provided an update regarding potential education, housing, and climate resource bonds for the November 5, 2024 election. He stated that it was likely there would only be two bonds on the ballot. He also provided an update regarding voluntary agreements, and stated that the Assembly and Senate eliminated funding voluntary agreements in the budget. He also provided an update regarding budget bond legislation, and noted that AB 2614 (Ramos), Water Policy California Tribal Communities regarding beneficial use for Tribal Water Rights was held in suspense. He noted that the proposed bill regarding voluntary contributions by ratepayers to fund low-income rate assistance would seek to have ratepayers opting out as opposed to opting in.

Director Caspary stated that Assemblymember Ramos also introduced AB 1284, Tribal Ancestral Lands and Waters, Co-governance and Co-management Agreements, and stated that this bill would authorize co-governance agreements between the government and tribes so that tribes may have some autonomy. He asked Mr. Devers to monitor this bill. He addressed the proposed low-income rate assistance legislation and stated the bill was making the assumption that 60 percent of water customers would not choose to opt out. He also addressed AB 460 (Bauer-Kahan), State Water Resources Control Board, Water Rights and Usage, Civil Penalties, and stated that the author proposed to remove everything from the bill except fines and penalties for violating curtailment orders.

Mr. Devers responded to a question regarding the amount proposed for voluntary contributions for low-income rate assistance by stating that there was discussion regarding an amount not to exceed the amount of the bill.

Director Caspary provided additional information regarding the Tribal Water Rights, and noted that the bill was supported by the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indian Tribe. He stated that it was announced last week that the Miwok Indian Tribe purchased a project that was 20 years on the drawing board invested by an \$84 million public employees' pension fund, and the Miwok Indian Tribe purchased the project for \$17 million. He suggested that Mr. Devers continue to monitor AB 2614 and AB 1284.

B Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo: Update

Oliver Slosser, Engineering Program Manager, acknowledged the Board for their participation at the Architectural Theme Workshop held on May 28th. He stated that he would work with the Walsh Team and RRM Design regarding the Board's input, and would schedule another workshop in August. He reported that staff met with representatives from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation regarding the upcoming reapplication of the Title XVI grant. He noted that the JPA received \$10.2 million for the planning stages of the project, and the JPA could apply for another \$19.8 million grant for construction. He also reported that he provided a project update to the City of Agoura Hills City Council on May 22nd, and an internal workshop was held with city staff regarding the Advanced Water Purification Facility process. He also reported that a two-day partnering session was held on May 22nd and 23rd with the Walsh Team, Jacobs, Carollo Engineers, and Brown and Caldwell. He stated that staff would continue to implement the 90-day schedule with the Walsh Team, continue to work with the Regional Water Quality Control Board, continue to work with the Division of Drinking Water, work to finalize the reservoir testing work plan for the dye tracer testing reservoir modeling, and convene the Independent Advisory Panel. He responded to questions and comments regarding a funding allocation to provide a public benefit at the west side of the Advanced Water Purification Facility; providing additional Board input to the Walsh Team on the architectural theme; development of a cost delivery model; coordination with OceanWell's deep water life protection filtration systems for testing at Las Virgenes Reservoir; and providing a list of grants and loans for the project.

6. ACTION ITEMS

A Fiscal Years 2024-26 Proposed Biennial Budget

Approve the proposed Fiscal Years 2024-26 Biennial JPA Budget Plan, and adopt the proposed Fiscal Year 2024-25 JPA Budget.

Debbie Rosales, Financial Analyst II, presented the report.

Director Coradeschi moved to approve Item 6A. Motion seconded by Director Caspary.

Motion carried 10-0 by the following vote:

AYES: Burns, Caspary, Coradeschi, Jarecky, Lewitt, Nye, Polan, Shapiro, Tjulander, Wall

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

7. BOARD COMMENTS

Director Polan stated that customers should be made aware that the cost of recycled water was projected to increase, and customers should continue to conserve water.

8. ADMINISTERING AGENT/GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Administering Agent/General Manager David Pedersen reported that the flow in Malibu Creek measured 6.83 cubic feet per second (CSF) and there was no need for fish flow augmentation. He also reported that recycled water demands had normalized, and discharge of excess recycled water was easier to manage. He noted that staff participated in the Love Run in Westlake Village on June 1st, where samples of pure water were distributed. He also noted that a Pure Water Tasting Event would be held on June 29th at LVMWD headquarters, where pizza and shaved ice made with pure water would be provided.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

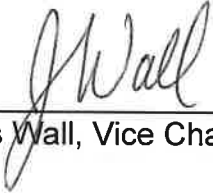
11. ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was duly adjourned at **5:54 p.m.**



Jay Lewitt, Chair

ATTEST:



James Wall, Vice Chair