

**LAS VIRGENES - TRIUNFO  
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY  
MINUTES**

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5:00 PM

November 5, 2012

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

At the request of Chair Renger, the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Director Wall.

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

**A** Call to order and roll call

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chair Renger in the Oak Park Library. Clerk of the Board Conklin called the roll. Those answering present were Directors Bowman, Caspary, Iceland, McReynolds, Orkney, Paule, Peterson, Renger, Steinhardt and Wall.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**A** Approval of agenda

Administering Agent General Manager Mundy notified the JPA Board that "Information Item 8B: Purchase a spare 4,160 Volt Breaker for Tapia" inadvertently listed a recommendation, which should not be there as the Las Virgenes Board as Administering Agent had previously taken action on the item.

*On a motion by Director Charles Caspary, seconded by Director Steven Iceland, the Board of Directors voted 10-0 to Approve the JPA Regular Board Meeting agenda of November 5, 2012, as amended.*

*AYES: Director(s) Bowman , Caspary , Iceland , McReynolds , Orkney , Paule , Peterson , Renger , Steinhardt , Wall*

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Members of the public may now address the Board of Directors **ON MATTERS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA**, but within the jurisdiction of the Board. No action shall be taken on any matter not appearing on the agenda unless authorized by Subdivision (b) of Government Code Section 54954.2

No speaker cards were received from the public.

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A** Minutes: Regular Meeting of October 1, 2012. **Approve**

*On a motion by Director Steven Iceland, seconded by Director Lee Renger, the Board of Directors voted 10-0 to Approve the recommendation as presented.*

*AYES: Director(s) Bowman , Caspary , Iceland , McReynolds , Orkney , Paule , Peterson , Renger , Steinhardt , Wall*

## 5. **ACTION ITEMS**

### **A** Biosolids and Compost Management

Provide staff direction on a study to analyze the use of composting and off site disposal of biosolids.

Administering Agent General Manager Mundy introduced the discussion of biosolids and compost management and referenced Triunfo Sanitation District board meeting minutes from September 2012, which state concerns regarding Las Virgenes' staff effectiveness to conduct a study and influencing of a third party, and noted there are no funds appropriated in the budget for conducting a study.

A summary of JPA Board comments and responses included: Renger: thought this topic was reviewed before (Mundy: comparisons were provided for hauling and Triunfo requested review of a hybrid process using composting and hauling); Bowman: what has already been looked at (Mundy: believes this would be a more comprehensive study, when the plant is down for maintenance there is approximately one truck per day, with a hybrid process a truck may sit for one week before it is full, so there are odor concerns (Lippman noted there is currently a request for proposals out now in regards to additional hauling, and asked what the JPA Board direction is concerning goals and objectives of a hybrid process)); Orkney: the JPA is a partnership and there are concerns in regards to how expensive the composting process is, is there a way through a hybrid process to save ratepayers money by hauling and keep the permit in force by composting; Bowman: to clarify, the question is what is the optimum plan to save money, correct (Orkney: yes); Steinhardt: we have been hauling, so what needs to be built (Mundy: scale, loading facility, odor control (there was a lawsuit from residents in past years that was odor related), shutdown was a temporary process that cannot be done on a permanent basis); Renger: doesn't want to spend Las Virgenes' money on a hybrid process and has concerns, reasonable study to see how to make process more effective in order to save money; Paule: questioned customer survey results of \$2.75 per month for composting and struggles with true cost of composting versus digestion and dewatering, what does composting really cost, everyone agrees with beneficial use of composting, but it needs to be efficient and economical for ratepayers (Lippman: two studies have been provided to the JPA Board, a composting versus digestion/dewatering study and a cost benefit study); Paule: Las Virgenes and Triunfo come up with two different dollar amounts with regard to the cost of composting (Lippman: study was completed by SCAP (The Southern California Alliance of Publicly Owned Treatment Works), so Las Virgenes does not know the exact components used to determine the cost of composting); Paule: keeping the composting permit is important, if the public is fine with spending \$2.75 per month for composting then we should move on, but we need to look at the 2010 study again; Iceland: the survey results need to be broken down, other agencies were at a lower cost, the permit needs to be kept, but what level is required in order to keep the composting permit and still haul (Mundy: most permits do not get into specific amounts whether issued by State Water Resources Control Board or Air Quality Management District); Iceland: what are other consumables (Lippman: polymer, amendment, biofilter media, energy (dewatering accounts for the majority of energy use); Bowman to Las Virgenes Legal Counsel Lemieux: what happens if one partner says yes and the other says no (Lemieux: Las Virgenes and Triunfo can each conduct their own independent study outside of the JPA, if JPA funded then there needs to be a majority vote of Las Virgenes board members and a majority vote of Triunfo board members to authorize an independent study); Peterson: Triunfo did not want to participate in the recycled water storage project and Las Virgenes moved forward with the process on its own; McReynolds: if JPA can compost and truck then the permit can be kept and money can be saved, stated Renger is concerned about stranded assets and hauling through the community, believes survey question wording can determine response results and JPA Board should move forward with a study; Peterson: does not want to spend more money

on another study, if Triunfo wants to study a hybrid process then fine, look at renewable energy; Caspary: can this data be looked at as part of the master plan process (Mundy: master plans look at growth, cost break downs (Lippman: cost of composting is not included in the current scope of work within the request for proposals)); Bowman: thought master plan looked at what is needed overall, don't approve a study when those around the table don't have a defined scope of work (Lippman: this is what the agenda item is for, to clarify a scope of work for a study); Orkney: why is dewatering a higher cost for the JPA than it is for other agencies (Lippman: pumping costs from Tapia to Rancho, most other sites are closer in proximity); Orkney: trucking occurred for six months, the process might have been Mickey Mouse facilities, but it was done; Paule: connections (Mundy: Equivalent Residential Units (ERUs) is the correct number to use, not actual connections); and Orkney: she and Caspary requested a breakdown of costs and repairs during the compost production shutdown (Lippman: this item is scheduled for the December JPA board meeting).

Chair Renger requested Mr. Mundy provide the JPA Board all of the documents, studies and reports again that are related to biosolids and composting management.

*On a motion by Director Steven Iceland, seconded by Director Lee Renger, the Board of Directors voted 10-0 to Approve tabling of the biosolids and compost management plan to the December 2012, JPA board meeting.*

*AYES: Director(s) Bowman , Caspary , Iceland , McReynolds , Orkney , Paule , Peterson , Renger , Steinhardt , Wall*

Director Caspary requested the reports be emailed to the JPA Board, and stated saving money should be a goal for the ratepayers, wise savings is good, but there are times saving money is unwise.

## **B** Future Joint Powers Authority Regular Meeting Date

The Governing Board of the JPA to confirm a quorum of its members for the Regular Board Meeting of Monday, December 3, 2012, or direct the Administering Agent General Manager to cancel said meeting and reschedule a special meeting to be held on an alternative date.

Administering Agent General Manager Mundy stated quorum concerns as several Las Virgenes board members and staff would be in attendance at the ACWA Conference on Monday, December 3, 2012, and requested direction as to whether to hold the next JPA board meeting as scheduled or to cancel and reschedule to December 10, 2012.

Director Paule stated he was attending the ACWA Conference, but was available for the JPA board meeting on December 3rd. Director Peterson stated he was not available on December 10th.

*On a motion by Director Janna Orkney, seconded by Director Charles Caspary, the Board of Directors voted 9-1 to Authorize Administering Agent General Manager Mundy to cancel the JPA Regular Board Meeting of December 3, 2012, and schedule a JPA Special Board Meeting on Monday, December 10, 2012.*

*AYES: Director(s) Bowman , Caspary , Iceland , McReynolds , Orkney , Paule , Renger , Steinhardt , Wall*

*NOES: Director(s) Peterson*

## **C** Tapia Entrance Sign

Provide staff direction on any changes for the entrance sign at Tapia.

Administering Agent General Manager Mundy discussed Triunfo's request to modify the entrance sign at Tapia, which states an incorrect acronym for their agency name; and stated

the costs were approximately \$1,500-\$3,500 depending on the process used to update the sign.

A summary of JPA Board comments included: Bowman: wants to hear from Triunfo Board as to why Las Virgenes should pay 70% of this cost; Steinhardt: can the "C" in "TCSD" be painted over; Orkney: can the 1988 portion of the sign be removed (Peterson: plant employees take pride in the award); Caspary: considering other issues being discussed this is not important (Orkney: JPA identity is important, commented on JPA letterhead quality and recent correspondence issued using the incorrect version of the letterhead); and Steinhardt: remove the "C".

Administering Agent General Manager Mundy stated he would have Las Virgenes staff take care of removing the "C" in "TCSD" from the Tapia entrance sign.

No action was not taken on this agenda item.

**D Tapia Influent Pipeline and Valve Replacement Project and Tapia Influent Pipeline Rehabilitation Project: Final Acceptance**

Appropriate \$34,770.00 for construction costs associated with the projects; approve a time extension of 10 calendar days to complete the project; ratify Change Order No. 3 and Change Order No. 4 in the amount of \$14,599.00 and \$16,028.00, respectively; approve Change Order No. 5 in the amount of \$57,656.00 and Change Order No. 6 in the amount of \$6,767.00; approve the final Progress Payment, in the amount of \$10,301.67 for the Tapia Influent Pipeline and Valve Replacement Project, and \$89, 215.55 for the Tapia Influent Pipeline Rehabilitation Project to GSE Construction, Inc.; approve the execution of a Notice of Completion by the Secretary of the Administrating Agent for and on behalf of the JPA and have the same recorded; and that in the absence of claims from subcontractors and others, release retention in the amount of \$30,358.00 for the Tapia Influent Pipeline and Valve Replacement Project, and \$52,116.70 for the Tapia Influent Pipeline Rehabilitation Project thirty calendar days after filing the Notice of Completion.

Director Iceland inquired as to whether or not the project had been completed to staff's satisfaction (Lippman: yes).

*On a motion by Director Joseph Bowman, seconded by Director Barry Steinhardt, the Board of Directors voted 10-0 to Approve the recommendations as presented.*

*AYES: Director(s) Bowman , Caspary , Iceland , McReynolds , Orkney , Paule , Peterson , Renger , Steinhardt , Wall*

**6. BOARD COMMENTS**

Director Renger discussed the Smithsonian article and response in regards to the Malibu Lagoon; Director Iceland requested clarification on the request for proposals from November for transfer of energy from Rancho to Tapia (Mundy: Rancho to the recycled water pump station located at the headquarters campus, not Tapia) and was the request for proposals sent out (Lippman: yes); and Steinhardt discussed JPA letterhead (Mundy: in electronic format and staff person created their own correspondence without using the assistance of administrative support, Caspary: correspondence issued in the eleventh hour). Director Caspary stated at the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission meeting of October 18, 2012, the Governing Board considered approval of a resolution concerning commercial fishing activity in Santa Monica Bay, and Heal the Bay had pushed for no change to the existing commercial fishing plan.

**7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Chair Renger requested the biosolids and compost management item be brought back in December.

## **8. INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **A Malibu Creek Watershed Emerging Issues**

Director of Facilities and Operations Lippman discussed Tapia's NPDES permit renewal application, which is due six months prior to the August 2015 expiration date and potential emerging issues within the Malibu Creek Watershed including: Malibu Creek and Lagoon Benthic Community Effects, Sedimentation and Benthic Macroinvertebrates TMDL; Ventura River Algae TMDL (Regional Board has a tendency to carry over limits from one watershed to another, so Las Virgenes is monitoring this process); California Biological Objectives Policy (how can numeric objectives be turned into narrative objectives (Resource Conservation Manager Orton stated he knows the comment letter is complex, water is brackish, EPA and State Board are developing the same thing); MS4 Permit (watershed wide monitoring is on hold until MS4 is in place, Las Virgenes is not the permit holder and has no control over enforcement of other agencies); and the Malibu Creek Watershed Wide Monitoring Plan submittal.

A summary of JPA Board comments and responses included: Bowman: can effluent be discharged to City of Los Angeles (Lippman: pipes are not large enough and discharge to L.A. River has more stringent limits for dichlorobromomethane (DCBM) and trihalomethanes (TTHMs); Mundy: concerns with storm drain system); Bowman: build a pipe as we may need to completely stay out of the creek (Lippman: believes a pipe would need to be built to Canoga Park High School); Paule: how much money to supplement to potable (Mundy: currently not allowed); Bowman: plan for worst case (Lippman: consent decree, staff is going to San Francisco to talk to EPA Region IX executive level directors); Bowman: how do stringent loads compare to Metropolitan (Lippman: much more stringent whole numbers versus tenths, 2005 Nutrient Reduction Master Plan/TEA looked at four options for staying out of the creek); Caspary: how many contributors in the Ventura watershed (Triunfo Legal Counsel Mathews: one, Ojai Valley Sanitation District); and Orkney: benthic community (Lippman: regulatory agencies want it to thrive).

Chair Renger requested the TEA Study numbers be updated and for staff to provide copies of the TEA and the Rancho Groundwater studies to the JPA Board.

### **B Purchase of spare 4,160 Volt Breaker for Tapia**

Authorize the General Manger to issue a purchase order in the total amount of \$33,299.00 to California Electrical Supply.

No action was taken on this agenda item, which was provided as information only.

### **C Sewer Bridge Rehabilitation Project - Final Acceptance**

### **D Uniform Services - Award of Bid**

## **9. CLOSED SESSION**

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

*Lee Renger*

Lee Renger, Chair

ATTEST:

*Janna Orkney*

Janna Orkney, Vice Chair