

## **MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT, DECEMBER 13, 2021:**

*A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District was held Monday, December 13, 2021, at 2029 East Avenue Q, Palmdale, CA 93550 and via teleconference. President, Gloria Dizmang, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.*

### **1) Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence.**

At the request of President Dizmang, Director Dino led the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

### **2) Roll Call.**

#### **Attendance:**

Gloria Dizmang, President  
Vincent Dino, Vice President  
Don Wilson, Treasurer  
Kathy Mac Laren-Gomez, Secretary  
Amberrose Merino, Assistant Secretary

#### **Others Present:**

Dennis LaMoreaux, General Manager  
Adam Ly, Assistant General Manager  
Eric Dunn, General Counsel  
Judy Shay, Public Affairs Director  
Angelica Barragan-Garcia, Human Resources Dir.  
Scott Rogers, Engineering Manager  
Bob Egan, Financial Advisor  
Dawn Deans, Executive Assistant  
0 members of the public

### **3) Adoption of Agenda.**

It was moved by Director Dino, seconded by Director Wilson, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to adopt the agenda, as written:

President Dizmang – aye  
Director Dino – aye  
Director Wilson – aye  
Director Mac Laren-Gomez – aye  
Director Merino – aye

### **4) Public Comments for Non-Agenda Items.**

There were no public comments for non-agenda items.

**5) Presentations:**

**5.1) None At This Time.**

There were no presentations.

**6) Action Items – Consent Calendar: (The Public Shall Have an Opportunity to Comment on Any Action Item on the Consent Calendar as the Consent Calendar is Considered Collectively by the Board of Directors Prior to Action Being Taken.)**

**6.1) Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting Held November 22, 2021.**

**6.2) Payment of Bills for December 13, 2021.**

**6.3) Approval of Reappointment of Zakeya Anson to Palmdale Recycled Water Authority Board. (No Budget Impact – General Manager LaMoreaux)**

**6.4) Approval of Resolution No. 21-26 Being a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District Establishing its Investment Policy. (No Budget Impact – Finance Manager Hoffmeyer/Financial Advisor Egan/Finance Committee)**

**6.5) Approval of Resolution No. 21-27 Being a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District Proclaiming a Local Emergency Persists, Ratifying the Proclamation of a State of Emergency by the Governor Issued March 4, 2020, and Re-Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings of the Legislative Bodies of the Palmdale Water District for the Period Beginning January 1, 2022 and Ending January 30, 2022 Pursuant to Brown Act Provisions. (No Budget Impact – Assistant General Manager Ly)**

President Dizmang announced the items included in the Consent Calendar after which it was moved by Director Dino, seconded by Director Wilson, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to approve those items included in the Consent Calendar:

President Dizmang – aye

Director Dino – aye

Director Wilson – aye

Director Mac Laren-Gomez – aye  
Director Merino – aye

Resolution No.'s 21-26 and 21-27 are hereby made a portion of the minutes of this meeting.

**7) Action Items - Action Calendar (The Public Shall Have an Opportunity to Comment on Any Action Item as Each Item is Considered by the Board of Directors Prior to Action Being Taken.)**

**7.1) Consideration and Possible Action on Proposal Received From Nigro & Nigro for Auditing Services for Years 2021, 2022, and 2023. (\$58,000.00 – Budgeted – Budget Item No. 1-02-4150-000 – Finance Manager Hoffmeyer/Finance Committee)**

General Manager LaMoreaux provided an overview of the proposals received for auditing services after which it was moved by Director Dino, seconded by Director Merino, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to approve the proposal received from Nigro & Nigro for Auditing Services for Years 2021, 2022, and 2023 in the not-to-exceed amount of \$58,000.00:

President Dizmang – aye  
Director Dino – aye  
Director Wilson – aye  
Director Mac Laren-Gomez – aye  
Director Merino – aye

**7.2) Consideration and Possible Action on Authorization for Staff to Enter into a Contract With Cedro Construction, Inc. for the Water Main Replacement Project in 10<sup>th</sup> Street East and Avenue P. (\$434,289.000 – Budgeted Under W.O. No. 19-601 – Engineering Manager Rogers)**

Engineering Manager Rogers provided an overview of the proposals received for the construction of W.O. No. 19-601, and after clarification of staff's review of the proposals, it was moved by Director Mac Laren-Gomez, seconded by Director Wilson, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to authorize staff to enter into a contract with Cedro Construction, Inc. for the Water Main Replacement Project in 10<sup>th</sup> Street East and Avenue P in the not-to-exceed amount of \$434,289.00:

President Dizmang – aye  
Director Dino – aye  
Director Wilson – aye  
Director Mac Laren-Gomez – aye  
Director Merino – aye

**7.3) Consideration and Possible Action on Authorization for Staff to Enter into a Contract With Cedro Construction, Inc. for the 45<sup>th</sup> Street Altitude Valve Replacement Project at the District's 45<sup>th</sup> Street Reservoir Site. (\$368,125.000 – Budgeted Under W.O. No. 18-606 – Engineering Manager Rogers)**

Engineering Manager Rogers provided an overview of the proposals received for the construction of W.O. No. 18-606 after which it was moved by Director Merino, seconded by Director Wilson, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to authorize staff to enter into a contract with Cedro Construction, Inc. for the 45<sup>th</sup> Street Altitude Valve Replacement Project at the District's 45<sup>th</sup> Street Reservoir Site in the not-to-exceed amount of \$368,125.00:

President Dizmang – aye  
Director Dino – aye  
Director Wilson – aye  
Director Mac Laren-Gomez – aye  
Director Merino – aye

**7.4) Consideration and Possible Action on Authorization of the Following Conferences, Seminars, and Training Sessions for Board and Staff Attendance Within Budget Amounts Previously Approved in the 2021 Budget:**

- a) None at this Time.

There were no conferences, seminars, or training sessions to consider.

**8) Information Items:**

**8.1) Reports of Directors:**

- a) Standing Committees; Organization Appointments; Agency Liaisons:



**1) Finance Committee – November 23. (Director Wilson/President Dizmang)**

Director Wilson reported that he attended the Finance Committee meeting on November 23 where they reviewed the District's assets, liabilities, net position, unpaid water bills due to COVID-19, and relief from the state for these delinquent accounts.

**2) Antelope Valley East Kern Water Agency-AVEK – November 30. (Director Dino/Director Mac Laren-Gomez)**

Director Dino reported that he attended an AVEK meeting on November 30 where they discussed holding a water rate public hearing on December 14, 2021 and a Professional Services Agreement with Kennedy Jenks Consultants for On-Call Construction Management Services for their High Desert Water Bank.

**3) Palmdale Fin & Feather Club – December 6. (President Dizmang/Director Wilson, Alternate)**

President Dizmang reported that she attended the Palmdale Fin & Feather Club's election meeting on December 6 where they announced their new Directors and officers as Joe Beach, President; Ed Pendergast, Vice President; Andrew Trujillo, Recording Secretary; Roger Nicholas, Membership Secretary; Richard Salazar, Treasurer; Danny Pham, Director; Steve Derienzo, Director; and Arturo Cuevas, Director and that she will be providing pictures of the Club's new security building.

**4) Environmental Restoration Advisory Board-ERAB – December 8. (Director Wilson/Director Dino, Alternate)**

Director Wilson reported that he attended the ERAB meeting on December 8 where they discussed the plume due to cleaning solvent, PFOS/ PFOA contamination due to foam used by firefighting, the increased level of a well, and scheduled their next meeting for May 18, 2021.

**b) General Meetings Reports of Directors.**

Director Merino reported that on November 23, she attended the Finance Committee Meeting; that on November 29 to December 2, she attended the Association of California Water Agencies/Joint Powers Insurance Authority (ACWA/JPIA) Conference virtually and provided highlights from the presentations she attended and

shared several outreach ideas and programs gained from the Conference; and that on December 9, she attended a Board Briefing.

Director Wilson reported that on November 17, he attended the Outreach Committee Meeting and reviewed the highlights from the meeting; that on November 18, he attended a Board briefing; that on November 23, he attended the Finance Committee Meeting; that on November 29 to December 2, he attended the ACWA/JPIA Conference and provided highlights from the presentations he attended and topics gained from the Conference; and that on December 9, he attended a Board Briefing. He then congratulated Finance Manager Hoffmeyer on his new position.

Director Mac Laren-Gomez reported that on December 8, she attended the Antelope Valley Watermaster Special Meeting and reviewed the topics discussed and that on December 8 and 9, she attended the California Foundation on the Environment and Economy (CFEE) Conference and reviewed the topics discussed and conversations with area legislators regarding permits for the Littlerock Reservoir Sediment Removal Project. She then reviewed the benefits of the District's membership in CFEE.

Director Dino reported that on November 29, he attended an AVEK Finance Committee Meeting; that on November 30, he attended an AVEK Board Meeting; that on December 7, he attended a Board Briefing; that on December 8 and 9, he attended the CFEE Conference virtually; that on December 13, he is attending the Palmdale Water District Regular Board Meeting; that on December 14, he will be attending an AVEK Board Meeting; that on December 15, he will be attending the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) local chapter meeting; and that on December 17, he will be attending a CFEE Briefing virtually.

President Dizmang reported that on November 23, she attended the Finance Committee Meeting; that on November 29 to December 2, she attended the ACWA/JPIA Conference and reviewed her attached written report, which has also been provided to each of the Directors; that on December 6, she attended the Palmdale Fin & Feather Club Election Meeting; that on December 9, she attended a Board Briefing; that on December 14, she will be attending I.T. Security Training; that on December 15, she will be attending the District's Employee Barbecue; and that also on December 15, she will be attending the CSDA local chapter meeting.

**8.2) Report of General Manager.**

General Manager LaMoreaux clarified that the District's Rate Assistance Program is only available to residential customers but that the District's rebate programs are available to both residential and commercial customers.

He then stated that the District is a member of the Water Education Foundation, and their publications are available in the Board office; that the District received the COVID-19 water bill arrearage check from the state, which will be applied to customers' delinquent accounts after clarification on its usage; and that CFEE can be of benefit to the District, and CFEE Conference information has been provided to the Directors.

**8.3) Report of General Counsel.**

General Counsel Dunn provided a report on a case involving eminent domain for the installation of a water main on a private development.

**9) Board Members' Requests for Future Agenda Items.**

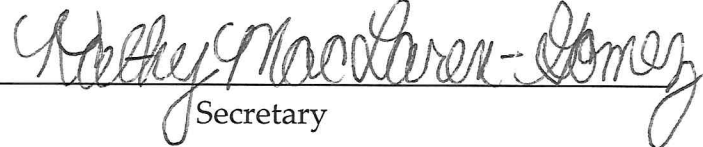
President Dizmang requested a future agenda for "Update on developments during the current water situation and long-term planning."

Director Mac Laren-Gomez then requested a future agenda item for "Update on the District's involvement in local water banking and water transfers."

There were no further requests for future agenda items.

**10) Adjournment.**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

  
Secretary

## **RESOLUTION NO. 21-26**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT ESTABLISHING ITS INVESTMENT POLICY**

#### **1.0 POLICY**

**WHEREAS;** the Legislature of the State of California has declared that the deposit and investment of public funds by local officials and local agencies is an issue of statewide concern; and

**WHEREAS;** the legislative body of a local agency may invest monies not required for the immediate necessities of the local agency in accordance with the provisions of California Government Code Sections 5922 and 53601 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS;** the Deputy Treasurer of the Palmdale Water District ("District") shall annually prepare and submit a statement of investment policy and such policy, and any changes thereto, and report same to the Finance Committee, and it shall be considered by the Board of Directors at a public meeting;

**NOW THEREFORE;** it shall be the policy of the District to invest funds in a manner which will provide the highest investment return with the maximum security while meeting the daily cash flow demands of the District and conforming to all statutes governing the investment of District funds.

#### **2.0 SCOPE**

This investment policy applies to all investment activities and financial assets of the District. These funds are accounted for in the annual district audit.

#### **3.0 PRUDENCE**

The standard of prudence to be used by investment officers shall be the "prudent investor" standard, pursuant to California Government Code 53600.3, and shall be applied in the context of managing an overall portfolio. Persons authorized to make investment decisions on behalf of local agencies investing public funds are trustees and therefore fiduciaries subject to the prudent investor standard. Investments shall be made with judgment and care, under circumstances then prevailing, including, but not limited to, the general economic conditions and the anticipated needs of the District, which persons of prudence, discretion and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs; not for speculation, but for investment, considering the probable safety of their capital as well as the probable income to be derived. Investment officers acting in accordance with written procedures and the investment policy and exercising due diligence shall be relieved of personal responsibility for an individual security's credit risk or market price changes, provided deviations from expectations are reported in a timely fashion and appropriate action is taken to control adverse developments.

#### **4.0 OBJECTIVES**

When investing, reinvesting, purchasing, acquiring, exchanging, selling and managing public funds, the primary objectives, in priority order, of the investment activities shall be:

1. Safety: Safety of principal is the foremost objective of the investment program. Investments of the District shall be undertaken in a manner that seeks to ensure the preservation of capital in the overall portfolio. To attain this objective, the District will diversify its investments by investing funds among a variety of securities with independent returns.

2. Liquidity: The investment portfolio will remain sufficiently liquid to enable the District to meet all operating requirements which might be reasonably anticipated.

3. Return on Investments: The investment portfolio shall be designed with the objective of attaining a acceptable rate of return throughout budgetary and economic cycles, taking into account the District's investment risk constraints and the cash flow characteristics of the portfolio.

#### **5.0 DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY**

Pursuant to California Government Code 53607, the authority to invest public funds of the District is expressly delegated to the Board of Directors of the District (the "Board"). The Board re-delegates the investment function to the Board President or Vice President. The Board President or Vice President, with the concurrence of the Board Finance Committee, designate the District's Financial Advisor as the Deputy Treasurer who shall have the authority to act on behalf of the District and shall assume full responsibility for those transactions until the delegation is revoked or expires. The Board President or Vice President shall delegate the day-to-day operations of investing to the Deputy Treasurer, but not the responsibility for the overall investment program. All transactions will be reviewed by the Finance Committee on a monthly basis to assure compliance with this Investment Policy.

#### **6.0 ETHICS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

The Board, officers and employees of the District involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with the proper execution and management of the investment program, or which could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions.

#### **7.0 AUTHORIZED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND DEALERS**

The Deputy Treasurer will maintain a list of financial institutions, selected on the basis of credit worthiness, financial strength, experience and minimal capitalization, authorized to provide investment services to the District. In addition, a list will also be maintained of approved security broker/dealers selected by credit worthiness who are authorized to provide investment and financial advisory services in the State of California. No public deposit shall be made except in a qualified public depository as established by state laws.

For brokers/dealers of government securities and other investments, the District shall select only broker/dealers who are licensed and in good standing with the California Department of Business Oversight, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority or other applicable self-regulatory organizations.

Before engaging in investment transactions with a broker/dealer, the Deputy Treasurer shall have received from said firm a signed Certification Form. This form shall attest that the individual responsible for the District's account with that firm has reviewed the District's Investment Policy and that the firm understands this policy and intends to present investment recommendations and transactions to the District that are appropriate under the terms and conditions of this Investment Policy. A current audited financial statement is required to be on file for each financial institution and broker/dealer in which the District invests.

Further, all financial institutions and broker/dealers who desire to conduct investment transactions with the District must supply the Deputy Treasurer with a Certification Form and other documents as the Deputy Treasurer may reasonably deem necessary to make a determination that such financial institution or broker/dealer is reputable and trustworthy.

#### **8.0 AUTHORIZED AND SUITABLE INVESTMENTS**

The District is empowered by California Government Code 53601 et seq. to invest in the following:

- a. Bonds issued by the District.
- b. United States Treasury Bills, Notes and Bonds.
- c. Federal agency or United States government-sponsored enterprise obligations, participations, or other instruments, including those issued by, or fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by federal agencies or United States government-sponsored enterprises.
- d. Negotiable certificates of deposit issued by a nationally or state-chartered bank, a savings association or a federal association (as defined by Section 5102 of the Financial Code), or by a state-licensed branch of a foreign bank. Purchases of negotiable certificates of deposit may not exceed 60% of the District's money which may be invested pursuant to this policy.
- e. Monies held by a trustee or fiscal agent and pledged to the payment or security of bonds or other indebtedness, or obligations under a lease, installment sale, or other agreement of a local agency, or certificates of participation in those bonds, indebtedness, or lease installment sale, or other agreements, may be invested in accordance with the statutory provisions governing the issuance of those bonds, indebtedness, or lease installment sale, or other agreement, or to the extent not inconsistent therewith or if there are no specific statutory provisions, in accordance with the ordinance, resolution, indenture, or agreement of the local agency providing for the issuance.



- f. Bonds, notes, warrants or other evidence of debt issued by a local agency within the State of California, including pooled investment accounts sponsored by the State of California, County Treasurers, other local agencies or Joint Powers Agencies.

Such investments shall be limited to securities that at the time of the investment have a term remaining to maturity of five years or less, or as provided above.

The District shall not invest any funds covered by this Investment Policy in inverse floaters, range notes, interest-only strips derived from mortgage pools or any investment that may result in a zero interest accrual if held to maturity.

## **9.0 COLLATERALIZATION**

All certificates of deposit must be collateralized by United States Treasury Obligations. Collateral must be held by a third party trustee and valued on a monthly basis. The percentage of collateralizations on repurchase and reverse agreements will adhere to the amount required under California Government Code 53601(j)(2).

## **10.0 SAFEKEEPING AND CUSTODY**

All security transactions entered into by the District shall be conducted on delivery-versus-payment (DVP) basis. All securities purchased or acquired shall be delivered to the District by book entry, physical delivery or by third party custodial agreement evidence by safekeeping receipts.

## **11.0 DIVERSIFICATION**

The District will diversify its investments by security type and institution. Assets shall be diversified to mitigate the risk of loss resulting from over concentration of assets in a specific maturity, a specific issuer or a specific class of securities.

Diversification strategies shall be reviewed and revised periodically. In establishing specific diversification strategies, the following general policies and constraints shall apply:

- a. Portfolio maturity dates shall be matched versus liabilities to avoid undue concentration in a specific maturity sector.
- b. Maturities selected shall provide for stability of income and liquidity.
- c. Disbursement and payroll dates shall be covered through maturities of investments, marketable United States Treasury bills or other cash equivalent instruments such as money market mutual funds.

## 12.0 REPORTING

The Deputy Treasurer, after review by the Finance Committee, shall submit to each member of the Board an investment report at least quarterly. Pursuant to California Government Code 53646, the report shall include a complete description of the portfolio, the type of investments, the issuers, maturity dates, par values and the current market values of each component of the portfolio, including funds managed for District by third party contracted managers. The report will also include the source of the portfolio valuation. For funds which are placed in LAIF, FDIC-insured accounts and/or in a county investment pool, the foregoing report elements may be replaced by copies of the latest statements from such institutions. The report must also include a certification that (1) all investment actions executed since the last report have been made in full compliance with the Investment Policy, and (2) the District will meet its expenditure obligations for the next six months. The Deputy Treasurer shall maintain a complete and timely record of all investment transactions.

## 13.0 INVESTMENT POLICY ADOPTION

This Investment Policy shall be adopted by resolution of the District. Moreover, the Policy shall be reviewed on an annual basis, and modifications must be approved by the Board.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Palmdale Water District held on December 13, 2021. Resolution No. 21-26 was adopted by the following vote:

**AYES:** President Dizmang, Directors Dino, Wilson, Mac Laren-Gomez, Merino

**NOES:** None.


**ABSTAIN:** None.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Board of Directors  
Palmdale Water District

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Board of Directors

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Aleshire & Wynder, General Counsel



STATE OF CALIFORNIA                    )  
  )  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES            )       ss.

I, Kathy Mac Laren-Gomez, Secretary of the Palmdale Water District, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of Resolution No. 21-26 of the Board of Directors of Palmdale Water District adopted at a Regular Meeting held on December 13, 2021 and that the same has not been amended or repealed.

  
Secretary, Board of Directors  
Palmdale Water District

DATED: December 13, 2021

(S E A L)





UBS Financial Services Inc.  
515 S. Flower St Suite 50  
Los Angeles, CA 90071  
Tel: 213-253-5235  
Email: ruby.mardueno@ubs.com

<http://www.ubs.com/team/giordano>


Finance Committee  
Palmdale Water District  
2029 East Ave Q  
Palmdale, CA 93550

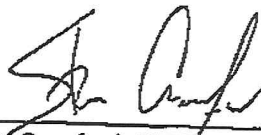
November 16, 2021

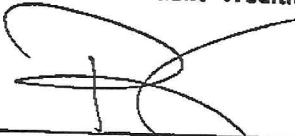
Dear Sirs:

This letter certifies that I have read and understand the Palmdale Water District Investment Policy. I will present investment recommendations and transactions that are appropriate under its terms and conditions.

Sincerely,

  
James Giordano, CFP®, CRPS®  
Senior Vice President- Wealth Mgmnt

  
Steve Crawford, CRPS®  
First Vice President - Wealth Mgmnt

  
Ruby Mardueno, CFP®  
Team Administrator

## **RESOLUTION NO. 21-27**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT PROCLAIMING A LOCAL EMERGENCY PERSISTS, RATIFYING THE PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY BY THE GOVERNOR ISSUED MARCH 4, 2020, AND RE-AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODIES OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2022 AND ENDING JANUARY 30, 2022 PURSUANT TO BROWN ACT PROVISIONS.**

WHEREAS, the Palmdale Water District is committed to preserving and nurturing public access and participation in meetings of the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, all meetings of Palmdale Water District's ("District") legislative bodies are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code 54950 – 54963), so that any member of the public may attend, participate, and watch the District's legislative bodies conduct their business; and

WHEREAS, the Brown Act, Government Code section 54953(e), makes provisions for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, without compliance with the requirements of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), subject to the existence of certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, a required condition is that a state of emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to Government Code section 8625, proclaiming the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state caused by conditions as described in Government Code section 8558; and

WHEREAS, a proclamation is made when there is an actual incident, threat of disaster, or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the jurisdictions that are within the District's boundaries, caused by natural, technological, or human-caused disasters; and

WHEREAS, it is further required that state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, or, the legislative body meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees; and

WHEREAS, such conditions now exist in the District, specifically, a State of Emergency has been proclaimed by the Governor of the State of California on March 4, 2020 in response to the global outbreak of the novel Coronavirus disease ("COVID-19"); and

WHEREAS, meeting in person would present an imminent risk to the health and safety of attendees due to the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors does hereby find that a State of Emergency has been proclaimed as a result of the threat of COVID-19 and the contagious nature of COVID-19 have caused, and will continue to cause, conditions of peril to the safety of persons within the District that are likely to be beyond the control of services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the District, and desires to proclaim a local emergency and ratify the proclamation of state of emergency by the Governor of the State of California; and

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the local emergency, the Board of Directors does hereby find that the legislative bodies of the Palmdale Water District shall conduct their meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Government Code section 54953, as authorized by subdivision (e) of section 54953, and that such legislative bodies shall comply with the requirements to provide the public with access to the meetings as prescribed in paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, the Palmdale Water District offers the option of teleconferencing to ensure access for the public to attend meetings.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The Recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. Proclamation of Local Emergency. The Board hereby proclaims that a local emergency now exists throughout the District, and meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees due to the serious and contagious nature of COVID-19.

Section 3. Ratification of Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency. The Board hereby ratifies the Governor of the State of California's Proclamation of a State of Emergency, effective as of its issuance date of March 4, 2020.

Section 4. Remote Teleconference Meetings. The staff, General Manager, and legislative bodies of the Palmdale Water District are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution including conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

Section 5. Effective Date of Resolution. This Resolution shall take effect on January 1, 2022 and shall be effective until the earlier of (i) January 30, 2022, which is 30 days from the adoption of this Resolution, or (ii) such time the Board of Directors adopts a subsequent resolution in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to extend the time during which the legislative bodies of the Palmdale Water District may continue to teleconference without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021, by the following vote:


AYES: President Dizmang, Directors Dino, Wilson, Mac Laren-Gomez, and Merino  
NOES: None.  
ABSENT: None.  
ABSTAIN: None.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary, Board of Directors

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Aleshire & Wynder, LLP, General Counsel

# **ACWA CONFERENCE FALL 2021**

Report by G. Dizmang, Director, District 3

## **PART ONE: JPIA CONFERENCE NOV. 29-30**

### **MONDAY**

#### **I. Program Opening—Uncovering Hidden Treasures**

This was interesting. Each delegate was given a True/False card and responded to statements made by the divisions in JPIA as to what the organization did, or did not cover. Most of the responses were right on except for a few, which were then explained or discussed.

This was a good way for everyone to review the diverse functions of the organization and to actually see the staff.

#### **II. Board of Directors Meeting**

This was a general meeting and all of the usual items were observed: pledge of allegiance, minutes of past meeting in the consent calendar.

A unique feature of the organization is that they present an entire section called "Glossary of Terms" which is designed to assist those of us who do not speak "insurancese" a better understanding as to the goals and functions of this organization. Unfortunately, some of us are so ignorant of this field that we really can't keep up. Nevertheless, it is a real courtesy provided by JPIA.

Other actions were the acceptance of new members; a review of the changes to the by-laws; changes to the JPIA Conflict of Interest Code;. Most of these changes had to do with the construction of the committees rather than purpose or goals.

#### **III. Fincancial**

Here the investment policy was reviewed and changes were adopted. Some of the changes were as follows:

- elimination of the 10% limit on the outstanding commercial paper as it is no longer up to Code.

- recommends that local agencies that have more than \$100,000 of investment assets to allow 40% instead of the current 25% in commercial paper in order to match the current Code.



—allows local agencies to invest in securities issued or backed by the US government, even in loss, as long as they are held to maturity.

—allows federally recognized Indian tribes to invest and participate in JPAs. (I guess this eliminates the local Dry Throat Need Water tribe, to which we belong.)

#### **IV. PROGRAMS**

##### Pooled Programs

This had to do with the pooling of the four programs: Liability, Property, Workers Compensation, and Employee Benefits Programs. These programs form a self-insured pool, sometimes referred as just self-insures. The portion of loss is allotted to the first \$1 million of each occurrence. Loss amounts larger than this are paid by excess insurance.

While these programs are pooled not all members belong to the same pools. Over time, the membership gaps are narrowing with improved pricing, expanded coverages, increased coverages, increased outreach programs, and coordinated focus on customer service.

The staff will be reviewing each program.

##### California Water Insurance Fund Update (informational)

In 2018 the Board of Directors creating a Captive Insurance Company, which is a private company owned by JPIA. In addition to Paid in Equity, the JPIA passes losses at the primary level to the Liability and Workers Comp Programs.

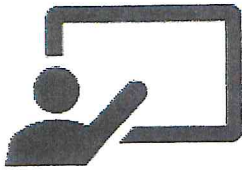
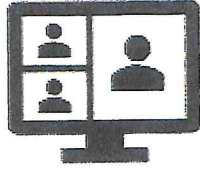

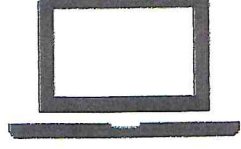
Since its inception the rate of return (as of 9/21) is 15.45%. The book value of the CWIF portfolio was over \$66 million vs. a market of over \$76 million.

#### **V. MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS**

##### Training Update

Because of COVID training online has emphasized for its members. Employed have been live webinars through WebEx and Zoom. Consequently there have been 31 program completions by 21 employees from 12 member agencies. New training options including over 50 online videos in the online JPIA Lending Library and a growing catalog of DVDs that are available for member check out.

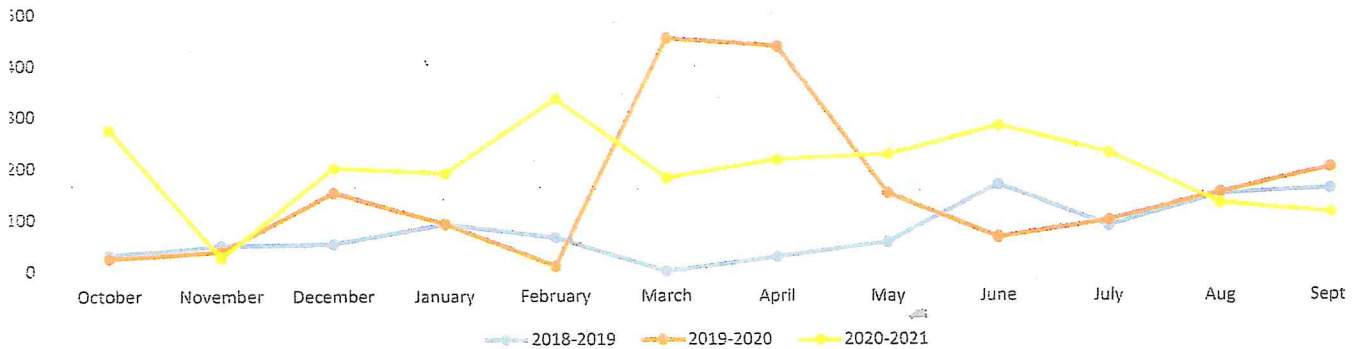
(Please see the following graph)

Mode of Training	In Person (Classroom)	WebEx Training (Webinar/Virtual Instructor-Led)	VectorSolutions (eLearning)	JPIA Prosperity (eLearning)
				
Oct to Sept 2019 - 2020	3,956 attendees*	1,872 attendees**	33,421 course completions	459 course completions
Oct to Sept 2020 - 2021	0 attendees	2,410 attendees**	33,798 course completions	825 course completions

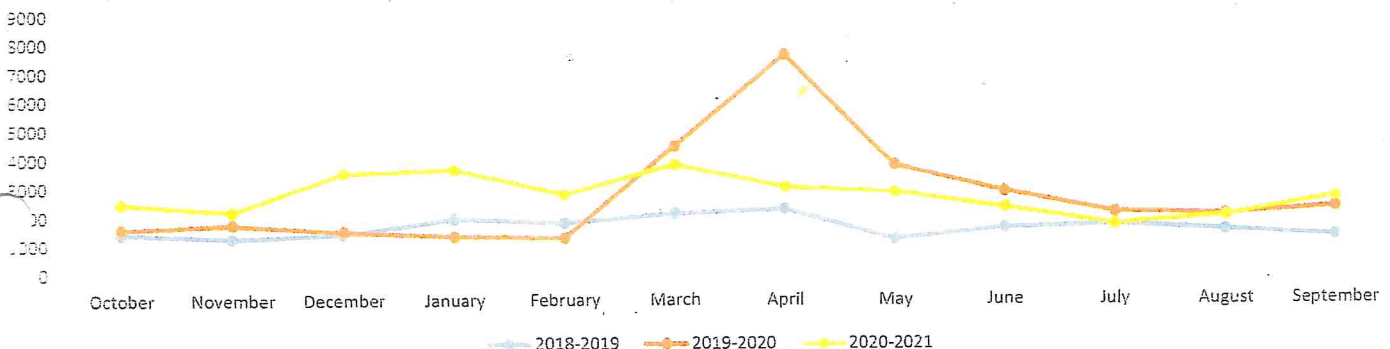
\*252 Total In-Person Classes Conducted Pre-COVID19, Oct 2019 to March 2020

\*\*33 Live webinars in FY 2019-2020, 58 Live webinars FY 2020- 2021

JPIA Live Webinar/Virtual Instructor-Led Attendees  
FY Oct-Sept 2018-2021



JPIA VectorSolutions Course Completions  
FY Oct to Sept 2018-2021



### Human Resource Update (informational)

This year JPIA was working hard to keep agencies updated to the myriad of new rules and changes, and helping them navigate the new information and answer questions.

Two virtual statewide meetings were held—in February and in October. There were over 100 participants in each. The questions addressed were “The Art of Asking Powerful Questions” and “Navigating the Workplace Drama.”

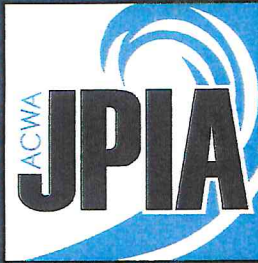
JPIA has also continued the monthly Hat Java, and Hot HR Topics. Three webinars regarding New Laws for 2022 will be held in the coming months.

## **VI. CEO UPDATE**

## **VII. OTHER BUSINESS**

During the entire meeting various honors and presentations were made, some taking up entire pages. I decided to opt out on this part.





# Services and Resources

*Building  
on Success*

Use the list below to insure your district is utilizing all of the benefits available through the JPIA.

## Claims

- ☐ In-house claims handling
- ☐ Direct access to adjusters
- ☐ Claims review for open workers' compensation, liability, and property claims
- ☐ Program reviews showing trends and claim costs
- ☐ Virtual or onsite training
- ☐ Assistance with locating occupational clinics

## Finance

- ☐ Budgeting assistance
- ☐ Billing questions answered
- ☐ Refund check presentations to Board
- ☐ Education on Rate Stabilization Fund

## Risk Management Services

- ☐ Risk assessment/consultation visits and staff training
- ☐ Participation in H.R. LaBounty Safety Awards Program and Risk Control Grant Program
- ☐ Online resources including Risk Control Manual and Commitment to Excellence Program

- ☐ Assistance with developing, implementing, and maintaining safety policies and programs
- ☐ Ergonomic evaluations
- ☐ Risk control publications

## Training Resources

- ☐ On-site, local, and regional classes; annual training conferences
- ☐ Online training resources, including live and recorded water-industry specific webinars and e-learning
- ☐ Training library with over 600 DVDs for check out and streaming videos
- ☐ Professional Development Program Certifications in Human Resources, Operations, and Supervisor Basics

## Member Services

- ☐ Risk transfer hotline
- ☐ Risk transfer manual
- ☐ Personal response on coverage questions

## Human Resources Services

- ☐ Employment Practices

Hotline, including free legal consultations

- ☐ Online resources, including job descriptions, forms, sample policies and much more
- ☐ Regional HR group meetings and networking forums
- ☐ Handbook reviews
- ☐ Occu-Med, Inc. pre-employment physicals and fit-for-duty services
- ☐ Discounted background checks

## Employee Benefit Services

- ☐ Tailored one-on-one consultations, including policy review, strategy, and plan comparisons
- ☐ Employee advocacy for claim issues
- ☐ Customer service direct to employees and retirees
- ☐ Online self-service benefits enrollment
- ☐ Electronic billing and reporting available to benefits and/or finance staff
- ☐ Annual Wellness Grants

# **ACWA CONFERENCE FALL 2021**

## **PART TWO: ACWA CONFERENCE**

### **Seminars**

#### **I. Seven Decades of Medicare**

This had the potential of being a very effective presentation. There even slides to enhance it. However, the presenter kept losing her place in her notes, and she failed to provide background that would have made the presentation more meaningful.

For instance, when FDR pushed for the creation of Social Security, she just said he did and continued on. Today there are many critics who do not understand the reasons behind it. If she had explained that during the first few years of the Great Depression, over 5000 banks closed, causing people to lose everything. Those especially hit were the retirees who had saved their money over years, and now were left with nothing. (FDR also created the FDIC so that now our money is protected.). Social Security was never designed to be the sole retirement income, but was to be an assist to those who lost everything, and it was also one of our first responses to our development into an industrialized society. In an agricultural climate, communities were smaller and you could raise your food, even if everything else had failed. It is hard to do when you live in a tenement with concrete to plow. By understanding the reasons behind the cause of something, it is better to understand it and defend it. It could have been more effective.

#### **II. The "Success" in Succession Planning Begins with the Unique Role of the Board**

I have often wondered on the righteousness of "succession" management in light of laws preventing the equal opportunity for people were were not the succession. This was never really addressed.

This issue was never addressed during the presentation. Instead they reviewed how they made choices based on succession. Succession is a common practice among public agencies, mainly because it makes sense to train a person who is already a part of the job to meet the qualifications.



The main thing to remember is to make a choice from a selection of qualified candidates. While you may have been grooming someone for the job, you never can tell if a more qualified person shows up to apply

## Workshops

### **I. Water Theft During Times of Drought**

The young members of the panel were prepared to give a textbook presentation with the definition and statistics of water theft from hydrants and meter tampering and the solutions that need to be done, but they forgot (or didn't know about the gorilla in the room— actual water theft using trucks and pumps).

Things started getting serious when a representative from a District that was experiencing these thefts to provide water for cannabis farming and asking if anything had been or is being done in the legislature to help combat this.

The panel were somewhat shocked at this and generally dismissed it as a rare situation, which really got my engine running. I rose to speak about our situation which is very serious because our cannabis problems is rooted in cartel activity and there doesn't seem to be a single source to whom we can reach out for assistance. Not only are these cartels stealing water from ranchers, sometimes holding them hostage, they are also going to the aqueduct to replenish their supplies. And, since they are controlled by their cartels, the workers camps are in the mountains and guarded. This really shocked some of the panel. I am hopeful that the next conference we have might deal with this problem.

### **II. Strategies for Successful Drought Campaigns**

One off the first concepts to a successful campaign is to join together with different agencies to spread the same message.

Focus on new water projects that are taking place, or improvement of current infrastructure.

Use data to inform the public.

Show water district individuals talking about changes, policy, innovations, etc. People like to relate to people. Spotlight a lab technician in their lab talking about purity in the water. Or go out into the field and discuss what this person is doing and how it will help to persevere the water supply. In other words—PUT A FACE ON THE SITUATION.

Have these people speak about how to conserve water and how the public can help.

### **General comments and information**

The facilities were good for the meetings. As far as COVID ACWA did a good job in keeping to the guidelines of protection and prevention. Masks were worn and distancing was adhered to.

The meetings ranged from 1 1/2 hours to 4 hours, sometimes without a break. When you are sitting in a 3+ hour meeting on mesh aluminum chairs, without a break, it is hard to concentrate and remember.

There are many areas where some speakers need to have more training in presentation. The people who work for ACWA and JPIA are intelligent and capable, but some have difficulty conveying this.

The food was pretty good for a conference.