

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT, JANUARY 24, 2022:

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District was held Monday, January 24, 2022, 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, Assistant General Manager Ly led the pledge of allegiance.

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
G. Ross Trindle, General Counsel
Judy Shay, Public Affairs Director
Dennis Hoffmeyer, Finance Manager
Jim Stanton, Information Technology Manager
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.

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 January 10, 2022.

6.2) Payment of Bills for January 24, 2022.

6.3) Approval of Resolution No. 22-1 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 February 1, 2022 and Ending February 28, 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 Merino, 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. 22-1 is 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) Presentation and Discussion of 2021 Accomplishments. (Assistant General Manager Ly)

Assistant General Manager Ly provided a detailed overview of the District's accomplishments for 2021 including the budget for 2021, capital improvement projects completed and carried-over, bond funding and refinancing, the completion of the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan, tasks and projects completed for each of the District's departments, staff retirement and recruitments, the completion and transition of the District's new website, grant funding awarded for specific projects, the continuation of the effects of COVID-19 on the District's operations and finances, the District's new fleet, and the upcoming projects and updates for 2022.

The Board then thanked staff for the presentation and commended staff on the achievements for 2021.

7.2) 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 2022 Budget:

a) Water Education Foundation Lower Colorado River Tour 2022 to be held March 16 – 18, 2022.

b) American Society of Civil Engineers 11th International Symposium on Managed Aquifer Recharge to be held April 11 – 15, 2022 in Long Beach.

After a brief discussion of these conferences, seminars, and training sessions, 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 following conferences, seminars, and training sessions for Board and staff attendance within budget amounts previously approved in the 2022 Budget: Water Education Foundation Lower Colorado River Tour 2022 to be held March 16 – 18, 2022 and American Society of Civil Engineers 11th International Symposium on Managed Aquifer Recharge to be held April 11 – 15, 2022 in Long Beach:

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

8) Information Items:

8.1) Reports of Directors:

a) Standing Committees; Organization Appointments; Agency Liaisons:

**1) Antelope Valley East Kern Water Agency-AVEK – January 11.
(Director Dino/Director Mac Laren-Gomez, Alternate)**

Director Dino reported that he attended an AVEK Board Meeting on January 11, and that most of the meeting was held in closed session.

**2) Personnel Committee – January 11. (Director Mac Laren-Gomez,
Chair/Director Merino)**

Director Mac Laren-Gomez reported that she attended the Personnel Committee meeting on January 11 where they discussed stipends for Directors opting out of the District's medical insurance plan and that the Committee also recommended approval of Amendment No. 1 to the Contract Services Agreement with JL Group, LLC for Human Resources employee investigations.

**3) Palmdale Recycled Water Authority (PRWA) – January 18.
(Director Dino/Director Wilson/Director Mac Laren-Gomez, Alternate)**

Director Wilson reported that he attended the Palmdale Recycled Water Authority meeting on January 18 and that PRWA will meet again on March 22.

**4) Outreach Committee – January 19. (Director Mac Laren-Gomez,
Chair/Director Wilson)**

Director Mac Laren -Gomez reported that she attended an Outreach Committee meeting on January 19 where they discussed the District's drought response and the current and future District activities.

b) General Meetings Reports of Directors.

Director Merino reported that on January 11, she attended the Personnel Committee Meeting; that on January 13, she attended the AWWA Webinar: Lessons

Learned from 2015 Drought - How to Prepare for the Next and that she recommends the District offer educational classes in-lieu of fines for water waste; that on January 18, she attended the CSDA Webinar: Brown Act Refresher and Updates; that also on January 18, she attended the Palmdale Recycled Water Authority (PRWA) meeting; that on January 19, she attended the CSDA Webinar: New World of Remote Work; that on January 20, she attended a Board Briefing; and that on January 24, she is attending the Palmdale Water District Regular Board Meeting.

Director Wilson reported that on December 8, he attended the Environmental Restoration Advisory Board meeting, that on January 18, he attended the PRWA meeting; that on January 19, he attended the Outreach Committee meeting; that on January 20, he attended a Board Briefing; and that on January 25, he will be attending the Finance Committee meeting

Director Mac Laren-Gomez reported that on December 9, she attended a Board Briefing; that on January 11, she attended the Personnel Committee meeting; that on January 12, she attended the United Water Conservation District (UWCD) Zoom meeting; that on January 18, she attended the PRWA meeting; that on January 19, she attended the Outreach Committee meeting; that on January 20, she attended a Board Briefing; and that on January 24, she attended a Watermaster Briefing.

Director Dino reported that on January 6, he attended a Board Briefing; that on January 10, he attended the Palmdale Water District Regular Board Meeting; that on January 11, he attended an AVEK Board Meeting; that also on January 11, he attended the Personnel Committee meeting; that on January 12, he attended the UWCD Zoom meeting; that on January 18, he attended the PRWA meeting; that on January 20, he attended a Board Briefing; that on January 24, he is attending the Palmdale Water District Regular Board Meeting; that on January 25, he will be attending the AVEK Board meeting; that on January 26, he will be attending the CSDA Chapter Board meeting; and that on January 27, he will be attending the Palmdale Water District Special Board Redistricting meeting.

President Dizmang reported that on January 12, she attended the UWCD Zoom meeting; that on January 13, she attended a Board Briefing; that on January 20, she attended a Board Briefing; that on January 22, she visited the Palmdale Fin & Feather Club to take photos of the proposed observation post; that on January 25, she will be attending the Finance Committee meeting; that on January 26, she will be attending the

CSDA Chapter Board meeting; and that on January 27, she will be attending the Palmdale Water District Special Board Redistricting meeting.

8.2) Report of General Manager.

General Manager LaMoreaux reported that the District's State Water Project allocation has been increased from 0% to 15% improving the District's position to meet customer demands; that Public Affairs Director Shay was accepted as a member of the ACWA Communications Committee; and that the Budget books include detailed department lists of accomplishments from last year and goals for this year.

8.3) Report of General Counsel.

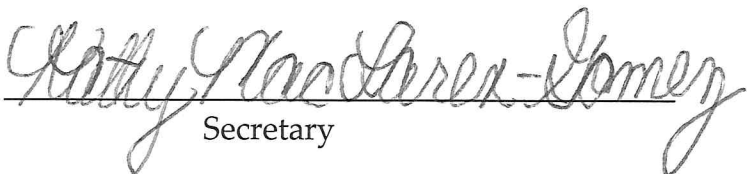
President Dizmang introduced the District's new legal counsel, Mr. G. Ross Trindle, after which General Counsel Trindle provided an overview of his professional background.

9) Board Members' Requests for Future Agenda Items.

Director Merino requested that staff explore the options of providing educational classes in-lieu of fines for water waste.

10) Adjournment.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.


Secretary

RESOLUTION NO. 22-1

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 FEBRUARY 1, 2022 AND ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 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 February 1, 2022 and shall be effective until the earlier of (i) February 28, 2022, which is 28 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 24th day of January, 2022, by the following vote:

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