MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT, FEBRUARY 25, 2015:

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District was held Wednesday, February 25, 2015, at 2029 East Avenue Q, Palmdale, California, in the Board Room of the District office. President, Kathy Mac Laren, called the meeting to order.

She then welcomed elected officials Juan Carrillo, Palmdale School District Director, and newly elected AVEK Director, Shelly Sorsabal, to the meeting.

1) Pledge of Allegiance.

At the request of President Mac Laren, Director Dino led the pledge of allegiance.

2) Roll Call.

Attendance:	**Others Present:**
Kathy Mac Laren, President	Dennis LaMoreaux, General Manager
Robert Alvarado, Vice President	Lindsay Tabaian, Assistant General Counsel
Gloria Dizmang, Treasurer	Matt Knudson, Assistant General Manager
Joe Estes, Secretary	Mike McNutt, PIO/Conservation Director
Vincent Dino, Director	Jim Riley, Engineering/Grant Manager
	Jon Pernula, Water & Energy Resources Director
	Dawn Deans, Executive Assistant
	5 members of the public

3) Adoption of Agenda.

It was moved by Director Alvarado, seconded by Director Dino, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting to adopt the agenda, as written.

4) Public Comments for Non-Agenda Items.

There were no public comments.

5) Presentations:

5.1) Cash for Grass Rebate Program. (PIO/ Conservation Director McNutt)

PIO/Conservation Director McNutt stated that under the Cash for Grass Rebate Program, $1,932.00 was awarded to the Zheng family, $1,582.00 was awarded to the

Chavez family, and $1,494.00 was awarded to the Schaeffer family and then reviewed before and after photos of their landscapes, the amount of grass removed and water saved, and the total amount to-date issued under all District Rebate Programs.

5.2) Littlerock Creek Groundwater Recharge and Recovery Project. (Kennedy/Jenks Consultants/Assistant General Manager Knudson)

Mr. David Ferguson, of Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, provided a detailed overview of the results of their Feasibility Study for the Littlerock Creek Groundwater Recharge and Recovery Project including their findings and the purpose of the Project, a long term water supply strategy incorporating recycled water, a description of the project and the best location for recharge, other alternatives considered, how the Project will operate, the cost and potential partners, public outreach, land and easement acquisitions, and a proposed one year work plan for preparing environmental work for the Project.

Assistant General Manager Knudson then stated that Kennedy/Jenks Consultants will be authorized to conduct critical field work for the preparation of environmental work for this Project with funds remaining in the Feasibility Study budget; that Kennedy/Jenks Consultants' one year work plan proposal will be presented to the Board for consideration in March; and that local agency representatives attending the Stakeholder Meeting on this Project this afternoon expressed a partnership interest.

6) Action Items – Consent 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.)

6.1) Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting Held February 11, 2015.

6.2) Payment of Bills for February 25, 2015.

President Mac Laren announced the items included in the Consent Calendar after which it was moved by Director Dizmang, seconded by Director Dino, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting to approve those items included in the Consent Calendar.

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 to Approve Submittal of a WaterSMART Application to the Bureau of Reclamation for the Littlerock Creek Groundwater Recharge and Recovery Project – Resolution No. 15-4. (Engineering/Grant Manager Riley)

Engineering/Grant Manager Riley provided an overview of the Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART grant application process, and after a brief discussion, it was moved by Director Dino, seconded by Director Alvarado, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting to approve the submittal of a WaterSMART grant application to the Bureau of Reclamation for the Littlerock Creek Groundwater Recharge and Recovery Project, to approve the grant proposal request for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to provide $150,000 for the Federal cost share funds for the grant, and to approve and authorize the Board President's execution of Resolution No. 15-4 approving the District's WaterSMART grant proposal.

A copy of said Resolution No. 15-4 is hereby made a portion of the minutes of this meeting.

7.2) Consideration and Possible Action to Direct Staff to Work With Other Local Agencies to Explore the Possibility of an Area wide Wi-Fi System. (General Manager LaMoreaux)

General Manager LaMoreaux stated that informal discussions have been held amongst City of Palmdale leaders, the District, and the Palmdale School District Board regarding the creation of a Wi-Fi system to cover the area of the agencies and that based on these discussions, staff requests direction from the Board to gather information and to gain an understanding from other agency area wide Wi-Fi systems and to conduct meetings with representatives of the City of Palmdale and Palmdale School District.

Mr. Juan Carrillo, Board Member for the Palmdale School District, stated that he and the Palmdale School District Board fully support the creation of a partnership for the implementation of an area wide Wi-Fi system; that they have had informal discussions within their District on creating a partnership to provide a Wi-Fi system throughout the area for their students so they are able to access homework assignments; that providing this Wi-Fi to the District's constituents would also help tremendously throughout the area; that other cities have successfully implemented an area wide Wi-Fi system; and then encouraged the Board to give direction to staff to work on making this great opportunity a reality, and they will give the same direction to their staff.

After a further discussion of creating an area wide Wi-Fi system, of how providing this service can help the District's constituents, of grants to assist disadvantaged communities, of becoming a Regional Leader, and of the Freedom of Information Act, it was moved by Director Dizmang, seconded by Director Alvarado, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting to direct staff to explore the possibility of an area wide Wi-Fi system and to work with the City of Palmdale and the Palmdale School District on this opportunity.

7.3) Consideration and possible action on Board and Staff Attendance at Conferences, Seminars, and Training Sessions as Follows: None at This Time.

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

8) Information Items.

8.1) Reports of Directors:

a) Meetings/General Report.

Director Estes reported that on February 12, he attended the Outreach Committee meeting with Director Dizmang; that on February 18, he attended the Board Norms Workshop; that on February 24, he attended a Board briefing with General Manager LaMoreaux; and that the Facilities Committee meeting is scheduled for March 5, 2015 at 8:15 a.m.

Director Alvarado reported that on February 17, he attended the Palmdale School District Board meeting; that on February 18, he attended the Board Norms Workshop; that also on February 18, he attended the League of Women Voters forum at City Hall; that on February 19, he attended the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association Board meeting where they approved the budget for the second annual Water Expo at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds; that on February 21, he attended a Community Awareness Event hosted by the Antelope Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Salvadorian Embassy at the Larry Chimbole Cultural Center where they provided embassy and consulate services to hundreds of residents, there was a strong delegation from the Salvadorian government in attendance, and Salvadorian business owners are considering investing and working closer together with the Salvadorian government; that on February 23, he attended the Water Supply & Reliability Committee meeting; that also on February 23, he attended a Board briefing with General Manager LaMoreaux; that also on February 23, he attended an Ad Hoc Committee meeting with Director Dizmang

serving in the capacity of a negotiator; and that on February 24, he attended a Community Awareness Forum on safety at the Antelope Valley Hospital.

President Mac Laren reported that on February 19, she attended the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association meeting where they approved their budget, she feels good about the Littlerock Creek Groundwater Recharge and Recovery Project, the Association was formed to conduct these types of projects, and she looks forward to even more projects with the District's partners; that on February 25, she attended the Stakeholder's Meeting for the Littlerock Creek Groundwater Recharge and Recovery Project; and that also on February 25, she attended a Board briefing with General Manager LaMoreaux.

Director Dizmang reported that on February 12, she attended the Outreach Committee meeting where they are pursuing radio advertising, introducing water conservation programs to the Antelope Valley Union High School District, webinars, and a calendar of all events and items; that on February 23, she attended the Water Supply & Reliability Committee meeting where they were assured of the District's water supply and received a report on drought conditions and the elevation of Oroville Dam, which has increased slightly; and that also on February 23, she attended an Ad Hoc Committee meeting as a negotiator with Director Alvarado and General Counsel Quilizapa.

Director Dino reported that on February 18, he attended the Board Norms Workshop and thanked Director Dizmang and President Mac Laren for their work on the Ad Hoc Board Norms Committee as they did a great job; that on February 23, he attended a Board briefing with General Manager LaMoreaux; that also on February 23, he attended the Water Supply & Reliability Committee meeting; and that on February 24, he attended the AVEK Board meeting, and there can be a great partnership with AVEK once projects are moving forward.

President Mac Laren then clarified that she and Director Dizmang also attended the February 18 Board Norms Workshop.

There were no further reports from Directors.

b) Standing Committee/Assignment Reports (Chair):

1) **Outreach Committee**
2) **Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association**
3) **Water Supply & Reliability Committee**

President Mac Laren stated that the Outreach Committee, Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association, and Water Supply & Reliability Committee meeting reports were provided earlier in the meeting.

8.2) Report of General Manager.

General Manager LaMoreaux reported that the Directors were provided with sample Customer Care Department Welcome Bags; that these bags were distributed starting today; and that the bags are available in English and Spanish.

8.3) Report of Attorney.

Assistant General Counsel Tabaian introduced herself and stated that she looks forward to working with the Board.

9) Public Comments on Closed Session Agenda Matters.

There were no public comments on closed session agenda matters.

At 8:18 p.m., President Mac Laren called for a twelve-minute recess. She reconvened the regular meeting at 8:30 p.m.

10) Closed session under:

10.1) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation: A Closed Session Will be Held Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9 (d)(1), to Confer with Special Litigation Counsel Regarding Pending Litigation to Which the District is a Party. The Title of Such Litigation is as Follows: *Antelope Valley Ground Water Cases.*

10.2) Conference with Legal Counsel – Public Employee Appointment: A Closed Session Will be Held Pursuant to Government Code §54957, with District General Counsel to Discuss the Appointment of an Employee to the Position of General Manager.

10.3) Conference with Labor Negotiators and Legal Counsel – Employment Contract Negotiations: A Closed Session Will be Held, Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6, with the District's Labor Negotiators (Directors Alvarado and Dizmang) and District General Counsel to Discuss the Filling of the Unrepresented Position of General Manager.

At 8:30 p.m., President Mac Laren called for a closed session pursuant to Government Code §54956.9 (d)(1) to confer with Special Litigation Counsel regarding pending litigation to which the District is a party being the *Antelope Valley Ground Water Cases;* pursuant to Government Code §54957 to discuss with General Counsel the appointment of an employee to the position of General Manager; and pursuant to Government Code §54957.6 to discuss with General Counsel and the District's Labor Negotiators the filling of the unrepresented position of General Manager.

She reconvened the regular meeting at 9:46 p.m.

11) Public report of any action taken in closed session.

Assistant General Counsel Tabaian reported that a closed session had been held pursuant to Government Code §54956.9 (d)(1) to confer with Special Litigation Counsel regarding pending litigation to which the District is a party being the *Antelope Valley Ground Water Cases;* that the Board received a report on this matter; and that no reportable action was taken in closed session.

She then reported that a closed session had also been held pursuant to Government Code §54957 and Government Code §54957.6 to confer with Assistant General Counsel and the Negotiators, Directors Alvarado and Dizmang, regarding the General Manager position; that discussions were held; and that no reportable action was taken in closed session.

12) Board Members' Requests for Future Agenda Items.

Director Alvarado requested an update on the District's Emergency Preparedness Plan be presented at a future Board meeting followed by discussion of the procedure for adding items to agendas.

There were no further requests for future agenda items.

13) Adjournment.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Secretary

RESOLUTION NO. 15-4

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT APPROVING THE DISTRICT'S APPLICATION FOR THE WATERSMART GRANT PROGRAM 2015 LITTLEROCK CREEK GROUNDWATER RECHARGE AND RECOVERY PROJECT

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (the "Bureau") has established the WaterSMART: Development of Feasibility Studies under the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program (the "WaterSMART Program") to provide funding opportunities for entities seeking new water supplies using water recycling and reuse technologies;

WHEREAS, the Bureau has requested proposals for grant funding under the WaterSMART Program from eligible entities interested in conducting a feasibility level study of projects that make beneficial use of recycled water;

WHEREAS, the Palmdale Water District has need for funding to complete a feasibility level study of using recycled water to meet future municipal and industrial water needs, particularly for the Littlerock Creek Groundwater Recharge and Recovery Project (the "Project");

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of Palmdale Water District (District) has reviewed the draft proposal to the Bureau prepared and recommended by Staff.

WHEREAS, the WaterSMART Program requires at least 50 percent non-Federal cost share funding and/or in-kind contribution from applicants and the Board finds the District has the capability of funding its required share of the Project under its current Budget under Item WB04.

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

SECTION 1. Funding for the Littlerock Creek Groundwater Recharge and Recovery Project (the "Project") under the WaterSMART Grant Program meets the objectives of Strategic Initiative # 1 – Outstanding Water Management.

SECTION 2. The draft proposal prepared by Staff meets the objectives of the Project and Staff is authorized to finalize and submit the proposal by the deadline of March 3, 2015.

SECTION 3. If selected for a WaterSMART Grant, up to $1,500,000 of funds approved in the current District Budget at WB04 shall be committed for funding the District's proportionate share of the Project, as may be required by the Bureau of Reclamation under the WaterSMART Grant Program, and the District will work with the Bureau to meet established deadlines for entering into an agreement to commit such funds.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 25th day of February, 2015.

Kathy Mac Laren, President
Board of Directors
Palmdale Water District

Approved as to form:

Aleshire & Wynder, LLP
District Legal Counsel

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