

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT, SEPTEMBER 28, 2016:

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District was held Wednesday, September 28, 2016, at 2029 East Avenue Q, Palmdale, California, in the Board Room of the District office. Vice President, Vincent Dino, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1) Pledge of Allegiance.

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

2) Roll Call.

Attendance:

Robert Alvarado, President –
(arrived at 8:04 p.m.)
Vincent Dino, Vice President
Marco Henriquez, Treasurer
Joe Estes, Secretary
Kathy Mac Laren, Director

Others Present:

Dennis LaMoreaux, General Manager
Matt Knudson, Assistant General Manager
Eric Dunn, General Counsel
Mike Williams, Finance Manager
Jennifer Emery, Human Resources Director
Mike McNutt, Public Affairs & Sustainability Dir.
Tim Moore, Facilities Manager
Mynor Masaya, Operations Manager
Jim Stanton, Information Technology Manager
Laura Gallegos, Public Affairs Specialist
Dawn Deans, Executive Assistant
1 member of the public

3) Adoption of Agenda.

General Counsel Dunn requested Agenda Item No. 11.2) "Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation: A closed session will be held, pursuant to Government Code §54956.9 (d)(4), to confer with General Counsel regarding an item of anticipated litigation" be added to tonight's agenda.

It was then moved by Director Mac Laren, seconded by Director Estes, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting to adopt the agenda, as amended, adding Agenda Item No. 11.2.

4) Public Comments for Non-Agenda Items.

There were no public comments.

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 Meeting Held September 14, 2016.

6.2) Payment of Bills for September 28, 2016.

6.3) Approval of Resolution No. 16-16 Approving Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association Budget for Fiscal Year 2016/2017. (Assistant General Manager Knudson)

6.4) Approval of Organizational Structure Chart Revisions and Job Descriptions/Salary Ranges for I.T. Network Administrator, I.T. Help Desk Technician, and Engineering Analyst Positions. (Human Resources Director Emery)

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

Director Dino – Aye
Director Mac Laren – Aye
Director Henriquez – Aye
Director Estes – Aye
President Alvarado - Absent

A copy of Resolution No. 16-16 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) Consideration and Possible Action on Amendment No. 2 to Cost Recovery Agreement Dated October 27, 2011 Between the District and USDA Forest Service. (\$100,000 – Budgeted – Assistant General Manager Knudson)

Assistant General Manager Knudson provided an overview of Amendment No. 2 and of progress to date by the Forest Service on the Littlerock Sediment Removal Project, and after a brief discussion of future funds for the Forest Service, it was moved by Director Henriquez, seconded by Director Mac Laren, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting to approve Amendment No. 2 to the Category 6 Cost Recovery Agreement dated October 27, 2011 between the District and USDA Forest Service in the not-to-exceed amount of \$100,000.00 and to authorize the General Manager to execute Amendment No. 2 on the following roll call vote:

Director Dino – Aye
Director Mac Laren – Aye
Director Henriquez – Aye
Director Estes – Aye
President Alvarado - Absent

7.2) Consideration and Possible Action on Outreach Activities. (Public Affairs and Sustainability Director McNutt)

a) Long-Term Vision for Financial and Water Sustainability:

- 1) Palmdale Regional Groundwater Recharge and Recovery Project**
- 2) Littlerock Dam Sediment Removal Project**

Public Affairs and Sustainability Director McNutt stated that these two projects will ensure the District is resistant to dry years, will provide lower cost water than State Water Project supplies, and use local source water for production and use in the Valley and then reviewed the location due to soil type to ensure a good percolation rate for the Palmdale Regional Groundwater Recharge and Recovery Project, the lined ponds at Apollo Lake in Lancaster, and the necessity of the Palmdale Regional Groundwater

Recharge and Recovery Project to meet the vision of the City of Palmdale for new residential and commercial buildings and added job growth.

Director Estes then requested talking points be prepared for both the Palmdale Regional Groundwater Recharge and Recovery Project and the Littlerock Dam Sediment Removal Project to help convey the facts on these important projects.

Director Mac Laren then stated that several participants at today's Antelope Valley Watermaster Board meeting inquired about the Palmdale Regional Groundwater Recharge and Recovery Project and suggested this Project be presented to this group.

b) Calendar of Upcoming Events

Public Affairs and Sustainability Director McNutt then stated that the District is sponsoring the City of Ventura's Water: Take 1 video contest, he and Director Henriquez attended the kick-off event for this contest, and the District's participation will provide positive publicity for the District; that he and Public Affairs Specialist Gallegos have regular appearances on local Spanish radio show Café Con Leche with host Lilia Galindo where they have been showcasing the District's projects, transparency, and upcoming rate adjustment of approximately \$2.00 to \$2.50, and Ms. Galindo stated that families can save more than this amount per month by drinking tap water instead of buying bottled water; and that the District is hosting a Town Hall Forum on Tuesday, October 4, 2016, to show the District is part of the community, is transparent, and is open to answering any questions regarding Palmdale Water District business and reviewed staff's methods for promoting the Town Hall Forum.

c) AguaVaganza Music Contest

There was no update provided on this contest.

d) Follow-Up: A Day Without Water (Value of Water Coalition-ImagineaDayWithoutWater.com)

Public Affairs and Sustainability Director McNutt provided an overview of the recent tour of District facilities offered to all candidates in the upcoming election to help bring attention to A Day Without Water and stated that all participants gained a better understanding of water and the importance of the District to the community.

e) Outreach Board Input.

He then stated that he is available to help Directors host informational events within their divisions, and Director Henriquez stated that he is interested in hosting such an event.

The success of the District's radio ads and future ads and the options for purchasing a new Aquadog costume were then discussed.

Mr. Jason Zink recommended the Board contact U.S. senator candidates Loretta Sanchez and Kamala Harris as this is a good time to reach candidates who know about the issues in the Antelope Valley as a region; that he is a member of the Antelope Valley Audubon Society and recommends the Board contact this organization and an Antelope Valley College Professor and request they make a twenty-minute presentation on Apollo Lake; that the members of the Antelope Valley Audubon Society are reviewing California City's recreational lake tomorrow as it needs to be redone as a recharge facility; that this can be done in Palmdale to make Palmdale a destination spot; and that Palmdale Water District can take over Los Angeles County Sanitation District, flood control, and Waterworks for total local control.

7.3) 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 2016 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) Meetings/General Report.

Director Estes reported that on September 27, he attended a Board briefing with General Manager LaMoreaux and that he attended the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce luncheon on September 6.

Director Henriquez reported that on September 21, he attended the City of Ventura's Water: Take 1 presentation where they spoke highly of Palmdale Water District, the City of Ventura has an interesting approach to water conservation via texting where the public can pledge to save water and receive water conservation texts, and the City of Ventura will, in turn, replenish 1,000 gallons of water in the Colorado River, and he recommends the District look into this option and that on September 26, he attended a Board briefing with General Manager LaMoreaux.

Director Mac Laren reported that on September 28, she attended the Antelope Valley Watermaster meeting where there were divided discussions regarding the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association providing interim administrative services to the Antelope Valley Watermaster; that she is always proud of Palmdale Water District but was very proud today as Mr. Rob Parris expressed to her that AVEK General Manager Dwayne Chisam working with Assistant General Manager Knudson can bring something extra to this process, General Manager LaMoreaux developed the idea on how to form a Watermaster Advisory Committee, and representatives were selected today for this Committee; that people are looking to the District and are now understanding that the District is talking about the region, is being transparent, and is thinking about what is best for everyone in the Antelope Valley; that she is very happy and proud of both General Manager LaMoreaux and Assistant General Manager Knudson as any progress would not have been made without their assistance; and that also on September 28, she had a Board briefing with General Manager LaMoreaux.

Director Dino reported that on September 21, he attended the Palmdale Recycled Water Authority meeting; that on September 26, he attended a Board briefing with General Manager LaMoreaux; and that on September 27, he attended the AVEK Board meeting.

Director Henriquez then stated that texting 'water' to 77177 allows for participation in the City of Ventura's Change the Course water conservation texting program.

b) Standing Committee/Assignment Reports (Chair):

1) PRWA

Vice President Dino stated that a report on this meeting was provided earlier in the meeting.

8.2) Report of General Manager.

General Manager LaMoreaux provided an overview of his written report including how the District's water savings compares to other high desert water agencies and how the District's approach to water conservation has achieved more long term habit changes and lower per capita numbers than other agencies and stated that the District has received only 17 water waste appeals for 2016 compared to over 200 in 2015; that leaks will likely be more than last year, and a map of leaks presented to the Finance Committee will be included with budget discussions; that the crew has started construction of a water main replacement in El Camino Drive south of Lakeview Drive; that the water main replacement project in Avenues Q-1, Q-2, and Q-3 near 15th Street East has been advertised for bids; and that the meter replacement project for replacing 3,300 water meters will be presented to the Board for consideration of award of contract at the next regular Board meeting.

Director Henriquez then stated that during his briefing it was discussed that water usage for August was lower compared to July followed by a review of production and billed water for September.

General Manager LaMoreaux then reported that AB1755 was signed by the Governor last week and is now law.

Director Henriquez then requested informational Facebook posts when the District will be working in a specific area along with the type of work to be performed.

8.3) Report of General Counsel.

General Counsel Dunn stated that he has no report.

9) Public Comments on Closed Session Agenda Matters.

There were no public comments on closed session agenda matters.

10) Break Prior to Closed Session.

At 7:55 p.m., Vice President Dino called for a seven-minute recess. He reconvened the Regular Meeting at 8:02 p.m.

11) Closed session under:

11.1) 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*.

11.2) Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation: A closed session will be held, pursuant to Government Code §54956.9 (d)(4), to confer with General Counsel regarding an item of anticipated litigation.

At 8:02 p.m., Vice President Dino called for a closed session pursuant to Government Code Section §54956.9 (d)(1), to confer with Special Litigation Counsel regarding existing litigation to which the District is a party, the title of such litigation being the *Antelope Valley Ground Water Cases* and pursuant to Government Code §54956.9 (d)(4), to confer with General Counsel regarding an item of anticipated litigation.

President Alvarado arrived at the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

President Alvarado reconvened the regular meeting at 8:50 p.m.

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

President Alvarado stated that a closed session was held pursuant to Government Code Section §54956.9 (d)(1), to confer with Special Litigation Counsel regarding existing litigation to which the District is a party, the title of such litigation being the *Antelope Valley Ground Water Cases*; that the Board was updated on the status of this matter; but that no reportable action was taken in closed session.

President Alvarado then stated that a closed session was held pursuant to Government Code Section §54956.9 (d)(4), to confer with General Counsel regarding an item of anticipated litigation; that the Board was updated on the status of this matter; but that no reportable action was taken in closed session.

13) Board Members' Requests for Future Agenda Items.

There were no requests for future agenda items.

President Alvarado then stated that Agenda Item No. 8.1 will again be considered.

8) Information Items:

8.1) Reports of Directors:

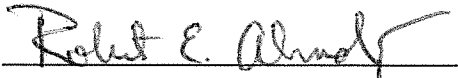
a) Meetings/General Report.

President Alvarado reported that on September 15, he attended the Imagine a Day Without Water tour; that on September 19, he attended an agenda review and approval meeting with General Manager LaMoreaux; that also on September 19, he attended a meeting with Waste Management regarding restoring the District's previous partnership with their agency and they have also spoken with Director Mac Laren and Public Affairs and Sustainability Director McNutt; that on September 21, he attended the Palmdale Recycled Water Authority meeting; that also on September 21, he attended the Palmdale Chamber of Commerce luncheon where Josh Mann, from Waste Management, was the speaker and informed the members that Waste Management is working with other entities and agencies in the Antelope Valley and are looking to establish new collaborations with other agencies including the Palmdale Water District; and that on September 27, he attended a Board briefing with General Manager LaMoreaux.

He then stated that Agenda Item No. 14 will now be considered.

14) Adjournment.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.



President

RESOLUTION NO. 16-16

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT
APPROVING ANTELOPE VALLEY
STATE WATER CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION
BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016/2017**

WHEREAS, the Palmdale Water District, along with the Antelope Valley - East Kern Water Agency and the Littlerock Creek Irrigation District, is a member agency of the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association formed by a Joint Powers Agreement dated May 26, 1999; and

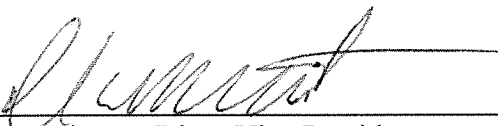
WHEREAS, said Joint Powers Agreement provides for the formulation and adoption of a budget for the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association and approval by members of said budget; and

WHEREAS, the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association unanimously adopted a budget for fiscal year 2016/17 at their regular meeting held September 8, 2016 which budget included an allocation among the member agencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District hereby approves the 2016/17 budget and allocation of budgeted funds adopted by the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association.

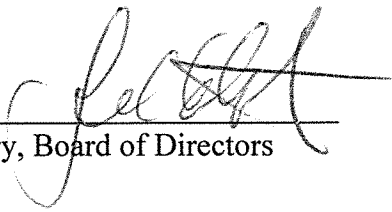
I certify that this is a true copy of Resolution No. 16-15 as passed by the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District at its meeting held September 28, 2016 in Palmdale, California.

Date: September 28, 2016




Vincent Dino, Vice President,
Board of Directors

ATTEST:



Joe Estes, Secretary, Board of Directors

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

BY: 

Aleshire & Wynder, LLP, General Counsel