

## **MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT, MARCH 8, 2021:**

*A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District was held Monday, March 8, 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, Facilities Manager Bligh 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  
Mike Williams, Finance Manager  
Judy Shay, Public Affairs Director  
Chris Bligh, Facilities Manager  
Scott Rogers, Engineering/Grant Manager  
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 February 22, 2021.**

**6.2) Payment of Bills for March 8, 2021.**

**6.3) Approval of Resolution No. 21-5 Being a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District Concurring in the Nomination of Melody A. McDonald to the Executive Committee of the Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority (ACWA/JPIA). (No Budget Impact – General Manager LaMoreaux)**

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. 21-5 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 Approval of Appointment of Public Member to the Palmdale Recycled Water Authority Board. (No Budget Impact – General Manager LaMoreaux)**

General Manager LaMoreaux provided an overview of the Palmdale Recycled Water Authority Board and the Public Member appointment process, and after a brief discussion of the need to improve the appointment process, the qualifications of the candidates, and the need to create by-laws for the Authority, it was moved by Director Dino, seconded by Director Merino, and carried by three members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to approve the appointment of Zakeya Anson as the Public Member to the Palmdale Recycled Water Authority Board:

President Dizmang – aye  
Director Dino – aye  
Director Wilson – no  
Director Mac Laren-Gomez – no  
Director Merino – aye

**7.2) Consideration and Possible Action on Ballot for Special District Representative (Voting Member) to the Los Angeles County Redevelopment Oversight Board No. 5. (No Budget Impact – General Manager LaMoreaux)**

General Manager LaMoreaux provided an overview of the Los Angeles County Redevelopment Oversight Board No. 5 after which it was moved by Director Dino, seconded by Director Mac Laren-Gomez, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting on the following roll call vote that President Dizmang is hereby authorized to cast the District's ballot for Special District Representative (Voting Member) to the Los Angeles County Redevelopment Oversight Board No. 5:

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

**7.3) Consideration and Possible Action on a Term Sheet for a Long-Term Transfer Agreement with Westside Districts. (No Budget Impact – Resource and Analytics Director Thompson II/Resource and Facilities Committee)**

Resource and Analytics Director Thompson II provided an overview of the benefits of the proposed term sheet for a Long-Term Transfer Agreement with Westside Districts 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 approve a Term Sheet for a Long-Term Transfer Agreement with Westside Districts:

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

**7.4) Consideration and Possible Action on Approval to Enter Into and Authorization of Funding Purchase Options for the 2021 State Water Contractors Dry Year Water Transfer Program. (\$2,500.00 Initial Deposit – Budgeted Under Water Purchases – Resource and Analytics Director Thompson II)**

Resource and Analytics Director Thompson II provided an overview of the 2021 State Water Contractors Dry Year Water Transfer Program and required administrative fee to participate after which it was moved by Director Dino, seconded by Director Mac Laren-Gomez, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to enter into and authorize funding of purchase options for the 2021 State Water Contractors Dry Year Water Transfer Program with an initial deposit of \$2,500.00:

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

**7.5) Consideration and Possible Action on Purchase of a New Water Truck. (\$110,000.00 – Budgeted – CIP Project No. 21-603 – Facilities Manager Bligh/Resource and Facilities Committee)**

Facilities Manager Bligh provided an overview of the proposed new water truck 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 purchase a new water truck in the not-to-exceed amount of \$110,000.00:

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

**7.6) Consideration and Possible Action on Resolution No. 21-6 Being a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District Adopting an Amendment to Section 8.03 and Appendix D, Miscellaneous Fee, of the Palmdale Water District's Rules and Regulations. (No Budget Impact – Assistant General Manager Ly)**

Assistant General Manager Ly provided an overview of proposed revisions to the District's Cross Connection Control Program and Appendix D after which it was moved by Director Mac Laren-Gomez, 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 Resolution No. 21-6 being a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District Adopting an Amendment to Section 8.03 and Appendix D, Miscellaneous Fee, of the Palmdale Water District's Rules and Regulations:

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

Resolution No. 21-6 is hereby made a portion of the minutes of this meeting.

**7.7) 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.

**7.8) Consideration and Possible Action on Resolution No. 21-7 Being a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District Approving the District's Grant Application for the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART Grants Program Entitled "Small-Scape Water Efficiency Projects for Fiscal Year 2021." (Potential Grant Funding – Engineering/Grant Manager Rogers)**

Engineering/Grant Manager Rogers provided an overview of grant funding available for the District's Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project through the WaterSMART Grants Program 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 Resolution No. 21-7 being a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District Approving the District's Grant Application for the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART Grants Program Entitled "Small-Scape Water Efficiency Projects for Fiscal Year 2021:

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

Resolution No. 21-7 is hereby made a portion of the minutes of this meeting.

**8) Information Items:**

**8.1) Reports of Directors:**

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

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

Director Dino, AVEK Liaison, reported that on February 23, he attended an AVEK Board meeting where they reviewed their finances, approved the budget for the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association, and discussed phasing out the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association's funding of the USGS Groundwater Monitoring Program.

**2) Resource and Facilities Committee. (Director Dino, Chair/Director Merino)**

Director Dino stated that he will provide a report on this meeting at the next Regular Board Meeting, and Director Merino stated that she has no report on this meeting.

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

Director Merino reported that on February 24, she attended the AV EDGE Virtual Business Outlook Conference; that on March 1, she attended the Resource and Facilities Committee meeting; that also on March 1, she read a book for Read Across America; that on March 2, she attended a Board Member Best Practices Workshop Webinar; and that on March 4, she attended a Board briefing.

Director Wilson reported that on February 4, he attended a Board briefing; that on February 8, he attended the Palmdale Water District Regular Board Meeting; that on February 9, he attended an Environmental Restoration Advisory Board briefing; that on February 17, he attended a Board briefing regarding the Palmdale Recycled Water Authority; that on February 18, he attended a Board briefing; that on February 22, he attended the Palmdale Water District Regular Board Meeting; that on February 24, he attended the A.V. EDGE Virtual Business Outlook Conference; and that on February 25, he attended a financial briefing.

Director Dino reported that on February 23, he attended an AVEK Board meeting; that on February 24, he attended the A.V. EDGE Virtual Business Outlook Conference; that on March 1, he attended the Resource and Facilities Committee meeting; that on March 4, he attended a Board briefing; and that on March 8, he is attending the Palmdale Water District Regular Board Meeting.

President Dizmang reported that on February 23, she attended an interview with the Café Con Leche radio program regarding the District's goals; that on February 24, she attended the AV EDGE Virtual Business Outlook Conference and submitted a written report on same, which is hereby made a portion of the minutes of this meeting; that on February 25, she attended a Board briefing; that on March 1, she read a book for Read Across America; that on March 4, she attended a Board briefing; and that on March 8, she is attending the Palmdale Water District Regular Board Meeting.



Director Mac Laren-Gomez reported that on February 24, she attended the Antelope Valley Watermaster meeting via teleconference; that she attended the CFEE Conference in NAPA and was able to meet with Dr. Mathis; that on March 1, she read a book for Read Across America; and that on March 4, she attended a Board briefing.

**8.2) Report of General Manager.**

General Manager LaMoreaux stated that District staff, Dr. Mathis, and the General Manager for the United Water Conservation District met this afternoon and toured Littlerock Dam and Palmdale Dam and that there are several projects the District and the United Water Conservation District can work on together.

**8.3) Report of General Counsel.**

General Counsel Dunn reported that the Water Resources Development Act will authorize billions of dollars for Army Corp of Engineer projects in northern and central California, including the Sites Reservoir Project, the Friant Canal Repair Project, and the Delta Mendota Canal Repair Project followed by discussion of renewal of the WIIN Act.

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

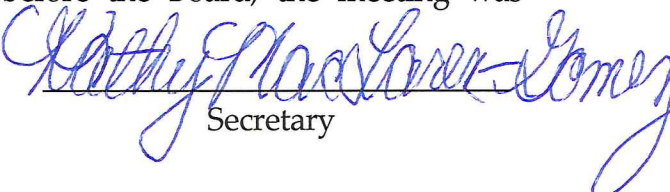
Director Merino requested a future agenda item for "Discussion of offering customers an incentive for paperless billings with text notifications."

At the request of Director Mac Laren-Gomez, General Manager LaMoreaux provided an update on the installation of a lid on the open cistern on private property near Barrel Springs Road, measures to prevent future dumping in the area, and the City of Palmdale's Code Enforcement office working to prevent future dumping at this and other sites in the area.

There were no requests for future agenda items.

**10) Adjournment.**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

  
Secretary



**RESOLUTION NO. 21-5**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT  
CONCURRING IN THE NOMINATION OF MELODY A. McDONALD  
TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCIES/  
JOINT POWERS INSURANCE AUTHORITY (ACWA/JPIA)**

**WHEREAS**, this District is a member district of the ACWA/JPIA; and

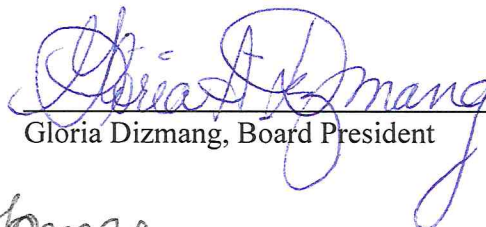
**WHEREAS**, the Bylaws of the ACWA/JPIA provide that in order for a nomination to be made to ACWA/JPIA's Executive Committee, three member districts must concur with the nominating district; and

**WHEREAS**, another ACWA/JPIA member district, the SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT has requested that this District concur in its nomination of its member of the ACWA/JPIA Board of Directors to the Executive Committee of the ACWA/JPIA.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT that this District concurs with the nomination of MELODY A. McDONALD of the SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT to the Executive Committee of the ACWA/JPIA.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the District Secretary is hereby directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the ACWA/JPIA at P. O. Box 619082, Roseville, CA 95661-9082, forthwith.


**ADOPTED** this 8<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021.

  
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Gloria Dizmang, Board President

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathy Mac Laren-Gomez, Board Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ALESQUIRE & WYNDER, LLP, General Counsel

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-6**  
**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT**  
**ADOPTING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 8.03 AND APPENDIX D,**  
**MISCELLANEOUS FEE, OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT'S RULES AND**  
**REGULATIONS**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Water Code Division 11, the Palmdale Water District ("District") is authorized to establish rules and regulations governing the District's operations ("District's Rules and Regulations"); and

**WHEREAS**, on December 14, 2020, the District's Cross-Connection Control Policy was updated to introduce electronic notification regarding backflow testing through a digital data management and reporting program; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 8.03 of the District's Rules and Regulations provides an explanation of the District's water rates; and

**WHEREAS**, Appendix D, of the District's Rules and Regulations references and implements the Miscellaneous Charges referenced in Section 8.03; and

**WHEREAS**, the District desires to update Section 8.03 and Appendix D of the District's Rules and Regulations to reflect the implementation of a charge for the District's manual processing of data submitted via paper copy for its Cross-Connection Control Program.

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

**SECTION 1.** The above recitals are all true and correct and hereby adopted as findings.

**SECTION 2.** Section 8.03(C)(10) of the District's Rules and Regulations is hereby amended and shall now read as follows:

"10. Cross-Connection Control Processing Fee

The Cross-Connection Control Program consists of database management, inspections, validation and support for customers. The software used by the District is a cloud/web-based data management and reporting program that manages email notifications to owners and testers. If the customer opts to use the manual process requiring the mailing and handling of paper copies instead of the digital program, the customer will be required to pay a Cross-Connection Control Annual Paper Processing Fee as set forth in Appendix D."


**SECTION 3.** Appendix D as referenced in Section 8.03 of the District's Rules and Regulations is hereby amended to include a "Cross-Connection Control Annual Processing Fee."

**SECTION 4.** Upon the effective date of this Resolution, adopted herein, the Resolution shall supersede any and all prior resolutions adopted that are in conflict with this Resolution.

**SECTION 5.** If any provision in this Resolution, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, is for any reason held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this Resolution, or the application of such provisions to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby. The Board of Directors hereby declares that it would have passed this Resolution, and each provision thereof, irrespective of the fact that one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases or the application thereof to any person or circumstance be held invalid.

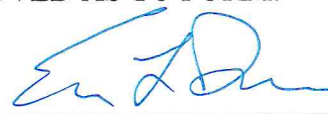
**SECTION 6.** This Resolution shall become effective upon the date of adoption as set forth herein.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of March 2021 by the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District.

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathy Mac Laren-Gomez, Secretary  
Board of Directors  
Palmdale Water District

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Aleshire & Wynder, LLP  
Eric Dunn, District General Counsel

**RESOLUTION NO. 21- 7**  
**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT**  
**APPROVING THE DISTRICT'S GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE**  
**ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT FOR**  
**THE U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION'S**  
**WATERSMART GRANTS SMALL SCALE WATER EFFICIENCY**  
**PROJECTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (the "Bureau") has established the WaterSMART: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects Program for 2021 (the "WaterSMART Program") to provide funding opportunities for entities seeking new water supplies using water efficiency technology;

**WHEREAS**, the Palmdale Water District has need for funding to complete the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project to meet future municipal and industrial water needs;

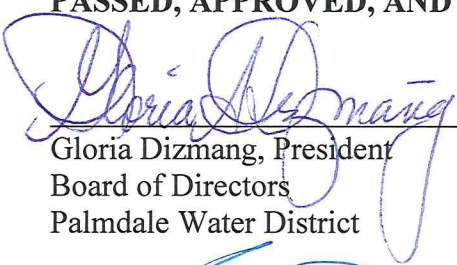
**WHEREAS**, the WaterSMART Program requires at least 50 percent non-Federal cost share funding and/or in-kind contribution from applicants and the Board finds the District has the capability of funding its required share of the Project.

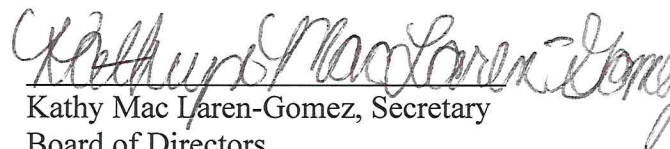
**NOW THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** Funding for the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project (the "Project") under the WaterSMART Grant Program meets the objectives of Strategic Initiative No. 1 – Water Supply Reliability.

**SECTION 2.** If selected for a WaterSMART Grant, up to 50% (\$75,000) of the total project costs of \$150,000 through monetary contribution 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** 8<sup>th</sup> day of March 2021.

  
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Gloria Dizmang, President  
Board of Directors  
Palmdale Water District

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathy MacLaren-Gomez, Secretary  
Board of Directors  
Palmdale Water District

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Aleshire & Wynder LLP  
District Legal Counsel



Report on the AV EGDE Economic Conference  
February 24, 2021  
Submitted by G. Dizmang, Director, Div. #3

While shortened from its original format, AV EDGE did a credible job in presenting their annual Business Outlook Conference and their projected economic future for the Antelope Valley.

The economic future of the Antelope Valley. The Virtual meeting or Webinar was presented in two part: a panel discussion; and a guest speaker, Peter Zeihan. In the panel discussion, the members discussed the positive things that had come about because of the Pandemic. One of the discoveries foremost was that workers could work effectively at home. Most of the group agreed, and surmised that many businesses will be able to reduce their areas of operation by allowing the employees to work at home. However, it was also emphasized when people work together, group collaboration can result in many new ideas and processes. A balance between the two should be considered.

They all seemed to be on board in support of schools and making certain our children receive an education. School by remote has revealed a dark side to virtual classrooms because many students do not have access to computers, wi-fi, or both. If we are to move in that direction, we must be sure that all students are able to have equal tools at their disposal. It was also noted that many teachers were not skilled in the methods of on line education. There was no doubt that education had to become a major priority if we are to succeed in this new world.

One important distinction was made—there are adults in our society who lack computer and technical skills and therefore cannot compete in the job market. If we are to have a viable workforce, we must figure out ways to train these people. Our industry and business are falling short of trained workers. Consequently many companies are hiring workers from India and other countries that have sped up the technical education.

I have to make some observations at this point. While the panel was effective, not one woman was on it. Today, women are losing their jobs at a higher rate than men,

because many of them are called upon to care for the children or work in areas that have a large female presence. I didn't hear any solution for this.

And, I hate to say it, but the panel looked very white. I believe someone of a different race or ethnicity who has achieved prominence in their field, could have brought some deeper perspective in the dialogue.

Also, while the panel was very vocal on the need for education, no one from public education was on the panel. A very successful founder of a well known charter school was there. I liked him, but it is in public schools where most of the students reside and educators face incredible odds at getting the job done. The solution is not to be solved by throwing money at it. Reform is needed, and priorities need to be examined and weighed.

The second part of the program featured Peter Zeihan, a well known economist who evidently has his own show and has published several books. I wish he could of slowed down. I would have gotten more out of the meeting.

What I did grasp was that the Antelope Valley has been pursuing wrong areas of development . We have the ability to produce huge quantities of solar and wind power where other parts of this country and countries of the world have less. Using this we could promote various kinds of industry.

He did a very rapid overview of globalization and then presented why this was no longer a valid plan. He believed we, as a nation will again become a producer and manufacturer—jobs we have today paid for in foreign countries. That would certainly be an answer to the blows the pandemic with which the pandemic has hit us. He speculated that we were on the wrong track in pursuing the areas we have been. He predicted that lithium was in our future.

I feel the meetings were worth attending and some new perspectives and ideas were put forth. I could relate to many. My son-in-law has been working from home, his office vacated. If he needs to meet with clients he can go to the “hub” city headquarters and he can meet there.

I am a perfect example of the half-trained computer person. When I was closing in on 30 years of classroom teaching, I was hired as a district administrator. I didn't even have a computer in my classroom, but at the district office I had to work on a

computer. The people in the office helped me out and I took classes, but in my computer training, there are huge gaps—areas that I didn't have to use on the job. In some areas my computer skills are good—in other areas non-existent.

A study came out recently that said because of the pandemic our technology is increasing at a rate of 40% annually. Is it any wonder that people work to acquire a skill to keep up, only to find they are getting further and further behind. This is demoralizing and gives people a sense of hopelessness. While this was mentioned, I don't know if the panel could actually relate to the situation. I think that a major priority should be to start educating the workers that have been left behind in a way that will give them faster access to existing jobs. Is this possible? Their numbers are growing.