# MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT, MARCH 28, 2022:

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District was held Monday, March 28, 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, Finance Manager Hoffmeyer 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

## **Others Present:**

Dennis LaMoreaux, General Manager Adam Ly, Assistant General Manager G. Ross Trindle, General Counsel Dennis Hoffmeyer, Finance Manager Judy Shay, Public Affairs Director Chris Bligh, Facilities Manager Peter Thompson II, Resource & Analytics Dir. Scott Rogers, Engineering Manager Dawn Deans, Executive Assistant 2 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

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

There were no public comments for non-agenda items.

#### 5) Presentations:

5.1) Presentation of Association of California Water Agencies/Joint Powers Insurance Authority (ACWA/JPIA) Refund. (Randall Reed, JPIA Executive Committee Member)

Mr. Randall Reed, JPIA Executive Committee Member, thanked the District for their participation in ACWA/JPIA's liability, property, and workers compensation programs, congratulated the District on its low loss ratio for workers compensation, and then presented the District a refund in the amount of \$74,171.00 based on this low loss ratio. He then commended the District on its use of JPIA's safety, training, and leadership programs.

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 March 14, 2022.
- 6.2) Payment of Bills for March 28, 2022.

6.3) Approval of Resolution No. 22-5 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 April 1, 2022 and Ending April 30, 2022 Pursuant to Brown Act Provisions. (No Budget Impact – Assistant General Manager Ly)

6.4) Approval of Resolution No. 22-6 Being a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District Adopting the State CEQA Guidelines for Implementing the California Environmental Quality Act (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3) and Adopting the Environmental Review Procedures. (No Budget Impact – Assistant General Manager Ly)

President Dizmang announced the items included in the Consent Calendar after which Assistant General Manager Ly provided an overview of Resolution No. 22-6. It was then 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

Resolution No.'s 22-5 and 22-6 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 Resolution No. 22-7 Being a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District Authorizing the General Manager or Designee to Sign on Behalf of the District the Hauled Water Grant Funding Agreement With the State Water Resources Control Board. (No Budget Impact – Assistant General Manager Ly)

Assistant General Manager Ly provided an overview of Resolution No. 22-7 and the Hauled Water Grant Funding Agreement for the Alpine Springs Mobile Home Park after which it was moved by Director Dino, seconded by Director Wilson, and after a brief discussion of metering for the Alpine Springs Mobile Home Park, it was unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to approve Resolution No. 22-7 being a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District Authorizing the General Manager or Designee to Sign on Behalf of the District the Hauled Water Grant Funding Agreement With the State Water Resources Control Board:

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

Resolution No. 22-7 is hereby made a portion of the minutes of this meeting.

7.2) Consideration and Possible Action on Adoption of a Negative Declaration and Authorization of Staff to Sign Subsequent Notices of Determinations Regarding the Proposed Multi-Year Transfer Between Palmdale Water District and Littlerock Creek Irrigation District. (No Budget Impact – Resource and Analytics Director Thompson II)

Resource and Analytics Director Thompson II provided an overview of the proposed Multi-Year Transfer Agreement between the District and Littlerock Creek Irrigation District after which Dena Giacomini, of Provost & Pritchard, provided a detailed overview of the Negative Declaration and comments received. It was then 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 a Negative Declaration and authorize staff to sign subsequent Notices of Determinations regarding the proposed Multi-Year Transfer Between Palmdale Water District and Littlerock Creek Irrigation District:

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

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 2022 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) Outreach Committee – March 16. (Director Mac Laren-Gomez/Director Wilson) Director Mac Laren-Gomez reported that she attended the Outreach Committee Meeting on March 16 where they discussed different press releases and other items planned for 2022.

# 2) Antelope Valley East Kern Water Agency (AVEK) – March 22. (Director Dino/Director Mac Laren-Gomez, Alternate)

Director Dino stated that he attended an AVEK Board Meeting on March 22 where they approved a purchase order with Brax Process and Pump Equipment for the replacement of a Leona Valley Pump Station vertical turbine pump in the amount of \$48,347.25.

# b) General Meetings Reports of Directors.

Director Mac Laren-Gomez reported that on March 16, she attended an Outreach Committee Meeting; that on March 23, she attended the Antelope Valley Watermaster Meeting; and that on March 24, she attended a Board Briefing.

Director Wilson reported that on March 14, he attended the Palmdale Water District Regular Board Meeting; that also on March 14, he participated in Read Across America via zoom; that on March 16, he attended an Outreach Committee Meeting; that on March 28, he is attending the Palmdale Water District Regular Board Meeting; that on March 29, he will be attending the Finance Committee Meeting; that on March 30, he will be attending the All-Hands Lunch and Meeting; and that on March 31, he will be attending a meeting with Dr. Mathis regarding evaluations for General Manager LaMoreaux and General Counsel Trindle.

Director Dino reported that on March 22, he attended an AVEK Board Meeting; that on March 23, he attended a California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Chapter Meeting; that on March 24, he attended a Board Briefing; that on March 28, he is attending the Palmdale Water District Regular Board Meeting; that on March 29, he will be attending the Personnel Committee Meeting; and that on March 31, he will be attending a CSDA Chapter Luncheon.

President Dizmang reported that on March 17, she attended an Agenda Review Meeting; that on March 23, she attended a California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Chapter Meeting; that on March 24, she attended a Board Briefing; that on March 29, she will be attending the Finance Committee Meeting; and that on March 31, she will be attending the CSDA Chapter Luncheon.

#### 8.2) Report of General Manager.

General Manager LaMoreaux reported that he submitted a written report included with the agenda packets if there are any questions and then highlighted the drought map for February and worsening drought map for March.

He then reported that the Governor has issued an order for all urban water agencies to implement Stage 2 of their Water Shortage Contingency Plans with a request of up to a 20% savings; that staff is evaluating this request; and that this matter will be presented to the Board for consideration at the next Regular Board Meeting followed by discussion of the statewide goal and restrictions implemented in the 2014 drought.

#### 8.3) Report of General Counsel.

General Counsel Trindle provided brief updates on the administrative record process for the State Water Contractor's lawsuit, a case involving censures of Directors, a case involving a serial requester under the Public Records Act, AB1944 regarding updates to the current teleconference rules of the Brown Act to make the flexibility provisions of AB361 permanent, and AB2449 allowing for a new type of climate resiliency district for the creation of agencies to receive funding for projects that address climate impacts.

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

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 6:40 p.m.

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#### **RESOLUTION NO. 22-5**

#### 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 APRIL 1, 2022 AND ENDING APRIL 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. <u>Recitals</u>. The Recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. <u>Proclamation of Local Emergency</u>. 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. <u>Ratification of Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency</u>. 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. <u>Remote Teleconference Meetings</u>. 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. <u>Effective Date of Resolution</u>. This Resolution shall take effect on April 1, 2022 and shall be effective until the earlier of (i) April 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 28<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:President Dizmang, Directors Dino, Wilson, Mac Laren-GomezNOES:None.ABSENT:None.ABSTAIN:None.

M sident, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Secretary, Board of Directors

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Aleshire & Wynder, LLP, General Counsel

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 22-6**

#### A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT ADOPTING THE STATE CEQA GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CALIFORNIA CODE OF **REGULATIONS, TITLE 14, CHAPTER 3) AND ADOPTING THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCEDURES**

WHEREAS, Section 21082 of the Public Resources Code and Section 15022 of the California Code of Regulations require each California public agency to adopt specific procedures for administering the California Environmental Quality Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 15022 of the California Code of Regulations permits a public agency to adopt the California Code of Regulations, Chapter 3, Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act, referenced hereinafter as the State CEQA Guidelines through incorporation by reference and to then adopt only the procedures which are necessary to tailor the general provisions of the State CEQA Guidelines to the specific operations of the agency; and

WHEREAS, Palmdale Water District must adopt and subsequently periodically revise its local guidelines for implementing CEQA to make them consistent with the current provisions and interpretations of CEQA; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of the State CEQA Guidelines for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Sections 15000 et seq.), as currently amended, would ensure the District's policy is in compliance with the most current version and interpretation of the law.

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

- 1. The State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Sections 15000 et seq.), as currently amended, are hereby adopted and are incorporated by reference as Appendix L of Palmdale Water District's Rules and Regulations.
- 2. To the extent applicable in connection with the construction of any Facilities or Projectrelated activities, the District shall fully comply with all CEQA requirements in reviewing and approving such Facilities or activities as a component of the Project.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District this 28th day of March, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: President Dizmang, Directors Dino, Wilson, Mac Laren-Gomez NOES: None. ABSENT: None. **ABSTAIN:** None. President, Board of Directors ATTES

Secretary, Board of Directors to FORM:

& Wynder, LLP, General Counsel eshire

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## APPENDIX L

Resolution No. 22-6

A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District Adopting the State CEQA Guidelines for Implementing the California Environmental Quality Act (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3) and Adopting the Environmental Review Procedures

#### WEBSITES:

Palmdale Water Website:

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Information and Filings - Palmdale Water District

California Environmental Quality Act: <u>https://opr.ca.gov/ceqa/</u>

CEQAnet Web Portal: <u>https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/</u>

#### RESOLUTION NO. 22-7 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER OR DESIGNEE TO SIGN ON BEHALF OF THE DISTRICT THE HAULED WATER GRANT FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

WHEREAS, the Alpine Springs Mobile Home Park is a mobile home park located within the service territory of the Palmdale Water District ("District"); and

WHEREAS, the Alpine Springs Mobile Home Park would like to enter into a Master Meter Consolidation ("Project") with the District to ensure a safe and reliable water supply; and

WHEREAS, the District is applying for State funding from the State Water Resources Control Board for the Project; and

WHEREAS, if state funding is granted, the District will plan, design and implement the Project. The system improvements include installing a pipeline connecting Alpine Springs Mobile Home Park to the District's system.

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

SECTION 1. The District's General Manager or designee ("Authorized Representative") is hereby authorized and directed to sign and file, for and on behalf of the District, a Hauled Water Grant Funding Agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board for the temporary hauling of water to Alpine Springs Mobile Home Park.

SECTION 2. The Authorized Representative is designated to represent the District in carrying out the responsibilities under the funding agreement, including certifying disbursement requests on behalf of the District and compliance with applicable State and Federal laws.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of March 2022 by the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District.

AYES:President Dizmang, Directors Dino, Wilson, Mac Laren-GomezNOES:None.ABSENT:None.ABSTAIN:None.

President, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Secretary, Board of Directors

APPROX EL S TO FORM:

Heshire & Wynder, LLP, General Counsel