

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
RAINBOW MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
MARCH 26, 2024**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Rainbow Municipal Water District on March 26, 2024, was called to order by President Hamilton at 1:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the District, 3707 Old Highway 395, Fallbrook, CA 92028. President Hamilton presiding.

2. **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Directors Hamilton, Johnson, Mack, Townsend-Smith, and Dale

Also Present: General Manager Wiley, Legal Counsel Smith, Chief Financial Officer Aragon, District Secretary Quintanar, Engineering and CIP Program Manager Williams, Administrative Services Manager Harp, Information Technology Manager Khattab, and Operations Manager Gutierrez, Member Nelson

Also Present Via Teleconference or Video Conference:

Construction and Meters Supervisor Lagunas, Administrative Assistant Montano, Project Manager Parra, Safety & Risk Management Officer Johnson, Wastewater Superintendent Zuniga, Human Resources Specialist Ramirez, and Adam Martson with Harris & Associates

Two members of the public were present in person, via teleconference or video conference.

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

4. **ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (Government Code §54954.2)**

Mr. Wiley requested the addition of an item to the agenda as Item No. 6. A, titled: Employee Recognition

5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

To approve the Agenda as amended.

Action: Approve, Moved by Director Mack, Seconded by Director Johnson

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous vote (summary: Ayes = 5).

Ayes: Directors Hamilton, Johnson, Mack, Townsend-Smith, and Dale

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Instructions for virtual public comments were read aloud. There were no requests to speak.

6. A. EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Mr. Wiley announced that Dennis Mendez has been awarded all five coins representing the District's Core Values and Mission, demonstrating his commitment to Innovation, Integrity, Professionalism, Responsibility, and Teamwork. Mr. Mendez has been with the District for nearly five years. Mr. Wiley relayed his appreciation and respect for the work Mr. Mendez and his crew perform, and presented him with a certificate of achievement.

7. COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARIES

- A. Budget and Finance Committee
- B. Engineering and Operations Committee
- C. Communications and Customer Service Committee

President Hamilton acknowledged Budget and Finance Committee, and Engineering and Operations Committee meeting summary reports provided at the March 19, 2024, meeting.

Ms. Harp reported on items discussed at the March 7, 2024, Communications and Customer Service Committee meeting, which included: review of the Customer Survey and scale, website language translation, addition of information regarding CropSWAP, and a guide to understanding RMWD bills. The Avocado Festival will be held on April 21, 2024, and volunteers are needed. The Bonsall High School STEM field trip is scheduled for April 15, 2024, and the Poster Contest deadline is April 1, 2024. The next Newsletter will feature information on CropSWAP, the SDCWA Detachment, understanding water bills, and a reminder to customers to update their contact information with the District.

President Hamilton thanked staff for their responsiveness to the website language translation request and encouraged volunteers for the Avocado Festival booth. Director Johnson commended the team for the Newsletter, specifically the detachment article. Director Mack requested the continued promotion of the CSDA "Districts Make A Difference" Program.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approval of February 27, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Motion:

To approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

Action: Approve, Moved by Director Johnson, Seconded by Director Dale

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous vote (summary: Ayes = 5)

Ayes: Directors Hamilton, Johnson, Mack, Townsend-Smith, and Dale

9. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Consider Approval of Change Order No. 3 with Harris & Associates, Incorporated to Provide CFD/SCIP Auditing Services (District-Wide)

Director Dale expressed concern about the amount and term of the proposed Change Order. As this work is 100 percent developer-funded and there is a critical need for the services over the next six months, the Board requested staff's review and determination regarding the option to issue a Request for Proposals for the long-term need. Staff will provide additional information at a subsequent meeting. There was no action taken.

- B. Consider Adoption of a Resolution Declaring the District's Intention to Reimburse Itself from the Proceeds of Tax-Exempt Financing for Certain Capital Facilities and Equipment Expenditures

Mr. Aragon explained that the staff recommendation to adopt the resolution is a precursor to the anticipated request to approve a large debt financing, which will assist with the SDCWA detachment expense and enable additional tax-exempt reimbursement for expenditures related to the Pump Station Project.

Motion:

To Adopt Resolution No. 2024-05 declaring the District's intention of reimbursing itself up to \$10,430,000 from the proceeds of a tax-exempt financing for certain capital facilities and equipment expenditures

Action: Approve, Moved by Director Johnson, Seconded by Director Dale

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous vote (summary: Ayes = 5)

Ayes: Directors Hamilton, Johnson, Mack, Townsend-Smith, and Dale

- C. Consider the Appointment of an Alternate Member of the Communications and Customer Service Committee

Director Johnson requested outreach to local organizations, such as the Women's Club, encouraging participation on the Committee.

Motion:

To Appoint Josh Cruz as a staff Alternate Member to the Communications and Customer Service Committee

Action: Approve, Moved by President Hamilton, Seconded by Director Johnson

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous vote (summary: Ayes = 5)

Ayes: Directors Hamilton, Johnson, Mack, Townsend-Smith, and Dale

- D. Consider Adoption of a Resolution Designating Authorized Agents for All Matters Pertaining to Disaster Assistance from the State of California and Federal Emergency Management Agency

Ms. Harp explained the need for renewal every three years in order to apply for grants related to disaster expense recovery. This would also enable the District to apply for reimbursement of expenses related to the March Storm State of Emergency.

Motion:

To Adopt Resolution No. 2024-06, Designating Authorized Agents for All Matters Pertaining to Disaster Assistance from the State of California and Federal Emergency Management Agency

Action: Approve, Moved by Director Johnson, Seconded by Director Dale

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous vote (summary: Ayes = 5)

Ayes: Directors Hamilton, Johnson, Mack, Townsend-Smith, and Dale

- E. Discuss and Consider the Addition of Compensable Local Organization Meetings and Training and Conference Associations, and Adoption of an Ordinance Amending Administrative Code Section 2.03.010.02- Compensation

Mr. Wiley explained that this information is presented at the Board's request of February 27, 2024, and provided his view regarding the benefits of membership in several agencies. With concerns for the upcoming budget needs and reserve balances, staff was asked for information for consideration on April 9, 2024. No action was taken.

10. INFORMATION ITEMS

Information was presented for reference. No action was taken.

11. REPORTS & COMMENTS

Mr. Smith summarized the determinations explained in the Legal Counsel's Report included in the meeting packet, specific to the Public Records Act.

Mr. Wiley provided an update on SDCWA Detachment efforts. The portion of the Operations Plan covering Connections 9 and 10 is nearly complete and staff is working on a draft for Aqueduct 1. A recent call was held that included MWD, SDCWA, FPUD, Rainbow MWD, and EMWD regarding MWD's planned amendments to service agreements with the respective agencies. Another meeting is scheduled in May, and bi-weekly meetings will follow. He also provided a status update on progress and equipment related to the Pump Stations, information about MWD's rate workshops and alternatives, and updated rate projections. At this time, a 9% increase in year one and a 6% increase in year two are the lowest proposed increases.

Mr. Wiley provided a five-year review and report regarding Agreement with the City of Oceanside for wastewater services. Recent staff discussions have prompted relocation of reserve account funds to a more lucrative option. Facilities changes, including the extension of a waterline, will also take place, and the Agreement will be amended to reflect these changes in the future. We are not currently utilizing our full capacity.

He concluded his report by relaying that Senator Butler was accepting requests from Special Districts for appropriations and that he submitted requests for some of our sewer projects, and will keep the Board apprised.

Vice President Johnson reported that she recently attended the CSDA Alliance Executive Council meeting to represent the CSDA Finance Corporation Board, and the next meeting is on August 1, 2024.

Mr. Wiley announced that LAFCO appointed Steven Woodburn as the 2024 Chair and Barry Willis as the Vice Chair. Updates were provided on MSR's underway. They will meet again in May.

Director Mack reminded everyone about the ACWA Spring Conference being held in Sacramento, May 6-9, 2024.

Vice President Johnson announced an ACWA Region 10 planning meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 28, 2024, from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m., via Zoom.

12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REQUESTS TO ATTEND UPCOMING MEETINGS / CONFERENCES / SEMINARS

Requests were made, and there was no opposition expressed.

Motion:

To Approve the Requests of Directors Dale, Johnson, and Mack to attend the Southern California Water Coalition Luncheon on April 19, 2024, and Approve the Requests of Directors Johnson, Dale, and Mack to attend the CSDA Legislative Days Conference on May 21-22, 2024.

Action: Approve, Moved by President Hamilton, Seconded by Director Mack

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous vote (summary: Ayes = 5)

Ayes: Directors Hamilton, Johnson, Mack, Townsend-Smith, and Dale

13. LIST OF SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Agenda Item No. 9.A, A Change Order No. 3 with Harris & Associates, Incorporated to Provide CFD/SCIP Auditing Services will be discussed again on April 23, 2024.

14. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 1:58 p.m., by President Hamilton to a regular meeting on April 23, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.



Hayden Hamilton, Board President

Attest:



Terese Quintanar, District Secretary