

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE TWENTYNINE PALMS WATER DISTRICT
72401 HATCH ROAD, TWENTYNINE PALMS, CA 92277**

MAY 22, 2013 / 6:00 P.M.

Call to Order and Roll Call

President Moore called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., 72401 Hatch Road, Twentynine Palms, California. Those responding to roll call were Directors Bo Bourikas, Chancey Chambers, Philip Cisneros, Sam Moore and Roger Shinaver. Also present were General Manager Tamara Alaniz, Operations Manager, Ray Kolisz, Financial Consultant Cindy Byerrum, and District Secretary Cindy Fowlkes.

Pledge of Allegiance

Director Moore led the pledge.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

None

Public Comments

Mary Reeves, of Twentynine Palms, spoke favorably of Captain Marquez's presentation to her preschoolers.

1. Poster Contest Award Presentation

Director Moore informed the audience that the Morongo Basin Conservation Association sponsored the poster contest prizes for the District's annual water conservation awareness poster contest. Dr. Laraine Turk, President of the Morongo Basin Conservation Association, presented awards to the following students:

Xavier Oyola	1 st Place	\$50 Gift Card
Kirsten Dunphy	2 nd Place	\$25 Gift Card
Devhan Burkins	3 rd Place	\$25 Gift Card

2. Closed Session - Conference With Labor Negotiators - Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

Agency Designated Representatives: General Manager Tamara Alaniz and Legal Counsel Joseph Sanchez, via teleconference

Employee Organization: American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, (AFSCME)

Director Shinaver moved to enter closed session at 6:08 p.m., seconded by Director Cisneros and unanimously approved.

The Board returned to open session at 6:15 p.m. Director Moore announced that there was nothing to report.

3. Consideration of Memorandum of Understanding Between Twentynine Palms Water District and AFSCME, Local 1902

Tamara Alaniz informed the Board that the MOU was approved by the employees.

Director Cisneros moved to approve the MOU between the Twentynine Palms Water District and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), seconded by Director Chambers and approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Directors Bourikas, Chambers, Cisneros, Moore, and Shinaver
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

4. Consideration of Resolution 13-06 for Employer Paid Member Contributions (EPMC)
Director Chambers made a motion to approve resolution 13-06 for employer paid member contributions, seconded by Director Bourikas and approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Directors Bourikas, Chambers, Cisneros, Moore, and Shinaver
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

5. Consideration of a Motion and Letter of Support for Senate Bill 246
Marina West, of Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency, spoke to Agenda item #5. Ms. West is asking the Board to support Senate Bill 246.

Staff recommends the Board make a motion to support Senate Bill 246, amending Water Code Section 3305. The Senate Bill does not negatively affect the Twentynine Palms Water District. Approval of the Bill will modernize the Bighorn Mountain Water Agency Law and provide more transparency and accountability to ratepayers.

Director Chambers made a motion to support Senate Bill 246 with a letter of support to Senator Jean Fuller, seconded by Director Shinaver and approved unanimously.

6. Budget Workshop

Ms. Byerrum informed the Board that the layout of the budget has been redesigned to serve as a better management tool for the Board and staff. Included in the budget is a brief description of each department budget's intent and purpose, including an explanation of significant line item accounts. The Board was pleased with the new budget structure and commended Ms. Byerrum on her due diligence. The Board would like to see the electric costs broke out of the Utilities line item under General Administration and include the LAIF balance in the monthly financials.

The following line items reflect some of the topics touched upon:

- Chemicals for the Treatment Facility have been increased for EPA compliance testing for Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 3 (UCMR3).
- Finance fees have increased \$20,000 for additional duties that were not anticipated in the contract including unforeseen challenges with outdated technology.
- There was a reduction in Employee Benefits that reflect the employee's paid member contributions to PERS.
- Pay off of the CalPERS side fund of \$250,000 will reduce the employer rate for fiscal year 2013/2014 by 1.782%.
- The Ground Water Management Plan is in the process of being updated.
- Computer and Software replacements are proposed in the budget to bring the District up to date with current technology over the next 3-5 years.
- Fire Department allocations were updated to reflect more accurate administrative costs.

7. Consent Calendar

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 24, 2013 and Minutes of the Special Meeting held on May 3, 2013
- Audit List

Director Chambers moved to adopt the Consent Calendar, seconded by Director Shinaver and approved unanimously.

8. Items Removed from the Consent Calendar for Discussion or Separate Action

None

9. Management Reports

9.1 Operations

Mr. Kolisz reported that the District responded to 31 Underground Service Alerts, had 0 water main leaks, 1 blown meter, and 1 fire hydrant repair. There was a 25% water production increase compared to the same time last year, due mostly in part to the casino.

9.2 Finance

Ms. Byerrum reported that the LAIF account is accruing at a .25% on returns. Revenues are in line with last year, and expenses are slightly under budget and close to the prior year.

10. Future Agenda Items and Staff Tasks/Directors' Comments and Reports

Director Chambers wished his Grandmother a happy birthday and informed the Board that an ACWA/JPIA report from his attendance at the spring conference will be included in the June board packet.


Director Bourikas and Director Shinaver would like to see a recommendation from staff on the implementation of solar to offset the rising electrical costs. Director Bourikas commended staff for the way in which they handled the transition in personnel and their diligent work in keeping the District running smoothly.

The Board was in agreement to place the payoff of the CALPERS side fund on the June Agenda, as recommended by Financial Consultant, Cindy Byerrum.

Director Cisneros would like a detailed analysis of tower revenues. He also recommends that the General Manager include a report on the ACWA/JPIA Conference in the June board packet.

11. Adjournment

On motion by Director Shinaver seconded by Director Cisneros and approved by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.


Kerron E. Moore, President
Board of Directors

Attest:


Tamara Alaniz, Board Secretary
Twentynine Palms Water District

APPROVED JUN 26 2013