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

OCTOBER 23, 2013

FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

Call to Order and Roll Call

President Moore called the meeting to order at 6:56 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 Fire Chief Jim Thompson, Financial Consultant Cindy Byerrum and Josh Byerrum, and District Secretary Cindy Fowlkes.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

None

Public Comments

No public comments.

Approval of Resolution 13-18 Commending Craig Walker for 25 Years of Distinguished Volunteer
 <u>Service as a Firefighter and the Chaplain for the Twentynine Palms Fire Department</u>
 Director Shinaver made the motion to approve Resolution 13-18 commending Craig Walker for 25 years of distinguished volunteer service as a firefighter and the chaplain for the Twentynine Palms Fire Department, seconded by Director Cisneros and approved unanimously.

Chief Thompson read the resolution aloud, and Captain Marquez presented Mr. Walker with a commemorative plaque for his dedication and service to the community.

2. <u>Approval of Resolution 13-19 Proclaiming November 3, 2013 as "Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery Day</u>

Director Cisneros made the motion to approve Resolution 13-19 proclaiming November 3, 2013 as change your clock, change your battery day, seconded by Director Shinaver and approved unanimously.

3. <u>Presentation, Discussion, and Possible Action Regarding the Citizens' Advisory Committee Report on Recommendations for a Potential Special Tax Ballot Measure for Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services</u>

Chairman Adam Lunn presented the Citizens' Advisory Committee's recommendation to the Board of Directors. The Committee is in support of a special tax ballot measure to support an 8 personnel staffing service level with a three year phase in and a 3% inflation adjuster to be reviewed annually and implemented at the discretion of the Board.

Randy Leazer, Vice-Chairman, spoke to Agenda item 3, suggesting the recruitment of a larger committee to campaign in favor of the special tax ballot measure.

Mary Reeves, Committee member, spoke in favor of including an informational flyer with water bills as a means of informing the public.

Larry Bowden, Committee member, reminded the Board that the best interest of the community needs to be considered despite personality conflicts and past grievances.

Tony Jimenez, Committee member, thanked the Chief and water district staff for their work and spoke in favor of working together with the City Council.

Chief Thompson informed the Board that a ballot measure ordinance would have to be approved at the February Board meeting if the Board was in favor of moving forward with a tax ballot measure for

2014/2015. Chief Thompson recommended the Board and Committee members reach out to the community for feedback before moving forward on a ballot measure. The Board was reminded that if the Committee is not dissolved they are still mandated by the Brown Act.

After discussion, the Board was in agreement to consider a special tax ballot measure and was in favor of disbanding the Citizens' Advisory Committee. The Board thanked the members of the Committee for their diligence and commitment to the Fire Department.

Director Cisneros moved to disband the Citizens' Advisory Committee, seconded by Director Bourikas and approved unanimously.

Consent Calendar

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 25, 2013
- Audit List

Director Cisneros moved to approve the Minutes, seconded by Director Shinaver and approved unanimously.

5. <u>Items Removed From the Consent Calendar for Discussion or Separate Action</u>
None

6. Department Reports

6.1 Fire Chief's Report

Chief Thompson reported the Department responded to 175 calls for assistance during September. During fire prevention week, 15 presentations were given to approximately 1,000 children. The Chief thanked all the businesses for their donations and citizens for their participation at the pancake breakfast. This year 735 breakfasts were served, raising \$4,800 for the Fire Explorer post.

6.2 Finance Report

Mr. Josh Byerrum, Financial Consultant, reported that \$1.2 million in special tax revenue was allocated evenly to show net income over the entire fiscal year, instead of seeing fluctuations from property tax assessments collected twice annually. The budget is tracking as expected.

7. <u>Future Agenda Items and Staff Tasks/Directors' Comments and Reports</u> None

Adjournment

On motion by Director Cisneros, seconded by Director Shinaver and approved by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Kerron E. Moore, President Board of Directors

Attest:

Tamara Alaniz, Board Secretary
Twentynine Palms Water District

APPROVED NOV 2 0 2013