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

DECEMBER 16, 2015 / 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 Carol Giannini, Suzi Horn, Sam Moore, and Roger Shinaver. Director Chancey Chambers was absent. Also present were General Manager Ray Kolisz, Financial Consultant Josh Byerrum, Legal Counsel Jeff Ferre and Steven Anderson, and District Secretary Cindy Fowlkes.

Pledge of Allegiance

Director Moore led the pledge.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

None

Public Comments

None

Election of Officers

The Board directed staff to bring back the agenda item at the January meeting when all Board members are present.

2. <u>Public Hearing on Proposed Adoption of Ordinance 96 Establishing Rates and Charges for Water Service</u>

Mr. Jeff Ferre introduced himself as District Counsel and his colleague Steve Anderson. Mr. Ferre advised the Board of the procedures for conducting a public hearing and the procedure for protest submittal.

2.1 Board to Hear Public Testimony at This Time

Director Giannini moved to open the Public Hearing at 6:03 p.m., seconded by Director Shinaver, and unanimously approved.

Ed Vallerand, of Twentynine Palms, spoke in favor of the increased rates but disapproved of the commercial and larger meter rate structures.

Director Shinaver moved to close the public hearing at 6:08 p.m., seconded by Director Horn, and unanimously approved.

3. Approval of Ordinance 96 Establishing Rates and Charges for Water Service Notices were sent out in accordance to Prop 218 to 11,448 property owners and tenants responsible for payment of water services. Rate payers had 45 days to review the proposed rate increase and submit a written protest. The District received a total of 4 written protests.

After discussion, Director Giannini moved to adopt Ordinance 96 establishing rates and charges for water service, seconded by Director Shinaver, and approved by the following roll call vote.

Ayes: Directors Giannini, Horn, Shinaver, and Moore

Noes: None Abstain: None

Absent: Director Chambers

4. <u>Approval of Ordinance 97 Establishing Rates for Pay Meter Station Water Service Fees</u> Staff recommends approving Ordinance 97 and increasing the rates for the pay meter station in accordance with the rate study performed by NBS Consultants.

After discussion, Director Shinaver moved to adopt Ordinance 97 establishing rates for pay meter station water service fees, seconded by Director Giannini, and approved by the following roll call vote.

Ayes: Directors Giannini, Horn, Shinaver, and Moore

Noes: None Abstain: None

Absent: Director Chambers

5. <u>Consider Resolution 15-17 Designating General Manager as Authorized Representative</u> for Submitting a State Water Resources Control Board Grant Application

The District is seeking grant funds for groundwater management projects such as chromium 6 treatment and a secondary water source for the fluoride removal treatment plant.

Director Horn moved to approve Resolution 15-17 designating General Manager as authorized representative to apply for potable groundwater management project funding, seconded by Director Giannini, and approved by the following roll call vote.

Ayes: Directors Giannini, Horn, Shinaver, and Moore

Noes: None Abstain: None

Absent: Director Chambers

- 6. <u>Consent Calendar</u>
 - Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 19, 2015; Minutes of a Special Meeting held on November 24, 2015; and Minutes of a Special Joint Meeting with the City of Twentynine Palms held on December 7, 2015
 - Audit List

Director Giannini moved to approve the Consent Calendar, seconded by Director Horn, and approved unanimously.

- 7. <u>Items Removed from the Consent Calendar for Discussion or Separate Action</u>
 None
- 8. Management Reports

8.1 Operations

The District responded to 26 Underground Service Alerts, had 0 water main leaks, 0 water meter leaks, 0 fire hydrant repairs, performed 3 customer pressure checks, replaced 1 customer gate valve, and performed 4 leak audits. Water quality levels were normal for the month. Water production was down 7.3% as compared to the same month in 2013.

8.2 Finance

Mr. Byerrum reported that the District is at 32% of revenue, with operating expenses at 31%. The District is expecting water revenue to decrease in the coming winter months resulting in negative net income.

8.3 General Manager

Mr. Kolisz reported that water waste complaints have totaled 22 since tracking began in July. The community was congratulated for their diligence in conserving water and reporting water waste. ACWA/JPIA recognized the District for its low liability loss ratio. Mr. Kolisz attended the ACWA Fall Conference in Indian Wells. There was a lot of discussion on the Central Valley and ground subsidence.

Mr. Jeff Ferre informed the Board that he has taken on a new administrative role with Best Best & Krieger but will continue to be available to the District. Mr. Steve Anderson will be working closely with the District on water conservation efforts and groundwater sustainability issues.

Mr. Steve Anderson was welcomed by the Board.

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

10. Adjournment

On motion by Director Horn, seconded by Director Shinaver, and approved by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Kerron E. Moore, President

Board of Directors

1/

Ray Kolisz, Board Secretary
Twentynine Palms Water District