

**JUNIPER RIVIERA COUNTY WATER DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**September 21, 2023 5:00pm**

**MEETING  
MINUTES**

**Board of Directors/ All Present**

**Erin D’Orio, President**

**Jason Chormicle, Vice-President**

**Waldo Stakes, Director**

**Eric Engleman, Director**

**Brad Pace, Director**

**Staff/All Present**

**Lorrie L. Steely, General Manager**

**Lee Logsdon, Director of Operations**

**Chris Garland, Admin Assistant**

- **CALL TO ORDER/FLAG SALUTE/ROLL CALL – Erin D’Orio called the meeting to order at 5:01pm**
  
- **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** The public is invited to address the Board on matters relating to water district business. Comments regarding specific agenda items may also be addressed during the time that the item is before the Board of Directors, with prior notice being given. There were several attendees in the audience, Ron Walker, Kristen Walker, Ondine Hollander, Scott Hollander, Tracy DeMay, Susie West, Howard West, Jerry Lyon. Comments from the public included, current moratorium, new Well No. 04, providing financial documents for meetings, and ideas for updating the District website.
  
- **APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD AUGUST 17, 2023 – After a review of the meeting minutes; Jason Chormicle made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Brad Pace made the second; All in Favor, Motion passes 5/0.**
  
- **APPROVE REVISED FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR JUNE 2023, This item was carried to the end of the meeting in order to have our Accountant Peggy participate in the call. Staff explained that additional invoices had been received that had to be included in fiscal year 2022-2023 which required the June Financials be revised. After a discussion, Waldo Stakes made the motion to approve; Jason Chormicle made the second; All in Favor, Motion passes 5/0.**
  
- **INFORMATION ITEMS: The following items, announcements and/or reports are presented for information and discussion only:**
  - **OPERATIONS/WATER SYSTEM UPDATE – Lee Logsdon**
    - Report on system operations during the month of August, Lee Logsdon provided an update on the system. Operations is going well, all our lab testing is passing. This month he and Jason replaced the chlorine line to both Wells 1 & 2.
  
  - **DISTRICT BUSINESS/GENERAL MANAGERS UPDATE – Lorrie Steely**
    - Per the Public Hearing held at the Board of Directors meeting August 2022, Monthly Service Rates increase effective October 1<sup>st</sup> from \$37.00 per month to \$40.00 per month. The final increase approved at that 2023 Public Hearing will bring rates to \$43.00/month beginning Oct 1, 2024. Several members of the public were in attendance to discuss the increase in the monthly service fees. Staff explained that the service fees are primarily the in come that assists with costs of maintenance and operations including pumping fees incurred from Southern California Edison, procuring water for each water year. The request was made to provide the financial documents for residents and customers to see. Staff will confirm these can be distributed and advise at the next meeting.
  
    - Discuss expenditures with subcontractor Roland Engineering; costs to date include mock shut-down, exercising valves and flushing dead-ends to bring District maintenance of system up to date. Other expenditures will include relocation of meters for (2) locations that were on private property and required a hot-tap. Future work will include repair and replace the storm drain inlets along Milpas. Staff stated there has been a significant amount of work performed this fiscal year to bring the District system up to speed maintenance-wise. Valves throughout the district have been exercised as well as hydrants flushed and dead-end flushing. All this work has been performed to date by outside contractor Roland Engineering. Cost to date has been \$20,305.26. With this work being done we expect hereforward that District Staff will maintain the system as needed on an annual basis.

- Discuss need to update District Rules & Regulations, Staff will begin after O&M Program is completed, Staff indicated that after the Operations and Maintenance Program has been completed, there is a need to review and update District Rules & Regulations.
  - Recent rains and run-off from the storm Hilary exposed a large section of mainline south of the District office, Staff thanked Ron and Kristen Walker for bringing equipment over during the storm and moving dirt to cover exposed line. This could have been a serious issue. We are grateful for the assistance we received.
  - Storm run-off means even less cover on our mainline all along Milpas Road. Staff has been looking for fill material at an affordable cost, and found 2000 cubic yards within 10 miles at no cost for the material; District must pay for trucking at a cost of \$17,500. Cost for same quantity of material and trucking would be \$45,000 or more. A second location is also available depending on need after we see how much cover we can achieve with dirt from the first location. Staff indicated the total estimated cost to be approximately \$30,000.
  - Discuss need for equipment to spread the dirt on Milpas. Residents Ron and Kristen Walker may be able to provide equipment, discuss possible cost.
- **GRANT UPDATES**
    - **IRWMP Grant Update/PRV Stations:** The District received remittance on our first payment application that was submitted October 2022 in the amount of \$69,828.70, Mojave Water Agency deducted our cost-share from that payment. The next phase of the project, PRV Replacement, will be done after summer heat when the water consumption is not such an issue.
    - **State Water Resources Control Board Grant – Generators:** Funding for this grant will be incorporated into the Prop 1 Grant funding & construction process which is currently underway. Until such time that Staff can confirm this has occurred, we will keep this as a topic of discussion on the monthly agenda.
    - **Prop 1 Grant (NV-5 James Nolte/Sac State):** The Districts Engineering firm, NV-5 will be performing biological and cultural surveys at the new tank location on BLM land to the South of the District in October, depending on the outcome of the initial surveys, additional surveys may be necessary beginning spring of 2024. District Staff and NV-5 proposed a new section of pipeline on the south-west section of the District to incorporate loops in the infrastructure that eliminate some “dead-ends” in the District, feedback from the State is positive, and should be a go.


**NEW BUSINESS:** No new business

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- **APPROVE EXPENDITURE FOR TRUCKING DIRT TO PROVIDE NEEDED COVER OVER MAINLINE ALONG MILPAS ROAD. ESTIMATED TRUCKING COST: \$17,500 - \$18,500 FOR FIRST LOCATION. EST MATERIAL & TRUCKING COST IF WE HAD TO PURCHASE THIS MUCH DIRT WOULD BE IN EXCESS OF \$48,500. APPROVE SECOND LOCATION (AS NEEDED) FOR ADDITIONAL DIRT, ESTIMATED TRUCKING COST: \$6,500 - \$7,500. EST MATERIAL & TRUCKING COST IF WE HAD TO PURCHASE WOULD BE IN EXCESS OF \$18,500. Staff stated the estimated cost for the trucking to be approximately \$30,000. Brad Pace made the motion to approve the expenditure; Waldo Stakes made the second; All in Favor 5/0; Motion Passes**

**ADJOURN MEETING:** Jason Chormicle made the motion to adjourn the meeting; Eric Engleman made the second; All in Favor 5/0, Motion passes. Meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm

Approved:



10.19.2023