

**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MUNICIPAL
WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
1402 N. VOSBURG DR. AZUSA, CA 91702
MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2024
8:00 A.M.**

At 8:00 a.m. on March 11, 2024, the Board of Directors meeting was held in person at the District office, located at 1402 North Vosburg Drive, Azusa, California. While the Boardroom was open for public attendance, the District strongly encouraged attendees wanting to attend the meeting to participate in the meeting virtually through the remote Zoom link provided below. Attendees in person were asked to please maintain appropriate social distancing to the extent feasible (i.e., maintain a six-foot distance between yourself and other individuals). Face coverings were encouraged but not required for attendees.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89013306120?pwd=SUZJRzFFSDRXUVVTY0NhOXQ0c1I6QT09>

Meeting ID: 890 1330 6120

Passcode: 512838

Dial by your location

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PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER:

President Paulson called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

Directors present at Roll Call: Eng, Knoles, Paulson, Placido, Prince

ALSO PRESENT:

Darin Kasamoto, General Manager; Steve Kiggins, Assistant General Manager; Linda Esquivel, Executive Assistant; Evelyn Reyes, External Affairs Manager; Albert Lu, External Affairs Specialist; Jim Ciampa, Lagerlof LLP; Dave DePinto, DMCI

Via telephone/Zoom: Kelly Gardner, Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster; Dennis Ahlen & David Dolphin, City of Monterey Park

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

UPDATES FROM THE CITY REPRESENTATIVE

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 12, 2024

Financial Statements for February 2024

Treasurer's Investment Report Dated December 31, 2023

Disbursements of the Revolving Fund Dated:

February 22, 2024, Check Nos. 12455 – 12460, EFTs, and Wires in the amount of \$64,770.23

March 07, 2024, Check Nos. 12461 – 12468, EFT, and Wires in the amount of \$96,014.98

March 11, 2024, Check Nos. 12469 – 12473, and Wires in the amount of \$7,210.50

Disbursements of the General Fund Dated:

February 13 - 29, 2024, Check Nos. 44279 – 44293 and EFTs in the amount of \$115,887.70

March 1 - 11, Check Nos. 44294 – 44329, and EFTs in the amount of \$1,198,725.58

Disbursements of the State Water Project (SWP) Dated:

February 26, 2024, Check No. 1003, in the amount of \$596,481.00

Future Meeting Attendance Approval: None

On the motion of Director Prince, seconded by Director Knoles, and unanimously carried 5-0, the Consent Calendar was approved.

ACTION AGENDA ITEM

GRANT POLICY DISCUSSION

General Counsel Ciampa stated that as he began to draft the proposed policy, he realized he needed additional direction from the Board regarding the issues to be addressed and the Board's desire about how to best address those issues. After much discussion, the Board provided General Counsel Ciampa with the direction necessary to draft the proposed city grant policy. General Counsel Ciampa stated he would have a draft of that policy for discussion purposes at the April 8 Board meeting.

LOAN REQUEST FROM MONTEREY PARK

The City of Monterey Park has requested a \$9 Million loan from the District to fund its AMI system. The Board recommended this item be tabled for a future meeting with the Administrative/Finance Committee in light of the various capital improvement projects that were identified in the District's Strategic Plan and related costs of those projects. Staff were then directed to rework a proposal with the City of Monterey Park and bring it back at a future meeting.

On motion of Director Knoles, seconded by Director Placido, and unanimously carried 5-0, the loan request from the City of Monterey Park was tabled for a future meeting of the District's Administrative/Finance Committee.

DECLARE SURPLUS ITEMS

On motion of Director Eng, seconded by Director Knoles, and unanimously carried 5-0, the disposal of surplus inventory, as identified in the proposal provided to the Board, was approved.

AMEND CAPITAL BUDGET

The Assistant General Manager reported that the Capital Budget was developed with the intention of replacing the carpet in the office with new carpeting. However, after discussions with several flooring contractors, the plan has been modified to also include some laminated flooring, which will be easier to maintain and will last longer. That laminated flooring comes with an increased cost that necessitates an increase in the Capital Budget of approximately \$26,000 for that increased cost.

On motion of Director Prince, seconded by Director Placido, and unanimously carried 5-0, the Amendment to the Capital Budget, adding the cost increase of \$26,000 related to laminated flooring, was approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

External Affairs Report in Agenda Packet.

Ms. Reyes reported on the District's rebate program. California Advocates will continue to monitor legislation important to the District and the State Water Contractors, and the possible water/climate resilience bond on the November statewide ballot. The District's annual legislative day has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 3, 2024. Director Knoles, the General Manager, and herself will be going to Sacramento. On February 22nd, the District applied for a Water Efficiency Grant through the Bureau of Reclamation. The grant request aims to secure funding for setting up a program to replace turf and for receiving additional funding for the current irrigation program that installs smart controllers and nozzles. Letters of support from Congresswoman Judy Chu and Congresswoman Grace Napolitano were received and included in the grant request. Ms. Reyes reported that the following events are scheduled: Marguerita Elementary Garden Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, Brightwood Elementary Earth Day, City of Sierra Madre's Community Bike Ride and Wellness Fair, City of Monterey Park's Earth Day Festival, and City of Alhambra's EcoFair.

Ms. Reyes wanted to thank Director Placido and Director Paulson for attending the water tour with members of the Legislature and Regional Water Quality Control Board staff and also thanked Director Knoles for joining them for lunch.

Director Paulson commented that Mr. Kiggins and Ms. Reyes did a great job representing the District.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORT ON BASIN MANAGEMENT

Director Placido reported Watermaster's Executive Officer Tony Zampielo is retiring and his replacement effective April 2, 2024, will be Russ Bryden. The Assistant General Manager reported that rainfall for February was fantastic.

REPORT OF WQA

Director Paulson reported President Biden signed a \$5.5 million restoration fund that will benefit the San Gabriel Valley. He also thanked the local delegation, including Dr. Chu for helping with this plan.

REPORT OF THE ATTORNEY

General Counsel Ciampa reported on pending bills concerning Proposition 218, SB1330 regarding Water Use Efficiency, the current status of the Taxpayer Protection, and Government Accountability Act, and on the various CEQA lawsuits challenging the EIR certified for the Delta Conveyance Project, as well as the trial court decision that ruled. DWR did not have the power to issue bonds for the Delta Conveyance Project.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER/ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

The General Manager's written report is in the Agenda Packet. The General Manager reported the Bureau of Reclamation has approved the District's feasibility study for the Monterey Park/Central Basin Municipal Water District recycled water connection. The project is eligible for potential grant funding from the Bureau.

The Assistant General Manager's written report is in the Agenda Packet. The Assistant General Manager reported DCAP SCH 1 Pipeline Continuity Bonding, Corrosion Assessment Validation and Cathodic System Design Tee installation and (internal) corrosion assessment validation fieldwork is completed. Additional equipment was purchased, and joint bonding should conclude around April 1. With respect to the San Gabriel Flow Control Structure 30" Ball Valve Replacement, RC Foster Corporation has completed the installation and will return during pipeline pressurization to verify there are no leaks. The Hydroelectric Facility 24" Butterfly Valve Replacement was installed, and paving was completed on July 28. The District purchased a replacement relay-controlled valve actuator. The contractor is coordinating the installation. Due to the rainfall throughout February, the District was unable to deliver water during that month. However, water deliveries did start up earlier this week.

REPORT OF THE STATE WATER CONTRACTORS

The General Manager's written report is in the Agenda Packet. The General Manager reported the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP) Public Draft EIR Comment period has ended. The EIR was certified by DWR on December 18, 2023. The State

Water Project allocation for 2024 was increased to 15% as conditions throughout the state have improved significantly in the month of February. The General Manager anticipates further allocation increase based on the rainfall.

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS

None.

DIRECTOR REPORTS ON EVENTS ATTENDED

None.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Director Eng asked if the District is on target on its Strategic Plan objectives.

Director Knoles commented that March 12th marked the 96th Anniversary of the tragic failure of the St. Francis Dam.

Director Placido commented that unfortunately the proposed April 3 trip to Sacramento conflicts with the Watermaster meeting and he would like to see if the date can be changed.

ADJOURNED

There being no further business, upon motion made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the meeting was duly adjourned at 9:13 a.m. The next Regular Board Meeting of the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District will be on April 8, 2024, at 8:00 a.m.

s/ Mark R. Paulson _____
President

ATTEST:

s/ Miles L. Prince _____
Secretary