

**MARIANA RANCHOS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

MEETING PLACE: DISTRICT OFFICE  
9600 Manzanita Street  
Apple Valley, CA

Thursday, August 21st, 2014  
4:00 p.m.

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*" The mission of the Mariana Ranchos County Water District is to efficiently  
serve our customers with the highest quality water 24/7."*

**REGULAR MEETING  
AGENDA**

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER:** Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **ROLL CALL:** Directors –Ronald Dodge, Marilyn Cresser, Dennis Russell, Lauren Stewart and Jon Varley. Attorney Michael Silander will be attending by phone.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**
  - Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014.
  - Approval of Financial Statements for July 2014. Copies available upon request.
  - Approval of checks for signature. (Directors' Fees)

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

5. All comments are limited to 3 minutes, as recognized by the Chair. No action can be taken on subjects not on the Agenda. Please state the subject you wish to address or an item that you request to have on a future Agenda. Please also state your name and address for the record.

**NEW BUSINESS**

6.
  - A. Discuss and Approve attendance for the CSDA Annual Conference & Exhibitor Showcase.
  - B. Discuss and Approve Resolution #14-04 "Undeveloped Inactive Service Lines".
  - C. Discuss and Review the Security Fee Account as per Vice President Russell.
  - D. Discuss and Approve the possibility of forming a finance/budget committee as per Vice President Russell.

**ONGOING BUSINESS**

7.
  - A. Discuss & approve State Water Resources Control Board recommendations.
    1. Discuss and Approve possible changes to MRCWD Ordinance #105.
  - B. Discuss & approve sponsoring a "Summer Get-Together" for our customers.

**INFORMATION REPORTS**

8.
  - A. **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**
  - B. **GREEN COMMITTEES REPORT**

C. **VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT on meetings attended**

D. **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS**

1. Monthly report on subjects not covered on the agenda.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**None**

9. **CORRESPONDENCE/CONFERENCES/SEMINARS/MEETINGS:** Current correspondence, conferences, seminars and meetings will be noted and discussed for possible authorization and/or action. (All correspondence is available for review at the District office).

A. **RCAC On-line Training:** 9/03/14 BB: Safe Drinking Water Act, 9/04/14 Pumps & Motor Efficiency.

B. **ABC's of Water "Straight Talk on the Drought"** Tuesday, September 23, 2014 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. @ MWA 13846 Conference Center Dr., Apple Valley. Please RSVP by 9/22/14 (760) 946-7001

C. **Apple Valley Fire Dept. CERT Class,** Community Emergency Response Training. Twenty (20) hours of training on 9/6, 9/20 & 9/27 (Saturdays) located at 19235 Yucca Loma Rd, Apple Valley CA. Fire station # 336. Please email dharrison@applevalleyfd.com for registration.

**DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS**

11. Comments by individual Board Members concerning District business, which may be of interest to the Board and the public. No action is to be taken on comments made by the Board members other than to place a matter on a future Agenda.

**ADJOURNMENT**

12. **Adjournment.**

\*\*\* A complete agenda packet containing all accompanying reports for this agenda is available through the District's website at : [www.marianaranchoscwd.org](http://www.marianaranchoscwd.org) \*\*\*

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a), any request for a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, that is sought in order to participate in the below agenda public meeting should be directed to the General Manager's office at (760) 247-9405 at least 24 hours prior to said meeting.

**MARIANA RANCHOS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**

9600 Manzanita Street  
Apple Valley, CA 92308

**MINUTES**

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

July 17, 2014

1. The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Mariana Ranchos County Water District (MRCWD) was called to order by Board President Ronald Dodge at 4:00 p.m. at the District office, 9600 Manzanita St., Apple Valley, CA. A quorum was declared.

**ROLL CALL**

2. PRESENT: President Ronald Dodge, Vice President Dennis Russell, Director's Jon Varley, Lauren Stewart and Marilyn Cresser.

ABSENT: NONE

STAFF: James Hansen, GM, Phyllis Walker, Office Assistant/Board Secretary and standing in for Attorney Michael Silander was Attorney Collin O'Neil who attended via phone at 4:00 p.m.

AUDIENCE: Customers; Ken Gates, Linda Von, Gina and Robert Reh and Tommy Dittman from Miers and Miers CPA's.

**PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS**

President Dodge said "before we get started I would like to apologize for the unprofessionalism at the last board meeting. I was not prepared and I wish everyone that had attended that meeting was here today to hear this. But it will be reflected in the minutes."

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

3. First Motion by Director Cresser and seconded by Director Stewart, AYE's were unanimous, motion carries at 100%.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

4. President Dodge asked for each item on the Consent Agenda to have it's own approval.
  - First Motion by Director Cresser and seconded by Director Russell, AYE's 5-0, no discussion and motion carries at 100%.
  - First Motion by Director Russell and seconded by Director Cresser, AYE's 5-0, no discussion and motion carries at 100%.
  - First Motion by Director Cresser and seconded by Director Varley, AYE's 5-0, no discussion and motion carries at 100%.
  - First Motion by Director Cresser and seconded by Director Russell, AYE's 5-0. There was some discussion on Director Russell's behalf, he asked for clarification on different items on the Financial Statement. All questions where answered by the G.M., James Hansen. Motion carries at 100%.
  - First Motion by Director Cresser and seconded by Director Stewart, AYE's 5-0, no discussion and motion carries at 100%.

President Dodge noted that for future, public comments will be limited to 3 minutes. There was a mistake on this Agenda it should have stated 3 minutes, not 5 minutes.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

### 5. Customer Ken Gates:

- Updated us on the progress of El Nino and as of right now the odds have decreased and we may not see the rain we need this fall season.
- He also brought up some other concerns regarding the drought and wanted to know how it was going to affect us here in the High Desert. He said that "we don't waste water and we should look at our expenses carefully, what can we cut out?" He also went on to explain that our tier structure compared to other agencies "is not very aggressive". There is a water district up north that charges \$16.00 per unit in there 4<sup>th</sup> tier and 70% of the water districts can not even tell you how many customers they service.

### Customer Linda Von:

- Started off by apologizing to the board for the last board meeting. Director Russell welcomed her back.
- She reinstated her concerns regarding our procedures on Prop 218 from the last Board Meeting.
- She asked that the minutes be changed, as she did not look directly at the board members because of the room arrangement she was looking at Director Varley's back.
- She pointed out that after Director Dodge had attended a conference in April and he should have had a summary in writing for the board. (There was a verbal summary of the conference from President Dodge at the May Board Meeting.)
- She filled out a Public Records Request asking for a copy of the meeting and has been denied by the G.M. because the videos are for his personal property and do not belong to the district, but she feels that he "refuses to give her a copy" and the district should consider buying their own video equipment.
- Her 5 minutes where up and she asked Customer Reh to give up his 5 minutes so she could continue to speak, he agreed.
- Linda said that there is a severe problem with the Security Fee Fund and asked that it be placed on a future agenda.
- She had also filled out a second Public Records Request form requesting how the rate for removal of her multiple meter was determined and would like to see copies of the fee. She said that it was never physically connected to her property and according to ACWA it has to have a physical connection/ hooked up. If she were to take it to Pallone Court she believes that she would win.
- She then handed out packets to each board member. I am not sure of the contents. As the Board Secretary did not receive a copy of the packet, as is customary practice for inclusion into the minutes.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### 6.

- a. Discussion to possibly make changes to the MRCWD Ordinance #105, first motion was made by Director Varley and seconded by Director Cresser.

Discussion; Customer Ken Gates spoke about a packet going thru Sacramento to be voted on by the end of the month, to become effective August 1, 2014.

The GM shared that we no longer report to the CDPH, we now are required to report to State Water Resource Control Board. If we do not comply with their recommendations we could be fined up to \$10,000.00 per day. He also compared our Ordinance #105 with the State Water Conservation Rules, called for by Governor J. Brown. We have been pro-active with items in our ordinance that the state doesn't even have on their list; such as pool covers to prevent water evaporation and maintenance on Evaporated Coolers. The GM also mentioned that we have been pro-active for years and shared a graph on the amount of water usage over the last five years. From 2007 thru 2013 we have had a 40.9% reduction. He asked the board "If we implement Stage 1 on the water conservation ordinance, outdoor use, can we water every other day instead of twice a week? Customer Ken Gates is right we don't waste water and our customers have already been conserving water. Would we still be in compliance by watering every other day?" The district's Attorney Collin O'Neil said the word "reasonable" will have to be looked into. President Ronald Dodge reread the information on the graph that was distributed and "40% over the past 5 years, with out the state telling us to do it, would this be considered when looking into it?" The Attorney Collin O'Neil will look into it. The GM went on to say "that we don't want to jump to hard or to fast". And #3 in the Ordinance, we are not sure about, is it comparable? The State Water Resources Control Board will have a more finalized regulation by August 1<sup>st</sup>. This Item was tabled to the next meeting to wait for a response from the Attorney.

Director Stewart asked President Dodge if he did a report from the April Conference as she was not at the May 12<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. President Dodge said he did an oral report at the meeting.

Point of Order by customer Linda Von; "When someone attends a convention they must do a written report". President Dodge replied "I will look into that".

First Motion to table until next meeting by Director Varley and seconded by Director Stewart, AYES's 5-0, motion carries at 100%.

- b. Customer #806113 was approved for a Commercial Will Serve Letter to move forward with obtaining a Dog Kennel Permit. First Motion by Director Stewart and seconded by Director Cresser, AYE's 5-0, with some discussion on water conservation. Motion carries at 100%.
- c. Tommy Dittman from Miers & Miers reported "that they did not find anything dramatic or huge. There are three things that where misclassified in error".  
The first was a refund from Insurance that was put into a customer account. The second was depreciation for the water tanks. They felt it would be beneficial to the district to continue to depreciate it. It was a safer route especially if we where to lose our contract with Utility Services. And finally the ATV valves that were purchased and scattered through out the year. It would be appropriate to depreciate them and he did not want to revive last years audit, so this year they will lump them together instead and add them to the fixed assets. He also went on to say that they are now required to read minutes as part of their audits and he was impressed on how thorough our Board is.  
Vice President Russell asked Mr. Dittman if there is a deadline for the audit? Mr. Dittman response "They all vary, depends on how many people are working on it. Ball park is about a month. Director Stewart asked if he will be coming back when the audit is completed? Mr. Dittman "yes". The GM let the Board members know that Mr. Dittman

had been very thorough in the process of the audit. They were here two days just collecting data before they even got started working on the audit.

Mr. Dittman went on to say that the YTD Fiscal Year may have some minor differences, an example would be payroll. Payroll expenses could be in the middle of a payroll period. Point of Order by customer Linda Von; Asked Mr. Dittman about the transfer of the ATV for System Improvements would it be in the security fee or #828. Mr. Dittman replied "component of depreciation, it's useful life. It's a large purchase for depreciation." It came out of Security Fees and ended up in System Improvements.

- d. First motion made by Director Stewart and seconded by Director Cresser, after discussion, not to attend, AYE's 5-0, motion carries at 100%.
- e. First motion made by Director Varley and a second by Director Cresser, after discussion, not to attend, AYE's 5-0, motion carries at 100%.
- f. Motion to discuss, First motion was made by Director Russell and seconded by Director Stewart. During the discussion a question came up regarding handling and serving food. Can we serve food to customers if we are not charging them with out a food handlers card? The Attorney will look into this and get back to us with an answer. First motion to table until next board meeting made by Director Stewart and a second made by Director Cresser, AYE's 5-0, motion carries at 100%.

#### **ONGOING BUSINESS**

- 7.
  - a. NONE

#### **INFORMATION REPORTS**

- 8.
  - a. Nothing note worthy to report.
  - b. The Green Committee will be meeting again on Tuesday, July 22, 2014.
  - c. Nothing note worthy to report.
  - d. Monthly report on subjects not covered on the agenda. The G.M.'s report is available for review. Director Russell asked how much water was sold vs. the base rate. The GM did not have that information in front of him and said he will get it for him. Point of Order by customer Linda Von; Gave numbers for water sold, base rates and totals.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **NONE**

- 9.
  - A. Reviewed up coming classes that are posted on the agenda, RCAC On-line Training: 8/12/14 BB: Board Roles & Responsibilities, 8/13/14 Cross Connection Controls, 8/26/14 BB: Capital Improvement Plans, & 8/27/14 Drought Contingency Planning.
  - B. ABC's of Water "Family Fun Night" @ Mojave Water Agency, Tuesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>. 5:30 to 7:00 pm.

## CLOSED SESSION

10. A five minutes recess was called at 5:52 p.m. and the meeting was called back into order and went into closed session at 5:57 p.m.  
The Board came out of closed session at 6:22 p.m. And reported NO action taken by the Board.

## DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

11. Vice President Russell asked for the following items to be placed on the future agenda; Security Fee Account for review and to consider the possibility of finance/budget committee. Director Stewart mentioned a CERT training that will be provided by the Apple Valley Fire Department. She believes that it's at no charge and will have the information for the next agenda.

## ADJOURNMENT

12. A motion was made by Director Stewart to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Cresser. AYE's were unanimous, motion carries at 100%.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date) Ronald Dodge, Board President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phyllis Walker, Secretary to the Board

RESOLUTION NO. 14-04

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MARIANA RANCHOS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT ADDING NEW SECTION 16.19 "UNDEVELOPED INACTIVE SERVICE LINES" TO DIVISION XVI, "FEE, CHARGE AND DEPOSIT SCHEDULE" OF THE MARIANA RANCHOS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT WATER CODE AS IT RELATES TO "UNDEVELOPED INACTIVE SERVICE LINES"

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MARIANA RANCHOS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT, as follows:

1. Scope and Purpose  
The Board of Directors feel these "Undeveloped Inactive Service Lines" present at least the same liability to the District as an operational service line. Possibly more, when you consider the full system pressure on the line is never relieved.

2. Amendment.

Water Code Division XVI, Section sixteen (16) will have a new section numbered nineteen (19), titled "Undeveloped Inactive Service Lines" which shall read as follows:

A charge of \$500.00 shall be levied on any customer requesting to remove their previously installed, inactive service line. Once the fee has been paid, there will no longer be a monthly charge for the inactive connection.

This Resolution is hereby effective on August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED on August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014.

Ayes:            Noes:            Abstain:            Absent:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald Dodge, President of the Board

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phyllis Walker, Secretary to the Board



# ABC'S of Water

## "Straight Talk on the Drought"

Tuesday, September 23, 2014  
5:30 - 7:00 P.M.

California's drought continues to dominate the headlines. New drought regulations are in effect and consumers are being asked to save every drop. But, isn't the High Desert in good shape? Haven't the water conservation programs and water recharge efforts helped to drought-proof our region?

Kirby Brill, Mojave Water Agency General Manager will answer these questions and give an up-to-the minute analysis of both the State's and the High Desert's water situation. This is a session you don't want to miss! Seating is limited, so RSVP today. Refreshments will be served.

If you have questions or to register to attend, please contact Gloria Golike at (760) 946-7001, or email at [ggolike@mojavewater.org](mailto:ggolike@mojavewater.org). The deadline to RSVP is September 22, 2014.

**Featuring: Kirby Brill, General Manager**  
**Mojave Water Agency**

Hosted by: Mojave Water Agency

Located at: 13846 Conference Center Dr., Apple Valley, CA



Mojave  
Water  
Agency