

MARIANA RANCHOS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

9600 Manzanita Street
Apple Valley, CA 92308

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

August 20, 2015

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

PRESENT: President Ronald Dodge, Vice President Jon Varley, Director's; Lauren Stewart, and Gary Adams.

ABSENT: Director Marilyn Cresser.

STAFF: James Hansen, General Manager, Phyllis Walker, Office Assistant/Board Secretary and Attorney Michael Silander attended by phone.

AUDIENCE: Customers Patricia Stiles, Carol Waterman and Claudia Slayden. Guest Bill & Donna Bromley.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The board secretary asked the board's permission to add two more items to the agenda under New Business. These items are to be added as emergency additions as we just received the information the day before thru an email. 1st item to be added as 6-I, Statewide Tax "Public Goods Charge", Resolution 15-06 and 2nd item to be added as 6-J, Workshop offered thru MWA on September 17 2015. Vice President Varley made a 1st motion and a 2nd was made by Director Stewart for approval of the agenda with the two new items added. Director Adams stepped out to take an urgent phone call AYE's were 3-0, unanimous, motion carries at 100%.

CONSENT AGENDA

Vice President Varley made a 1st motion and a 2nd motion was made by Director Stewart for approval of the consent agenda, items A & B, no discussion. AYE's were 3-0, unanimous, motion carries at 100%.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Customer Carol Waterman inquired how the district was doing with conserving water during the drought. The GM said that the last months billing showed the customers had reduced about 50% and this is something that we should "run up the flag pole and tell everyone", they are doing a good job conserving.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Director Adams rejoined the meeting. The GM introduced Ms. Stiles to the board members; she is interested in filling the upcoming director's seat. The board asked Patricia Stiles several questions regarding her qualifications. After some Q & A, a motion was made by Director Stewart and a 2nd made by Vice President Varley to appoint Patricia Stiles and have the GM write and sign a letter to the Board of Supervisors, as they must make the appointment final. AYE's were 4-0, unanimous, motion carries at 100%.

- B. The GM introduced Bill and Donna Bromley, they are considering purchasing a parcel in our district. If things go well they would like to discontinue service with us and install a new well. There was discussion between the board members and Mr. & Mrs. Bromley, a concern was "who has the water rights" to this potential parcel? No action was taken. It is in the future customer's best interest to find out about water rights before making a decision. It is requested that if the potential new customers do move forward with disconnection of service that it will have to be a written request along with the statement of understanding that no water will be available thru a service connection and if there is a major disaster, such as a fire and their well is incapacitated they will not have the ability to fight the fire with out the assistance of the local fire agency.
- C. The GM explained the requirements/qualifications of the grant. After some discussion the board has decided not to have a Public education/BBQ. This will not be on any future agendas.
- D. The GM spoke on the behalf of customer #00322221. A motion was made by Director Stewart to credit half of the customer's bill back onto his account in the amount of \$93.60. A 2nd was made by Vice President Varley. AYE's 4-0, unanimous, motion carries at 100%.
- E. The GM explained the importance of using a business email vs. personal email when corresponding with the district. He went over each board members email along with their passwords and informed them that all future emails will use their district addresses.
- F. The GM distributed financial comparison chart for the 2014-15 fiscal year. We are up 2.02% income and down 17.64% expenses.
- G. The GM reviewed the new five year engagement contract with Miers & Miers. After some discussion a motion was made by Director Adams to approve the contract and have the GM sign the new engagement letter. A 2nd was made by Director Stewart. AYE's 4-0, unanimous, motion carries at 100%.
- H. The GM went over proposal from Utility Service Company for Well #1 & Well #2. After some discussion a motion to was made by Vice President Varley to have the GM sign all contracts and go with the "Cadillac Plan" which covers both the equipment and the well, on both wells. A 2nd was made by Director Adams. AYE's 4-0, unanimous, motion carries at 100%.

***The Board Secretary was released at 6:00 pm, as she had a previous engagement. The GM took over the board secretary duties.*

- I. The GM went over an email he received regarding Statewide tax "Public Goods Charge". Source documents were distributed and discussion were started regarding a possible rate increase. After discussion a motion was made by Director Adams to sign Resolution 15-06 and have the GM send out 2 letters to our representatives showing our lack of support, a 2nd was made by Director Stewart. AYE's 4-0, unanimous, motion carries at 100%.
- J. The GM spoke about a free workshop sponsored by CRWA at Mojave Water Agency from 8:15 am to 3:30 pm on 9-17-15. A motion was made by Vice President Varley to make this a Special Meeting so that all interested Directors could attend and a 2nd was made by Director Stewart. AYE's 4-0, unanimous, motion carries at 100%.

ONGOING BUSINESS

- A. Drought contingency update; a new state wide program can be used in conjunction with the cash for grass program. The DWR is offering a rebate up to \$2,000.00. And a Toilet Rebate program with large retail stores. Information can be found on our website, select the Drought Information link.
- B. No new toilet applications have been submitted.

INFORMATION REPORTS

- A. Attorney Report; Discussed Director Cresser, he proposed to write a letter to Director Cresser regarding her seat, would this be acceptable to the board. The board agreed that this would be a good idea.
- B. Green Committee; None.
- C. Monthly report on subjects not covered on the agenda. The GM's report is available for review. The GM spoke about the leak on Sagebrush and Roundup; described the leak and what was involved in the repair.

OTHER BUSINESS

NONE

CORRESPONDENCE/CONFERENCES/SEMINARS/MEETINGS

- A. Reviewed upcoming classes that were posted on the agenda.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Director Adams to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m. and was 2nd by Vice President Varley. AYE's 4-0, unanimous, motion carries at 100%.

Approved: Apr 17 2015


Ronald Dodge, Board President


Phyllis Walker, Secretary to the Board