

MARIANA RANCHOS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

9600 Manzanita Street
Apple Valley, CA 92308

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

March 19, 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. An immediate recess was called to allow for Director Cresser and Director Stewart to arrive. At 4:10 p.m. A quorum was declared.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: President Ronald Dodge, Director's; Jon Varley, and Marilyn Cresser.

ABSENT: Director Lauren Stewart.

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

AUDIENCE: Customers; Ron Blanchard, Tom Whittington, and Gary Adams. Guest Speaker Nicholas Schneider from MWA.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Cresser made a 1st motion and a 2nd was made by Director Varley for approval of the agenda. No Discussion, AYE's were 3-0, unanimous, motion carries at 100%.

CONSENT AGENDA

Director Varley made a 1st motion and a 2nd motion was made by Director Cresser for approval of the consent agenda, items A & B, and to add Nicolas Schneider from MWA speak next as item C, this is related to item 7c. AYE's 3-0, unanimous, motion carries at 100%.

Nicholas Schneider, Water Conservation Manager from Mojave Water Agency; Spoke about the most recent changes from the State Water Control Board & MRCWD's Ordinance 105 plan. As of Tuesday the SWCB has changed the entire ordinance structure and he feels that MRCWD is meeting the state standards; by having Ordinance 105 in place and participating in the low flush toilet program. There was open discussion with the audience with some Q & A regarding the drought and the newest changes that were made from SWCB. Customer Tom Whittington wanted to know was this going to effect commercial and residential properties? Nicholas said at this time it is only addressing residential ordinance, they are starting to pull in big turf areas such as golf courses. If we did not have an ordinance in place we could be fined up to \$10,000.00 per day. Director Varley also asked some questions regarding commercial ordinance. Mr. Schneider said he is only aware of residential ordinances. Customer Tom Whittington also asked about Prop 1, Mr. Schneider said if we did not have an ordinance in place we would not be eligible to apply for grants. President Dodge asked about other districts showing any reductions after the draw down. Mr. Schneider indicated the Alto area is staying stable; some artesian springs are coming up. Many of the areas are doing a great job conserving, as a whole we have reduced 30%.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Customer Ronald Blanchard: Acknowledge Jim and Nathan's hard work and how much he appreciated them replacing and moving his meter to a better location. He also had a question as to why the water runs from Silver Wood Lake down in the river bed towards Victor Valley College. An explanation was given to him about being recharge water; it has to be allowed to flow because of the adjudication.

Customer Tom Whittington: Thanked the Board and the Water District for doing a good job. He appreciated being asked to sit on the board, but strongly declined, "I do not wish to sit on the board." He would be more than happy to help out in other ways and even possibly sit on the board for a short amount of time in only an extreme emergency.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. 1st motion was made by Director Varley and a 2nd by Director Cresser to discuss action in appointing the vacant Director's seat. Now open for discussion. The G.M. introduced customer Gary Adams. Mr. Adams spoke about his back ground and qualification's I water; he has also sat on our board previously as part of the finance committee. He would be more than happy to fill the vacant seat. After Mr. Adams was done speaking the G.M. spoke on behalf of another customer, Patricia Stiles. She is a professional woman, has sat on other boards before and she is also willing to fill the vacant seat. But due to a conflict in her schedule she was unable to attend tonight's meeting. After the board listened to Mr. Adams and the GM represent Ms. Stiles they discussed whether or not they should go ahead and appoint some one tonight or wait until the dead line. The board decided to appoint tonight, President Dodge nominated Gary Adams for the vacant Director's seat. 1st motion was made by Director Varley to appoint Gary Adams to the vacant seat and a 2nd by Director Cresser, AYE's 3-0, unanimous, motion carries at 100%. The GM asked the attorney, Mr. Silander, if Gary Adams could be sworn in tonight. Mr. Silander said, he did not see why not and went to find a copy of the Official Oath to email to the G.M.
- B. A 1st motion was made by Director Varley and a 2nd by Director Cresser to discuss the reorganization of the board. Now open for discussion. President Dodge asked about letting the presidency go or would they like to re-organize that at this time? Director Varley said we should just let stay like it is. President Dodge said we need to fill the Vice President seat and I would like to nominate Director Varley, Director Cresser 2nd the motion, AYE's 3-0, unanimous, motion carries at 100%.
- C. Customer # 00821259 was a no show for the second time. President Dodge said let's drop it from the agenda. Director Varley & Director Cresser agreed with President Dodge.
- D. The GM went over the numbers for the makeup and replacement water for the 2014-2015 year. This year we are getting hit with Make-Up Water, we have to buy 47 acre feet of Replace Water. Since Centro did not get enough water, we are penalized; we are purchasing \$17, 900.00 in water.The board has allowed us to hold water and retain 90 acre feet we have made \$20,000.00 on that water.
- E. A motion was made by Director Varley and a 2nd made by Director Cresser to discuss closing the office on 4-16-2015 to allow the GM to attend a previously scheduled seminar. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Director Varley to approve the office being closed on 4-16-2015, a 2nd was made by Director Cresser. AYE's 3-0, unanimous, motion carries at 100%.

- F. A motion was made by Director Cresser to discuss and approve sending the GM to CRWA Conference in April and a 2nd by Director Varley. AYE's 3-0, unanimous, motion carries at 100%.

The GM received an email from attorney Michael Silander containing a swearing in example, a 1st motion was made to adjust the Agenda under 6a and swear in Gary Adams by Director Cresser and a 2nd by Director Varley. AYE's 3-0, unanimous, motion carries at 100%. The Board Secretary stood at the podium with Gary Adams as he took the official oath. Director Adams then took his place at the table with the other directors and proceeded to conduct district business.

ONGOING BUSINESS

- A. ER Generator: Nothing new to report.
- B. The GM updated the Board Members on the 2015 election; due to legalities we will not be able to move it to from August to November. We will proceed as usual.
- C. 1st motion was made by Director Adams and a 2nd by Vice President Varley to discuss Drought Contingency Planning. The GM went over some handouts and voiced his concern about the SWCB and how he feels that we have no guidance and hopes that what we are doing will work to satisfy the requirements. A 1st motion was made by Vice President Varley and a 2nd by Director Adams to implement the first stage of Ordinance 105. This information will be mailed along with "tips to reduce water by an average of 20%" be mailed to every customer in the district with this months billing. AYE's 4-0, unanimous, motion carries at 100%.
- D. 1st Motion was made by Vice President Varley and a 2nd by Director Adams to discuss the low flush toilet application. The GM gave the board member a rough draft of the low flush toilet application. After some discussion and input it was decided that it will be tabled until next month's meeting so the Directors can review and have input on the forms composition.

INFORMATION REPORTS

- A. Attorney Report; None.
- B. Green Committee; Vice President Varley said that we need someone to fill Dennis Russell's spot on the Green Committee, he asked Director Adams if he would be willing, Director Adams accepted. Per Vice President Varley the GM will be contacting Eugene Buchannan to schedule a sit down meeting prior to Mr Buchannan meeting with the Green Committee.
- C. Monthly report on subjects not covered on the agenda. The GM's report is available for review.

OTHER BUSINESS

NONE

CORRESPONDENCE/CONFERENCES/SEMINARS/MEETINGS

- A. Reviewed upcoming classes that were posted on the agenda and reminded everyone about April's Board Meeting being moved to 4-23-15.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

President Dodge discussed attending Apple Valley Heights Board Meeting; he invited the Board Members to a sit down and is waiting a response from them.


ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Director Varley to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 p.m. and was 2nd by Director Cresser. AYE's 4-0, unanimous, motion carries at 100%.

Approved: 4-23-2015



Ronald Dodge, Board President



Phyllis Walker, Secretary to the Board