



Minutes of the Regular Meeting
of the Board of Directors of the Rowland Water District
October 10, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.
3021 Fullerton Road
Rowland Heights, CA 91748

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS

President Szu Pei Lu-Yang
Vice President John Bellah
Director Robert W. Lewis
Director Anthony J. Lima

ABSENT:

Director Vanessa Hsu

OTHERS PRESENT:

Anya Kwan, Associate, Best, Best, and Krieger
Jody Roberto, TVMWD
Lizbeth Muñoz, RWD Education & Community Relations Intern
Mike Ti, TVMWD
Ryan Guiboa, Legal Counsel, Best, Best & Krieger
Tara Bravo-Mullaly, CV Strategies

ROWLAND WATER DISTRICT STAFF

Allen Davidson, Director of Operations
Dusty Moisio, Assistant General Manager
Elisabeth Mendez, Compliance & Safety Manager
Gabby Sanchez, Executive Services Manager
Myra Malner, Director of Finance
Tom Coleman, General Manager

ADDITION(S) TO THE AGENDA – None.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS - None.

1. CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon motion by Director Lewis, seconded by Director Lima, the Consent Calendar was unanimously approved as follows:

- 1.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting Held on September 5, 2023
- 1.2 Approval of Minutes of Special Board Meeting held on September 26, 2023
- 1.3 Demands on General Fund Account for August 2023
- 1.4 Investment Report for August 2023
- 1.5 Water Purchases for August 2023
- 1.6 California Reservoir Conditions
- 1.7 Consider Rescheduling November's Special Board Meeting to November 7, 2023
(Motion pass 4-0)

Next Special Board Meetings: October 24, 2023, 6:00 p.m.
November 7, 2023, 6:00 p.m. (as approved)
Next regular Board Meeting: November 14, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

2. ACTION ITEMS

2.1 Review and Approve Directors' Meeting Reimbursements for September 2023

Upon motion by Director Lima, seconded by Director Lewis, the Board unanimously approved the Directors' Meeting Reimbursement Report as presented. (Motion pass 4-0)

2.2 Parking Agreement Between Rowland Water District and the Los Angeles County Fire Department

General Manager Tom Coleman reviewed the terms and conditions of the parking agreement by which the Los Angeles County Fire Department (Department) may utilize the Rowland Water District Reservoir 6 site for the purpose of parking one Department vehicle.

Upon motion by Director Lewis, seconded by Director Bellah, the Board unanimously approved the Parking Agreement between Rowland Water District and the Los Angeles County Fire Department.

(Motion pass 4-0)

2.3 Local Agency Formation Commission Special District Alternate Member Ballot

Board members reviewed and discussed LAFCO's Alternate Member ballot and supporting materials included in the Board packet. Following discussion, Board members provided President Lu-Yang with a recommendation to consider casting the District's vote for Mr. Stephen Brown. Staff was then instructed to follow up with all procedural requirements for the submittal of the District's ballot card to LAFCO.

2.4 Zero Emission Vehicle Update

General Manager Tom Coleman spoke on matters pertaining to California Air Resources Board's (CARB) Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) regulatory compliance requirements for public agencies. He advised that per regulations, commencing in 2024, a specific percentage of fleet additions must be Zero-Emission Vehicles. Staff is currently reviewing their fleet management schedule and will work with fleet consultant TerraVerde to assess options. As this was an informational item only, no Board action was taken.

3. PUBLIC RELATIONS

3.1 Communications Outreach (CV Strategies)

Tara Bravo-Mullaly reported on communications outreach activities performed by CV Strategies on behalf of the District during the month of September 2023.

3.2 Education Update

As a matter of information, Executive Services Manager Gabby Palomares reported on the community and education activities detailed in the outreach report included in the Board packet.

Following Mrs. Palomares' report, Director of Operations Allen Davidson spoke on the District's presentation, made to Mount San Antonio Community College (Mt. SAC) students, on RWD's Career Pathways Internship Program. RWD staff has been scheduled for additional student presentations and participation at career fairs.

4. DISCUSSION OF UPCOMING CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, OR EVENTS (INCLUDING ITEMS THAT MAY HAVE ARISEN AFTER THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA) – None.

5. LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

5.1 Board members were apprised of Assembly Bill No. 755 (Papan), relating to cost-of-service analysis. General Manager Tom Coleman noted that the District joined a coalition letter to request Governor Newsom's veto of the bill.

5.2 Board members were apprised of Assembly Bill No. 1572 (Friedman), relating to the use of potable water on nonfunctional turf. General Manager Tom Coleman noted that the District joined a coalition letter to request Governor Newsom's veto of the bill.

6. REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 Board members were informed that the District was a recipient of an Occupational Excellence Achievement Award by the National Safety Council for its exemplary safety standards and zero occupational injuries in 2022.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 Joint Powers Insurance Authority – President Lu-Yang reported on ACWA/JPIA Executive Committee member activities.

7.2 Three Valleys Municipal Water District – Board members Bellah and Lima reported on TVMWD business meeting matters.

7.3 Association of California Water Agencies – Director Lewis advised of his reelection as a Region 8 Board member and announced that Ms. Kathy Greene will serve as ACWA President for the 2024-25 term.

7.4 Puente Basin Water Agency (PBWA) – Directors Lewis and Lima spoke on matters from the October 5, 2023, PBWA meeting.

7.5 Project Ad-Hoc Committee – It was noted that a project meeting is scheduled to be held on October 11, 2023.

7.6 Regional Chamber of Commerce – None.

7.7 P-W-R Joint Waterline Commission – The next P-W-R JWL meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2023.

7.8 Sheriff's Community Advisory Council – None.

7.9 Rowland Heights Community Coordinating Council (RHCCC) – None.

7.10 Local Agency Formation Commission – Although there were no LAFCO business matters to report on, Director Lewis advised that the next meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2023.

8. OTHER REPORTS, INFORMATION ITEMS AND COMMENTS

8.1 Finance Report

Director of Finance, Myra Malner, presented a year-to-date Financial Dashboard containing comparative graphs of Revenue and Expense by Category and Consumption by Class through August 2023. Following her report, she answered questions posed by Board members.

8.2 Operations Report

The Board was provided with the field operations tasks completed during the month of September 2023 (as listed below):

- Water Samples - 234
- Site Inspections - 68
- Service Orders Completed - 339
- Meters Replaced - 7
- Modules Replaced - 52
- Dig Alerts - 355
- Service Lines Replaced - 11
- System Valves Replaced - 6
- Air Releases Inspections - 8
- Recycled Water Inspections - 13

8.3 Projects Update

Assistant General Manager Dusty Moisio provided an overview of safety and security enhancements made to District facilities.

8.4 Personnel Report – General Manager Tom Coleman reported that three (3) individuals have commenced their term as interns in RWD's Internship Program.

9. ATTORNEY'S REPORT – None.

10. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Legal Counsel Ryan Guiboa adjourned the meeting to closed session at 7:31 p.m. and announced that the purpose of the closed session and the provisions of the Brown Act authorizing the closed session were listed in the agenda as indicated below:

a. Conference with Real Property Negotiator – [§54956.8]

Property: Portion of Property Located at
839 S. Azusa Ave., City of Industry, CA
District Negotiator: Tom Coleman, General Manager
Negotiating Parties: City of Industry
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms

b. Conference with Real Property Negotiator – [§54956.8]

Property: Assessor Parcel Numbers 8266-002-900, 8266-002-901 and

8269-003-903

District Negotiator: Tom Coleman, General Manager
Negotiating Parties: Puente Hills Habitat Authority
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

c. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation

Claim of Cari McCormick dated June 28, 2023, filed against CalPERS as a class action and submitted as a claim to the District as a potential Defendant.

d. Public Employment - [§54957]

Title: Emergency Management Coordinator

At this moment Ms. Anya Kwan, Associate, BB&K, joined the meeting telephonically to provide an update on closed session item 10-e. (7:59 p.m.)

e. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of §54956.9

Name of Case: City of Camden v. 3M Company, Settlement Agreement Between Public Water Agencies and DuPont and 3M re: PFAS Class Action

11. Reconvene/Report on Closed Session – 8:18 p.m.

Closed Session Announcements – It was reported by Legal Counsel that the Board was briefed on the facts and circumstances of the matters and took no reportable action on the closed session items.

Legal Counsel further reported that regarding closed session item 10-c, the Board was briefed on the facts and circumstances of the matter and unanimously rejected the claim of Cari McCormick dated June 28, 2023, filed against CalPERS as a class action and submitted as a claim to the District as a potential defendant. Legal Counsel was instructed to forward a rejection letter to the plaintiff's legal counsel. (Item 10-c)

General Manager's and Directors' Comments – None.

Future Agenda Item(s) – None.

Late Business – None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

SZU PEI LU-YANG
Board President

Attest: _____
TOM COLEMAN
Board Secretary