

## **WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2024**

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Board President Mike Gardner called the regular meeting of the Western Municipal Water District (Western Water) Board of Directors to order at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, in the Western Board Room, 14205 Meridian Parkway, Riverside, California.

### **2. ROLL CALL**

Roll call of the Board of Directors was taken by Board Secretary Tammi Ford. The following board members were in attendance:

#### **Directors Present**

Mike Gardner, President  
Laura Roughton, Vice President  
Fauzia Rizvi, Secretary-Treasurer  
Gracie Torres  
Brenda Dennstedt

Director Roughton arrived to the meeting at 9:33 a.m.

### **3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Nick Barnes, Senior Operations Technician IV, Construction/Collections - Operations Department, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

It was noted that any member of the public who wished to comment on any item within the jurisdiction of the District, or any item on the agenda, and written comments received by September 17, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. would become part of the Board Meeting record, or any member of the public may provide comment telephonically by calling the number listed on the agenda.

None.

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR**

Consent calendar items are expected to be routine and non-controversial and are to be acted upon by the Board at one time, without discussion. If any Board member, staff member, or interested person requests that an item be removed from the Consent Calendar, it will be moved to the first item on the Action Agenda.

**Motion: Rizvi**

**Second: Torres**

- A. Approve the Minutes of the September 4, 2024 Regular Board Meeting
- B. Receive and File Government Affairs Update – August 2024
- C. Adopt Resolution 3328 Authorizing the District's Application to, and Approving Negotiation and Execution of a Cooperative Agreement with the United States Bureau of Reclamation for a WaterSMART Drought Response Program: Drought Resiliency Projects for Fiscal Year 2025 Grant (Funding Opportunity No. R25A500013)
- D. Award a Professional Services Contract to Kennedy Jenks Consultants, Inc. to provide Grant Program Support Services During Fiscal Year 2024-2025

**The Motion passed 4-0**

**Voting No: None**

**Abstain: None**

**Absent: Roughton**

**6. ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA**

(If any) In accordance with Section 54954.2 of the Government Code, upon determination by a two-thirds vote of the legislative body, or, if less than two thirds of the members are present, a unanimous vote of those members present that there is a need to take action, and the need to take action arose after the agenda was posted.

None.

**7. ACTION AGENDA**

The following items on the Action Agenda call for discussion and action by the Board. All items are placed on the Agenda so that the Board may discuss and take action on the item, if the Board is so inclined.

- A. Adopt an Addendum to the 2019 Santa Ana River Conservation and Conjunctive Use Program Joint Projects Final Environmental Impact Report for the Well 7 Site Location Selection

This item was presented by: Derek Kawaii, Director of Engineering

Public comment was made by:

David Garcia, City of Riverside/Riverside Public Utilities

**Motion: Rizvi**

**Second: Roughton**

As to the following:

1. Adopt Resolution 3330 of the Board of Directors of the Western Municipal Water District of Riverside County, California approving modifications to the Well 7 Project, making findings pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 15162 and adopting addendum to Santa Ana River Conservation and Conjunctive Use Program Joint Projects final environmental impact report (SCH #2016101079). For the Well 7 Site location selection.

**The Motion Passed 5-0**

**Voting No: None**

**Abstain: None**

**Absent: None**

**B. Approve the Pre-Purchase of Long-Lead-Time Mechanical and Electrical Equipment for the SARCCUP Non-Potable Well 7 Project (W-296B)**

This item was presented by: Derek Kawaii, Director of Engineering

**Motion: Torres**

**Second: Rizvi**

As to the following:

1. Increase the budget of the SARCCUP Non-potable Well 7 Project by \$700,000 from \$2,800,000 to \$3,500,000 by utilizing the Board adopted Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Capital Improvement and Facilities Plan under System Improvement Reserve RES04 of the Riverside Non-Potable Water Fund 21; and
2. Authorize the General Manager to approve a purchase order for Best Drilling & Pump, Inc., of Colton, CA in an amount of \$313,207 for the acquisition of mechanical pumping equipment required for the construction of the Well 7 Project (W-296B); and
3. Authorize the General Manager to approve a purchase order for Royal Industrial Solutions, of Riverside, CA in an amount of \$108,725 for the

acquisition of electrical equipment required for the construction of the Well 7 Project (W-296B).

**The Motion Passed 5-0**  
**Voting No: None**  
**Abstain: None**  
**Absent: None**

**C. Authorize the Refurbishment of Two Truck Bodies and the Purchase of One New Truck Body to be Installed on Three Recently Purchased Ford F-550 Chassis**

This item was presented by: Jason Baringer, Operations Field Manager

**Motion: Dennstedt**  
**Second: Torres**

As to the following:

1. Approve a \$350,000 increase to the medium/heavy-duty truck acquisition budget from \$206,000 to \$556,000 in the Board adopted Capital Improvement and Facilities Plan for Fiscal Years 2024-2025 and 2025-2026. Funds will be used to refurbish two existing service bodies and purchase one new service truck body to be installed on three recently purchased Ford F-550 chassis under the Asset Replacement Reserve RES05 of the Fleet Fund 14; and
2. Authorize the General Manager to execute a contract and open the associated purchase order with USA Truck Bodies, Inc. to refurbish two existing bodies and purchase one new service truck body for an amount up to \$350,000.

**The Motion Passed 5-0**  
**Voting No: None**  
**Abstain: None**  
**Absent: None**

**8. REPORTS**

**A. GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT**

**A. Report of General Counsel**

Jeff Ballinger, General Counsel, stated he had nothing to report.

## **B. GENERAL MANAGER AND STAFF REPORTS**

### **1. General Manager's Report**

Craig Miller, General Manager, thanked David Garcia, City of Riverside for taking time to attend and comment on Western Water's Well 7 project. He also reported on Senate Bill 366, stating it is in "enrolled" status and currently on the Governor's desk for a decision. He stated he has a great meeting with the City of Murrieta to discuss recent updates in the Murrieta service area. He announced that he will be presenting at the Residents Association of Greater Lake Mathews (RAGLM) and providing a general update on Western Water. He also provided an update on recent recruitment activities at Western Water, as well as current recruitment activities at the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA) to replace retiring executive director, Barry Moline. He provided updates on MWD, notably that he and President Gardner were invited to MWD's recent Board Meeting and provided an introduction to Western Water. He also said he is continuing to participate in CAMP4Water meetings and workshops, and he met with the interim General Manager, Deven Upadhyay to discuss ongoing initiatives. He finished his report by providing a brief overview of the Hawarden Hills fire in Riverside and how it affected a small group of Western Water customers.

## **C. DIRECTORS REPORTS AND REQUESTS**

### **1. Report of SAWPA Commissioner**

Director Gardner reported that the Commission received a briefing on the Santa Ana River trail, which is still under construction in some locations. He also reported that the Commission began discussing the possibility of suspending the cloud seeding program this year in light of the recent fires and concern over potential flood risks.

### **2. Report of MWD Representative**

Director Dennstedt reported that the Board approved taking a support position on Proposition 4, following the Committees recommendation to take a neutral position. She said the board approved the purchase of equipment that has a long purchase lead-time and there was also discussion on the Pure Water project and that Staff is going to be bringing alternate projects to the board for evaluation. She also stated that the Board will be voting for the next Chair of the Board in October, as well as other board positions.

### **3. Report of CBWM Representative**

Director Gardner stated there was nothing to report.

### **4. Report of CDA Representative**

Director Roughton stated the meeting was canceled.

**5. Report of WRCRWA Representative**

Director Rizvi stated there was nothing to report.

**6. Report of WRCOG Representative**

Director Dennstedt stated the Commission received a TUMF nexus study and also chose the keynote speaker for the 2025 General Assembly, stating that Admiral McRaven had been selected to present at the June 12<sup>th</sup> event.

**7. Report of SRRRA Representative**

Director Rizvi stated there was nothing to report.

**8. Report of ACWA Representatives**

Director Dennstedt reported that the ACWA Region 9 board is working to schedule their next meeting, and she reminded the Board about the upcoming Fall Conference.

**9. Directors' Comments**

Comments were made by:

Director Torres  
Director Dennstedt  
Director Gardner

**10. Request for Future Agenda Items**

None.

**9. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**A. Investment Report – July 2024**

**B. Board Statistics Report – July 2024**

**10. NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, October 2, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board of Directors, President Mike Gardner adjourned the meeting at 10:48 a.m.

**Western Water | Regular Board Meeting**  
**October 2, 2024**  
**Agenda Item 5A**

---

MIKE GARDNER  
President

---

FAUZIA RIZVI  
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes were prepared by Board Secretary, Tammi Ford.