

## WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF FEBRUARY 7, 2024

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Board President Mike Gardner called the regular meeting of the Western Municipal Water District (Western) Board of Directors to order at 9:31 a.m. on Wednesday, February 7, 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

### 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ellie Yazdani, Engineer II, Engineering 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 February 6, 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: Dennstedt**

**Second: Rizvi**

- A. Approve the Minutes of the January 17, 2024 Regular Board Meeting
- B. Receive and File the November 2023 Cash Disbursement Report

**The Motion passed 5-0**

**Voting No: None**

**Absent: None**

**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**

**A. Adopt Resolution 3306, Appointing Board Representatives for the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority**

This item was presented by: Tim Barr, Deputy General Manager

**Motion: Dennstedt**

**Second: Roughton**

As to the following:

1. Adopt Resolution 3306, confirming the appointment of Director Mike Gardner as the Representative, and Director Brenda Dennstedt as the Alternate Representative, to the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, effective January 17, 2024.

**The Motion Passed 5-0**

**Voting No: None**

**Absent: None**

**B. Adopt Resolution 3307, Appointing Representatives to the Western Riverside County Regional Wastewater Authority**

This item was presented by: Mike Gardner, Board President

**Motion: Torres**

**Second: Rizvi**

As to the following:

1. Adopt Resolution 3307, appointing a representative and alternate representative to the Western Riverside County Regional Wastewater Authority, effective January 17, 2024.

**The Motion Passed 5-0**

**Voting No: None**

**Absent: None**

## **8. REPORTS**

### **A. GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT**

#### **A. Report of General Counsel**

Jeff Ballinger, General Counsel, stated he had provided a summary report on the dais to the Board of Directors of new laws that have become effective as of January 1, 2024.

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

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

Tim Barr, Deputy General Manager, reported that General Manager Craig Miller, along with staff were not present at the meeting as they were in Sacramento for the California Municipal Utilities Association Capitol Days, where they will be meeting with state legislators to discuss important water issues, as well as to discuss Senate Bill 366. He also reported that Western Water had weathered the recent storm well and that both the water and wastewater systems were not negatively impacted. Finally, he reminded the Board that on February 21, 2024, following the regular board meeting, Western Water will be hosting a member agency roundtable, which will feature Mr. Adel Hagekhalil, General Manager at Metropolitan Water District.

#### **2. Quarterly Grant Program Update**

Melissa Matlock, Water Resources Specialist III, provided an overview of Western Water's grant program. Program highlights were reviewed, including an overview of three completed grant projects and recognition of Western Water staff that are instrumental in the implementation and success of the program. She also highlighted a visit with the United



States Bureau of Reclamation, and presented an update on current activities as well as the status of grants in the application process.

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

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

Director Gardner reported that the Board approved agreements for two projects: a job classification and compensation study, as well as a regional water quality monitoring program.

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

Director Dennstedt reported that the Board has begun the process for the new budget. She stated that the Board has engaged in the initial discussions of increases and there will be much work and discussion to come as they determine how to manage the gap between revenue, increase in costs and funding.

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

Director Gardner stated the Board conducted its annual Board officer election, choosing to reelect the President and Vice President, however a new Secretary was elected for 2024.

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

Director Roughton stated the Board approved an updated employee handbook and cost of living adjustment. She also reported that there is a well that requires rehabilitation, however to outsource it would cause a 4 year delay, however Staff has determined they will be able to do the work internally.

#### **5. Report of WRCRWA Representative**

Director Rizvi stated there was nothing to report.

#### **6. Report of WRCOG Representative**

Director Dennstedt stated there was nothing to report.

#### **7. Report of SRRRA Representative**

Director Rizvi stated there was nothing to report.

#### **8. Report of ACWA Representatives**

Director Dennstedt reported that she attended the Region 9 tour of Desert Water Agency, which was very informative and well attended. She also reminded the Board that the ACWA Spring Conference is coming up in May 2024.

## 9. Directors' Comments

Comments were made by the following Directors:

Board Member Gracie Torres  
Board Vice President Laura Roughton  
Board Member Brenda Dennstedt  
Board Secretary-Treasurer Fauzia Rizvi

## 10. Request for Future Agenda Items

None.

## 9. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Government Disclosure Report – December 2023

## 11. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, February 21, 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 10:17 a.m.

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MIKE GARDNER  
President

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FAUZIA RIZVI  
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes were prepared by Board Secretary, Tammi Ford.