

## WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF DECEMBER 20, 2023

### 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, December 20, 2023, 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

### 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Michael Mouser, Information Systems Deputy Director, Information Systems 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 December 5, 2023 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.

One verbal and two written public comments were made by:  
John Farnsworth

## **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: Roughton**

- A. Approve the Minutes of the December 6, 2023 Regular Board Meeting
- B. Approve Amendments to Cyclic Storage and Cost-Offset Credit Program Agreements with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
- C. Approve an Amendment to the Professional Services Contract with Hazen and Sawyer for the Design of the Pre-Polyfluoroalkyl Substance Removal Project at the Western Water Recycling Facility (Specification W-308)
- D. Continue Condition of Emergency for Repairs of the Mockingbird Canyon Pipeline

**The Motion passed 4-0**

**Voting No: None**

**Absent: Dennstedt**

## **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. **Approve Funding for a Purchase Order with Donald L. Harriger in Support of Western-San Bernardino Watermaster Activities**

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

**Motion: Rizvi**

**Second: Roughton**

As to the following:

1. Approve an amendment to increase the Board adopted Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Operating Budget in an amount of \$180,000, and
2. Authorize the General Manager to issue a Purchase Order in an amount of \$180,000 with Mr. Donald L. Harriger in support of Western-San Bernardino Watermaster activities.

**The Motion Passed 4-0**

**Voting No: None**

**Absent: Dennstedt**

**B. Approve Agreement with Inland Empire Utilities Agency to Facilitate a Water Purchase by Western Municipal Water District in the Chino Basin**

This item was presented by: Ryan Shaw, Director of Water Resources

**Motion: Torres**

**Second: Roughton**

As to the following:

1. Authorize the General Manager to execute a water purchase and sale agreement in an amount up to \$2.6 million between Inland Empire Utilities Agency and Western Municipal Water District.

**The Motion Passed 4-0**

**Voting No: None**

**Absent: Dennstedt**

**C. Award a Construction Contract for the Mills Gravity Line Isolation Valve Replacement Project (W-300A)**

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

**Motion: Torres**

**Second: Roughton**

As to the following:

1. Approve a new capital project budget in the amount of \$699,000 for the Mills Gravity Line Isolation Valve Replacement Project (W-300A) under the Mills Gravity Line Major Maintenance Fund 407; and

2. Award a construction contract to G&A Nelos Construction, of Lake Elsinore, California, in the amount of \$190,000 for the Mills Gravity Line Isolation Valve Replacement Project (W-300A)

**The Motion Passed 4-0**

**Voting No: None**

**Absent: Dennstedt**

**D. Approve an increase in the Budget of the Mockingbird Canyon Recycled Water Pipeline Emergency Repair Project (Specification W-322)**

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

**Motion: Torres**

**Second: Roughton**

As to the following:

1. Approve an increase in the Board-adopted Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Operating Budget for the Riverside non-potable Water Operating Fund 210, Contract Service – Engineering and Design Account 51115, in an amount of \$320,000 for additional costs associated with the Mockingbird Canyon Pipeline Emergency Repair Project (W-322).

**The Motion Passed 4-0**

**Voting No: None**

**Absent: Dennstedt**

**8. REPORTS**

**A. GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT**

**A. Report of General Counsel**

Jeff Ballinger, General Counsel, announced that he will be on vacation during January and Deputy General Counsel, Holland Stewart, will be filling in during his absence. He also announced that he will provide an update to the Board early in 2024 as to new bills and laws that affect Western Water.

**B. GENERAL MANAGER AND STAFF REPORTS**

**1. General Manager's Report**

Craig Miller, General Manager, reported that Western Water held its annual Employee Recognition event recently, which was a wonderful opportunity to highlight the outstanding work Staff has done throughout the year. He also stated that he participated in a presentation to the Monday Morning Group and they are in the planning process for legislative trips to Sacramento and Washington D.C. He reported that he attended the Colorado River Water Users Association conference, which he found to be very informative and also reported that the Riverside County Water Task had a successful tour of Diamond Valley Lake. He also reported that he attended the recent CAMP4W task force meeting and stated that our MWD Caucus submitted significant comments on the process and many of their ideas have been incorporated.

#### **1. Western Water's Role in New Development**

Mallory O'Connor, Water Resources Specialist III and Ginger Han, Principal Engineer, presented a joint overview of the new development process to obtain water service and Western's role in that process. They provided an overview of the process and reviewed Western Water's planning process, the Urban Water Management Plan, Project Development Process and the Entitlement process. They discussed Western Water's limited role and explained that authority for new development was given at the city/county level, and noted that Western Water's only role was to report on the availability of water.

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

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

Director Gardner reported that SAWPA received an unqualified opinion on its audit, and they also voted to reject the single bid received for the landscape refreshment project on the SAWPA grounds.

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

Director Dennstedt was absent and no report was provided.

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

Director Gardner stated there was nothing to report.

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

Director Roughton stated there was nothing to report.

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

Director Rizvi reported that the the Board authorized Jurupa Valley Community Services District to use the WRCRWA yard. She also reported they received an operations update and

a report that the anerobic project will be completed in January 2024. They also received an update on the recycled water program.

**6. Report of WRCOG Representative**

Director Dennstedt was absent and no report was provided.

**7. Report of SRRRA Representative**

Director Rizvi reported that SRRRA received a recognition award from ACWA JPIA and also received an unmodified clean opinion on their annual financial audit.

**8. Report of ACWA Representatives**

Director Dennstedt was absent and no report was provided.

**9. Directors' Comments**

Comments were made by the following Directors:

Board Member Gracie Torres  
Board Vice President Laura Roughton  
Board Secretary-Treasurer Fauzia Rizvi  
Board President Mike Gardner

**10. Request for Future Agenda Items**

None.

**9. INFORMATION ITEMS**

- A. Investment Report – October 2023
- B. Labor and Benefits Expense Budget to Actual Report – October 2023
- C. Board Statistics Report – October 2023

**10. NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, January 3, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board of Directors, President Mike Gardner adjourned the meeting at 11:13 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.